

Within OQ60

Vision and driving

AOP adviser Lyndon Taylor gives a vision and driving lesson to Ian Wallwork.

Switchable liquid crystal lenses

Could this be the future of presbyopia correction?

Guoqiang Li of the University of Arizona explains his research to Geoff Watts.

Low vision: optometry and rehabilitation

Optometrist-turned-rehab worker Mary Russell talks to Hugh Breakspear about the insights she's gained by changing her role.

Quarterly review

Geoff Roberson's regular research round-up.

Editorial



Welcome to the first issue of our new newsletter DOCET.info. The new name is simply informative – the newsletter brings you the latest information from DOCET – and as it is based on our web address, also reflects the increasing importance of online communications.

Along with the new name, you'll also notice that DOCET.info is more compact than its predecessor and has a new design. This is part of a wider re-branding exercise that is being reflected in all our other communications, but at the same time we've taken the very practical step of changing the newsletter to a smaller format so that it will survive the postal journey to you in better shape (and at less cost).

DOCET.info is more compact than its predecessor and has a new design.

You'll have found the latest edition of OQ in the same envelope – OQ60, which means that the programme has been going for 15 years. The latest programme includes a fascinating glimpse of a possible revolution in presbyopia care, a thought-provoking interview with an optometrist turned rehab worker, and a much-needed update on visual standards for driving, as well as Geoff Roberson's ever-popular journal review.

Continued over...

● ● ● Editorial continued

OQ hasn't survived so long without evolving, and more changes are on the horizon, in particular to the way you receive the programme.

There are more details on page 5, but the basic idea is that you'll get more choice about how you receive OQ, including online options. And as from OQ62 in May, CD will be the default format – you'll need to tell us if you still want a cassette.

We're also planning to upgrade the OQ web pages within www.DOCET.info, so that they support the programme more effectively. You'll be able to view relevant illustrations online and link directly to online resources, as well as see photos of the participants.

OQ is just one project. This year DOCET will be bringing out a whole range of CET resources using a variety of media:

- A DVD package on binocular vision
 - A DVD package on dry eye
 - A glaucoma CD-ROM
 - A neurological disorders CD-ROM
 - Issues 3 and 4 in the contact lens CD series
 - A second CD-ROM to accompany the earlier and highly rated ocular tumours CD-ROM
 - An updated reissue of the communications pack.



Among the tasks that DOCET is charged with are “making CET available to every optometrist in the UK in a user-friendly form” and “encouraging innovation and experimentation in the way in which CET is delivered to the profession”. I think you'll agree that's exactly what we're doing.

All the best for 2007.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Hogan'.

Rob Hogan, Chairman, DOCET

● ● ● Funding Application Guidelines For CET Providers 2006-07

A reminder to CET providers wishing to receive DOCET funding that the following rules apply:

- Funding applications will only be accepted via the online form on the DOCET website www.docet.info
- The online claim form must be used – no other form will be accepted
- All claims must include full proof of expenditure and the attendance list (including the participants GOC number)
- If the total claim varies significantly from the amount given on the Application Form a written explanation must accompany the Claim Form
- The maximum DOCET funding payable per event is £5,000
- Lecturer and workshop leader fees will be capped at £120 per hour
- DOCET will only fund topics relating to the provision of primary health care services – if an event includes lectures or workshops that are not eligible for funding the amount payable will be reduced proportionally
- An operating profit of no more than 40% is allowed – any surplus profit will automatically be deducted from the final amount payable
- If an event is cancelled or re-scheduled, or if the programme is amended in any way, the DOCET Secretariat must be informed in writing immediately
- Please note that although the CET application form has a tick box to specify whether DOCET funding will also be applied for, DOCET cannot access applications on the CETOptics website

Funding Timeline

The DOCET financial year is split into two periods. Each has its time limit for submitting and receiving funding for events, as follows:

Period 1 Events					
APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
Apply for Period 2					
Period 2 Events					
OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
Apply for Period 1					

Applications will not be accepted if they fall outside these time periods, unless otherwise agreed with the DOCET Secretariat.

A full copy of the guidelines are available on the DOCET website www.docet.info

● ● ● DOCET to commission two more DVDs

Following the success of its interactive DVD on developing Clinical Skills, DOCET plans to commission a further two DVD programmes on the subjects of Dry Eye and Binocular Vision and is seeking potential suppliers to develop these.

The DVDs will be aimed primarily at registered optometrists, but could also be suitable for optometrists in training, providing instruction in the application of various investigative techniques.

The techniques the Dry Eye programme will focus on are:

- The diagnosis of dry eye
- The use of lid scrubs
- The use of tear substitutes or supplements
- The use of punctum plugs

The Binocular Vision programme will concentrate on the diagnosis and treatment of binocular vision abnormalities in two key areas:

- Investigative techniques
- Optometric management

The DOCET Executive Committee wish the programmes to combine a didactic approach with practical demonstration of the techniques to replicate as closely as possible the learning experience gained in a "workshop" type training session, where a technique is discussed and then demonstrated by an instructor on a real patient who has been suitably prepared.

The programme will be expected to encourage the audience and the subject matter should therefore be handled in a positive and encouraging manner.

Rob Hogan, Chairman of the DOCET Committee commented "We are thrilled with the positive reaction to the Clinical Skills DVD, and it is our aim to make the Binocular Vision and Dry Eye projects even more innovative and progressive".

For a copy of one or both Tender Briefing Documents please contact DOCET by:

Email: docet@college-optometrists.org

Phone: 020 7766 4380

Mail:
DOCET
c/o The College of Optometrists
42 Craven Street
London
WC2N 5NG

Please note that the deadline for tender submissions is
12.00pm on Monday, 29 January 2007



● ● ● Optometric Quarterly Audio Files change to CD

DOCET recently conducted a survey asking optometrists to indicate in which format they preferred to receive the Optometric Quarterly audio files and newsletter, and based on these results it has been decided that – starting with OQ62 in May – the default format will switch to CD.

This means that unless you inform us otherwise, from May onwards you will start receiving CDs – even if you would normally receive a cassette tape.

OQ will still be available on cassette if you wish, however – but you must let DOCET know. (Please note that if you returned the OQ poll card to DOCET indicating that you prefer to receive a cassette, your choice has been recorded in our database and you do not need to do anything further.)

DOCET has also introduced a number of new options around the delivery of its distance learning projects, therefore your options are now:

- to receive the OQ audio files on CD and a hard copy of the newsletter (default option)
OR
- to receive the OQ audio files on cassette tape and a hard copy of the newsletter
OR
- to receive an email alert each quarter to announce that the next issue is available online (the OQ audio files will be available as MP3 files and podcast, and the newsletter will be in PDF format)
OR
- to not receive OQ or the newsletter but still be sent other DOCET distance learning projects
OR
- to receive no DOCET distance learning projects at all

Please contact DOCET if you would like to change your preference, or if you would like to check which option we have assigned to you in our database, by:

Email: docet@college-optometrists.org

Phone: 020 7766 4364

Mail:
DOCET
c/o The College of Optometrists
42 Craven Street
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MCQs

MCQs for OQ60

- 1 Which of the following is NOT a requirement of liquid crystal lenses for vision correction?
 - a Low diffraction efficiency
 - b Large aperture
 - c Low operating voltage
 - d Fast response time

- 2 The refractive index of the liquid crystal lens rings is modulated by:
 - a Ring diameter
 - b Thickness
 - c Voltage
 - d ITO

- 3 In the University of Manchester, School of Medicine study what was the relative risk of progressive visual field loss in the control group compared to those enrolled on a prospective longitudinal study?
 - a 13%
 - b 18%
 - c 86.3%
 - d 368%

- 4 Which of the following statements about the Blue Mountains Eye Study is NOT correct?
 - a Cataract was associated with hearing loss
 - b Age-related maculopathy was associated with hearing loss
 - c Age-related maculopathy and hearing loss had a stronger association in those over 70 years of age
 - d Older people with visual impairment were found to be more likely to have hearing loss

- 5 Which visual acuity does the DVLA say a patient will almost invariably fail the number plate test?
 - a 6/9
 - b 6/12
 - c 6/24
 - d 3/60

- 6 Which of the following statements about professional drivers is correct?
 - a Vision standards for taxi drivers must be the same as for LGV and PCV license holders
 - b The VA for LGV and PCV drivers in the best eye is 6/9
 - c The VA for LGV and PCV drivers in the worst eye is 3/60
 - d LGV and PCV drivers must meet the same visual field standard as private car drivers

Submit your answers online via
www.docet.info

MCQs continued

Answers to MCQs for OQ59

- 1 Which of the following statements about Macugen® is true?
 - a It is delivered by sub-conjunctival injection
 - b It inhibits the growth of new vessels
 - c It has side effects in some patients
 - d It is approved by NICE for use on NHS patients

- 2 Which of the following is NOT a VEGF inhibitor?
 - a Anecortave Acetate
 - b Bevacizumab
 - c Pegaptanib
 - d Ranibizumab

- 3 Which of the following statements about the Pascal tonometer is true?
 - a The result is not affected by differences in corneal thickness
 - b It uses a fixed force of 1.5 grams
 - c The contact time is slightly shorter than the Goldmann tonometer
 - d It is not necessary to instil a local anaesthetic

- 4 In the Ocular Hypertensive Treatment Study subjects who received topical glaucoma medication experienced conversion to glaucoma at:
 - a A higher rate than subjects who were not treated
 - b The same rate as subjects who were not treated
 - c Half the rate of subjects who were not treated
 - d Less than half the rate of subjects who were not treated

- 5 In the European Glaucoma Prevention Study subjects were treated with which of the following topical medications?
 - a Betaxolol
 - b Dorzolomide
 - c Latanoprost
 - d Timolol

- 6 Which of the following topical medications was the least likely to be discontinued in both of the "Persistence and Tolerability of Ocular Hypotensive Agents" studies?
 - a Betaxolol
 - b Dorzolomide
 - c Latanoprost
 - d Timolol

References

Vision and driving

http://www.aop.org.uk/services/services_visual.html - select "motor drivers"

http://www.dvla.gov.uk/medical/about_dri_med.aspx - download "at a glance"

Switchable liquid crystal lenses

Li G, Mathine DL, Valley P, et al.

Switchable electro-optic diffractive lens with high efficiency for ophthalmic applications

Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 2006; 103(16):6100-4.

Low vision: optometry and rehabilitation

<http://www.sightlossmatters.com>

Quarterly review

Chia EM, Mitchell P, Rochtchina E, Foran S, Golding M and Wang JJ

Association between vision and hearing impairments and their combined effects on quality of life
Arch Ophthalmol 2006; 124(10): 1465-1470.

Henson DB and Shambhu S

Relative risk of progressive glaucomatous visual field loss in patients enrolled and not enrolled in a prospective longitudinal study

Arch Ophthalmol 2006; 124(10): 1405-1408.

Pasquale LR, Kang JH, Manson JE, Willett WC, Rosner BA and Hankinson SE

Prospective study of type 2 diabetes mellitus and risk of primary open-angle glaucoma in women

Ophthalmology 2006; 113(7): 1081-1086.

Sahraie A, Trevethan CT, Macleod MJ, Murray AD, Olson JA and Weiskrantz L

Increased sensitivity after repeated stimulation of residual spatial channels in blindsight

Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 2006; 103(40): 14971-14976.

Tomkins C

Over 120 years of defending ophthalmologists

Br J Ophthalmol 2006; 90(9): 1084-1085.

Some articles are available online – see the OQ60 pages at www.docet.info



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