

# INDIAN ENTRY LEVEL OPTOMETRY COMPETENCY SKILL STANDARD

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**Venue: Sankara Nethralaya**

## **Acknowledgement**

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# ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS & COLLEGES OF OPTOMETRY (A.S.C.O)

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## Foreword

Dear Colleagues,

Soon after developing the Common Minimum Optometry Curriculum (CMOC), the team realized that the job was only half done. The curriculum forms the basis and covers what an optometry graduate needs to learn during his academic tenure. However, it needed a link between knowledge, judgement, skills and the daily activities required by a practicing optometrist - “Competency” is that link.

A team of academicians and professionals in the field of optometry from across the country came together on 15<sup>th</sup> April in Bangalore and took a decisive step to draft the Indian Entry Level Optometry Competency Skills (IELOCS). The team referred to the Australian Competency standards for entry level, the British General Optical Council Optometry curriculum and the Canadian standard assessment as the starting point. Many subject experts across the country provided their expertise, worked on various units and customized the standard for Indian requirement.

**It gives us immense pleasure to present to you the first draft of “Indian Entry Level Optometry Competency Skills (IELOCS)”**

On behalf of the team, I thank each and everyone who has contributed directly or indirectly to make this document possible.

Sincerely,

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## **Indian Entry Level Optometry Competency Skill Standard (IELOCS)**

### COMPETENCY STANDARDS FOR ENTRY LEVEL INTO THE PROFESSION OF OPTOMETRY IN INDIA

These standards have been developed for the profession, as it exists in 2011 and are expected to be altered as technology and knowledge expand, optometrists' clinical skills and community expectations broaden and professional aspirations are fulfilled

#### **What is a competency?**

‘Competency is the **Ability** to perform the activities within an occupation or function to the standard expected in employment’.

OR

Competency has been defined as the **Ability** to perform the responsibilities required of professionals to the standards necessary for safe and effective practice.

A competency will be a combination of the specification and application of a knowledge or skill within the occupation, to the appropriate standard. It will include the requirement to perform individual tasks; to manage a number of different tasks, to respond to irregularities and breakdowns in routine and to deal with the responsibilities and expectations of the work environment. Thus it will be a combination of task skills, task management skills, contingency management skills and job/role environment skills.

Competency-based standards are seen to encompass all forms of achievement of competence rather than only formal indicators such as formal qualifications from educational institutions and could have a role in the process of articulation or linkage between professions and related trades or occupations.

#### **What is the goal of developing Entry Level Optometry Competency Skill document?**

The goal of the IELOCS is to enable the schools of optometry in India to design their curriculum based on this document so that the optometry students passing out from their institute achieve the expected competency skills in/for the profession of optometry

#### **Terminology:**

Some terms used in this document have specific meanings within the context of competency standards.

**Unit:** A major segment of the overall competency of the profession, typically representing a major function or role of the profession.

**Performance criteria:** Evaluative statements which specify the required level of performance.

**Indicators:** Measurable and observable features, which can assist in determining whether a competency is achieved.

**Classification Units of Competency Skills at Entry level for optometrists**

A) Communication Skills

B) Professional Conduct

C) Patient Examination and management.

D) Optical Dispensing

E) Documentation

<p><b>A) Communication Skills</b></p>	<p><b>Ability</b> to communicate effectively with the patient, taking into accounts his/her physical, emotional, intellectual, social and cultural background.</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to build rapport -and empathy with patients from all backgrounds</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to take a structured, efficient, accurate history from patients with or without any ophthalmic and / or systemic problems and needs.</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to impart information in a manner which is appropriate to the recipient</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to be flexible in routine so as to make assimilation of information easy especially with illiterates, people with special needs</p>
<p><b>B) Professional Conduct</b></p>	<p><b>Ability</b> to protect patient data and records for confidentiality.</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to manage patients in a safe, appropriate and confidential environment</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to comply with legal, professional and ethical issues relating to practice.</p>
<p><b>C) Patient Examination and management</b></p>	<p><b>Ability</b> to measure vision and visual acuity</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to detect and measure the spherical, astigmatic and presbyopic corrections</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to prescribe refractive correction for different age groups and visual needs.</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to examine and identify abnormalities of the external eye and adnexa using appropriate instruments and techniques</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to differentiate and grade normal and abnormal findings</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to examine and identify abnormalities of the cornea using appropriate instruments and techniques</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to use contact and non-contact tonometers to measure intraocular pressure and analyse and interpret the results</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to examine and identify abnormalities in the anterior chamber</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to examine and identify abnormalities in the iris and assess pupil reflexes</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to examine and identify abnormalities in the crystalline lens using appropriate instruments and techniques</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to examine and identify abnormalities in the vitreous and fundi using appropriate instruments and techniques</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to diagnose and manage the case within the purview of the optometry care.</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to select appropriate, and use safely, the range of ophthalmic drugs and diagnostic stains available to an optometrist</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to formulate the follow up routines</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to refer where appropriate for further management</p> <p><b>Ability</b> to interpret all investigation reports.</p>

<p><b>C1. Contact Lenses</b></p>	<p><b>Ability</b> to take relevant history including previous contact lens wear  <b>Ability</b> to prescribe Contact lenses appropriate for different age groups and visual needs  <b>Ability</b> to assess anterior eye health as a part of pre-fitting evaluation  <b>Ability</b> to quantify corneal shape and size, and pupil  <b>Ability</b> to select the optimum lens  <b>Ability</b> to assess and optimise lens fit  <b>Ability</b> to teach a patient to safely insert, remove and care for contact lenses  <b>Ability</b> to monitor the anterior eye health of contact lens wearers and refer where appropriate</p>
<p><b>C2. Binocular vision</b></p>	<p><b>Ability</b> to assess eye alignment and eye movements  <b>Ability</b> to assess sensory fusion and stereopsis.  <b>Ability</b> to assess oculomotor function.  <b>Ability</b> to assess convergence and accommodation  <b>Ability</b> to prescribe orthoptic exercises appropriate for different age groups and visual needs.  <b>Ability</b> to refer where appropriate for further management  <b>Ability</b> to formulate the follow up routines</p>
<p><b>C3. Visual Impairment (Low Vision)</b></p>	<p><b>Ability</b> to take an appropriate history of a visually impaired patient  <b>Ability</b> to accurately quantify visual impairment and relate it to the underlying pathology and functional consequences  <b>Ability</b> to advise on the use of optical and non-optical aids  <b>Ability</b> to prescribe Low Vision devices appropriate for different age groups and visual needs.  <b>Ability</b> to refer where appropriate for further management  <b>Ability</b> to formulate the follow up routines.</p>
<p><b>D)Optical Dispensing</b></p>	<p><b>Ability</b> to interpret spectacle prescriptions  <b>Ability</b> to take frame and facial measurements  <b>Ability</b> to recommend the appropriate lens and frame material and design based on wearers needs and prescription  <b>Ability</b> to verify, modify and adjust spectacles  <b>Ability</b> to advice patients on appropriate use of Optical devices</p>
<p><b>E) Documentation</b></p>	<p><b>Ability</b> to record relevant information, results for various examination procedures.  <b>Ability</b> to record treatment, management and follow up plans  <b>Ability</b> to obtain patient consent wherever required.</p>



A) **COMMUNICATION SKILLS:** Ability of the optometrists to seek and communicate information from and to the patients. It also means the ability of the optometrist to share the relevant information to the colleagues.

Performance Criteria	Indicators
<p><b>Ability</b> to make the patient comfortable and gather information from the patient</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greets the patient in a culturally and socially appropriate way</li> <li>• Demonstrates ability to listen actively to the patient, understand and summarize the information to get confirmation from the patient</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to identify and respond appropriately to patients' fears, anxieties and concerns about their visual welfare</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishes and maintains a good professional and clinical relationship with the patient to inspire trust and confidence.</li> <li>• Establishes a non threatening environment for the patient</li> <li>• Recognises emotion in patients, takes into consideration patient's physical and behavioural cues</li> <li>• Explores patient concerns and provides reassurance where appropriate, using explanations that are relevant to that patient.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to understand the patient's expectations and aspirations and manage situations where these cannot be met.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conveys expert knowledge in an informative and understandable way by avoiding difficult medical terminology</li> <li>• Explores and understands patients' expectations</li> <li>• Empathizes with patient and manages the patient's needs within the limits of medical science.</li> <li>• Manages the cases outside the limits of medical science by proper counseling</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to communicate with patients who have poor or non-verbal communication skills, or those who are confused, reluctant or who might mislead</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Makes effective use of body language to support explanation.</li> <li>• Demonstrates awareness of body language.</li> <li>• Uses appropriate supporting material</li> <li>• Makes use of others to communicate with patients in their own language in appropriate scenarios.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Ability</b> to discuss with the patient the importance of systemic disease and its ocular impact, its treatment and the possible ocular side effects of medication.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the disease process in cases such as diabetes, hypertension and other common systemic diseases having common ocular manifestations.</li> <li>• Provides simple explanation to the ocular manifestations of the systemic disease in question</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to explain to the patient the implications of their pathological or physiological eye condition.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gives factually relevant information in a clear and understandable way, avoiding jargon and technical terms.</li> <li>• Uses appropriate supporting material, for example, diagrams or leaflets, and uses a range of different explanations where required to avoid repetition.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to communicate effectively with any other appropriate person involved in the care of the patient</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discusses advice and management in a clear and appropriate manner with the attendant of the patient</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to explain to the patient the examination plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summarizes the history and informs about the expected examination protocol</li> </ul>

**B) PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT :** The awareness of the optometrists about the optometry professions' job responsibilities, its limitations, code of conduct, rights of the patients who are seeking the optometric service, especially the patient's right for dignity, privacy and confidentiality; and the Ability to comply with the legal ethical and professional aspects of the practice.

Performance Criteria	Indicators
<p><b>Ability to</b> adhere to Health and Safety policies in the practice including the ability to implement appropriate measures for infection control</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates a proactive approach to Health and Safety issues such as identifying hazards, risk assessment, first aid, etc, in order to produce a safe environment for staff and patients alike.</li> <li>• Demonstrates appropriate personal hygiene, cleanliness of the practice, hygiene relating to instrumentation, contact lenses, disposal of clinical waste etc.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability to</b> maintain confidentiality in all aspects of patient care</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates knowledge of Data Protection and how this impacts on security, access and confidentiality of patient records.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability to</b> show respect for all patients</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognises and takes into consideration patient's specific needs and requirements e.g. cultural diversity or religious belief</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability to</b> manage all patients including those who have additional clinical or social needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respects and cares for all patients and their attendants in a caring, patient, sensitive and appropriate manner.</li> <li>• Ensures the patient environment is safe, inviting and user-friendly in terms of access and facilities for all patients.</li> <li>• Has an awareness of different types of disabilities and patients with additional needs.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Ability to</b> work within the law and within the codes and guidelines set by the regulator and the profession.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates knowledge of the advice and guidance set by the respective professional body and standards set by them.</li> <li>• Demonstrates knowledge of the code of conduct set down by the Council and /or appropriate authorities and awareness of the consequences if not followed.</li> <li>• Demonstrates a knowledge of the relevant law relating to their role</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability to</b> make an appropriate judgement regarding referral and understands referral pathways.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refers to appropriate person with appropriate urgency</li> <li>• Maintains inter-professional and intra-professional relationship and communication</li> <li>• Recognises difference between referral and notification</li> <li>• Includes appropriate information in referral letter</li> <li>• Gives appropriate advice to patient including written statement</li> <li>• Shows understanding of local protocol / with some understanding of national variations</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability to</b> understand professional</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintains necessary clinical setup</li> <li>• Follows an individual patient-centric examination structures, according to presenting symptoms and clinical signs standard examination</li> <li>• To identify needs and manage continuing professional development.</li> </ul>

**C) PATIENT EXAMINATION AND MANAGEMENT:** Ability of the optometrist to perform (according to internationally accepted standard procedures) clinical refraction, anterior and posterior segment evaluation, ability to evaluate for, select and prescribe contact lens and low vision devices, evaluate binocular vision status, arrive at the diagnosis, manage/ co- manage, counsel, prescribe and/or refer them to appropriate health care professionals /rehabilitation professionals

Performance Criteria	Indicators
<p><b>Ability</b> to obtain relevant history and information relating to general health, previous ocular health, previous surgical/laser interventions, information on the investigation done, medication, family history, work, lifestyle and personal requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understands the patients chief complaint</li> <li>• Elicits the appropriate associated symptoms of the chief complaint and probes any significant point in history using proper questioning techniques - open and closed ended questions</li> <li>• Elicits good history and obtains complete ocular and systemic medical details, including the negative history and note it in patients own words</li> <li>• Obtains family history and lifestyle requirements</li> <li>• Obtains the details of previous pharmacological and surgical treatments and their efficacy</li> <li>• Obtains details on the compliance of the patient towards previous treatments</li> <li>• Elicits details of patients allergies if any</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to assess the well being of the patient before proceeding with the various tests</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognizes significant transformation in gait, verbal response, ocular health and positioning</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to determine the visual acuity/ vision of the patient</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measures monocular and binocular vision and visual acuity using tests/equipment such as Snellen Letters/picture/illiterate charts, Contrast sensitivity charts, LogMAR/ETDRS charts</li> <li>• Assesses pinhole improvement of vision where indicated</li> <li>• Assess vision through objective methods</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to determine the refractive status of the patient objectively</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess the refractive status of the patient using retinoscopy</li> <li>• Performs keratometry and interprets keratometry readings Cross checks retinoscopy and keratometry values using autorefractors if required</li> <li>• Understands the need for cycloplegia and administers it judiciously</li> </ul>

<p><b>Ability</b> to determine the refractive status of the patient subjectively and prescribe appropriate glasses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determines and confirms the monocular spherical and cylindrical spectacle prescription</li> <li>• Performs binocular balancing wherever necessary before prescribing</li> <li>• Determines the presbyopic correction of the patient based on relevant factors</li> <li>• Demonstrate knowledge about prescribing guidelines for various refractive errors</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to determine the Pupillary functions and ability to refer in indicated cases.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Checks direct and consensual light reflexes</li> <li>• Checks pupil for shape, size and reaction under varying illumination levels. Perform near reflex test</li> <li>• Demonstrate knowledge on association of pupillary abnormalities with various ocular conditions and referral criteria.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to assess tear dynamics and ability to manage tear abnormalities or refer in indicated cases</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performs appropriate tests to assess tear quality and quantity</li> <li>• Demonstrate knowledge to arrive at the diagnosis and management</li> <li>• Demonstrate knowledge on referral guidelines.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to examine the Anterior segment of the eye and ability to refer indicated cases appropriately</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses slit-lamp biomicroscopy effectively</li> <li>• Detects changes in lid positioning, lesions on the lid, lid margin defects</li> <li>• Detects conjunctival disorders</li> <li>• Assesses the cornea and detects scars, opacities, thinning, dystrophies, degenerations, edema of the cornea, pigments and precipitates at different levels of the cornea</li> <li>• Assesses anterior chamber for normal and abnormal findings</li> <li>• Assesses crystalline lens and detects changes at different layers</li> <li>• Grades cataract using validated grading system</li> <li>• Demonstrate the knowledge to arrive at the diagnosis and management and referral criteria.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Ability</b> to assess the intraocular pressures of the eye and ability to refer indicated cases</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performs applanation tonometry effectively</li> <li>• Perform non-contact tonometry</li> <li>• Uses the results in glaucoma diagnosis</li> <li>• Uses the results in deciding on dilation of eyes</li> <li>• Demonstrate knowledge to arrive at the diagnosis and management /referral criteria.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to examine the posterior segment of the eye and ability to refer indicated cases</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses an appropriate diagnostic pharmaceutical for dilation</li> <li>• Performs direct and indirect ophthalmoscopy effectively</li> <li>• Examines appropriately the colour, cup, contour and edema of the optic disc</li> <li>• Assesses the cup-disc ratio</li> <li>• Differentiates between physiological and pathological optic disc cupping</li> <li>• Assess the retina including macula and periphery for any abnormalities</li> <li>• Demonstrate knowledge to arrive at the diagnosis and management /referral criteria</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to perform ancillary tests based on patients history and preliminary examination</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selects appropriate tests based on history and preliminary examination to diagnose conditions appropriately</li> <li>• Checks for photostress recovery test, brightness acuity testing, neutral density filter test</li> <li>• Checks for acquired and congenital colour vision defect using appropriate and internationally accepted standard procedures</li> <li>• Determines corneal topography using various topography instruments and techniques</li> <li>• Performs pachymetry for thickness assessment</li> <li>• Assesses the angle structures using gonioscopy</li> <li>• Assesses the central and peripheral visual field defects using appropriate tests</li> <li>• Understands the need for fundus fluorescein angiography or indocyanine green angiography, ocular coherence tomography or ultrasound and refer the patient appropriately</li> </ul>

**C1) CONTACT LENSES:**

<b>Performance Criteria</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<p><b>Ability</b> to assess the suitability of contact lenses as a form of correction for the patient</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Considers factors including lifestyle, vocational needs, vision, refraction, comfort, duration of wear, environment in determining suitability for contact lens wear</li><li>• Assesses ocular integrity and physiology using slit lamp, keratometer, vital staining, tear function tests</li><li>• Understands risk factors and contraindications,</li><li>• Considers systemic diseases / conditions and medication</li><li>• Understands suitability of various types of lenses – Soft, RGP, Toric Soft Contact Lenses and specialty lenses</li></ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to select, fit and order the most appropriate soft contact lens based on patient's refraction, visual requirements and pre-fitting evaluation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrates understanding of the range of soft lens materials and designs currently available</li><li>• Makes appropriate choice of soft lens parameters – Back vertex power, base curve, Total Diameter, material, design</li><li>• Assesses the fit of lenses using a variety of techniques – Coverage, centration, post blink movement, lens lag, lower lid push-up test, vision, comfort</li><li>• Makes appropriate adjustment in lens parameters for best fit</li><li>• Writes an appropriate order for a soft lens</li></ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to instruct the patient in soft lens handling and how to wear and maintain them</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Instructs a patient in the techniques of soft lens insertion, removal and other relevant handling instructions</li><li>• Demonstrates an understanding of the relative advantages and disadvantages of currently available soft contact lens care systems –</li><li>• Instructs a patient on the principles of soft lens wear and care including use of soft lens care products, Dos and Don'ts, aftercare</li></ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to manage the aftercare of patients wearing soft lenses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrates an understanding of adaptation and aftercare issues and how to manage them</li><li>• Demonstrates understanding of the content and routine of a soft CL aftercare consultation - schedules after-care visits, replacement schedules, care and maintenance regimen, deposits, indications for lens removal, indications for seeking urgent care.</li></ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carries out the relevant tests and assessments which are required in a routine soft lens aftercare consultation</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to select, fit and order the most appropriate rigid gas permeable contact lens based on patient's refraction, visual requirements and other findings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates an understanding of the range of rigid lens materials and designs available</li> <li>• Makes the appropriate choice of rigid lens parameters – Back vertex power, base curve, total diameter, optic zone diameter, design, material</li> <li>• Assesses the fitting of a rigid lens – Dynamic and static (understands and interprets fluorescein patterns)</li> <li>• Makes appropriate adjustment in lens parameters for best fit</li> <li>• Writes an appropriate order for a rigid lens</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to instruct the patient in rigid lens handling and how to wear and care for them</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructs a patient in the techniques of RGP lens insertion, removal and other relevant handling instructions</li> <li>• Demonstrates an understanding of the rigid lens care systems – Disinfectants, intensive cleaners</li> <li>• Instructs a patient on the principles of RGP lens wear and care including use of RGP lens care products, Dos and Don'ts</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to manage the aftercare of patients wearing rigid lenses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates an understanding of rigid lens adaptation and aftercare issues and how to manage them</li> <li>• Demonstrates an understanding of the content and routine of a rigid CL aftercare consultation - Wearing time, after-care visits, replacement schedules, care and maintenance regimen, deposits, indications for lens removal, indications for seeking urgent care.</li> <li>• Carries out the relevant tests and assessments which are required in a routine rigid lens aftercare consultation</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to choose and manage the fitting of toric contact lenses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates an understanding of the types of astigmatism which require correction</li> <li>• Chooses the appropriate type of CL correction to meet the relevant needs of the patient</li> <li>• Demonstrates an understanding of the designs and materials available in toric contact lenses and selects the appropriate toric lens for the needs of the patient</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assesses the fit and orientation and makes appropriate adjustments in the final prescription – application of LARS / CAAS rule</li> </ul>
<b>Ability</b> to verify the parameters on receiving the lenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verifies material, power, base curve, diameter against the prescription or order</li> </ul>
<b>Ability</b> to recommend and prescribe therapeutic and cosmetic contact lenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrates an understanding of conditions requiring these lenses - Aniridia; trauma; amblyopia; corneal scar, recurrent corneal erosion, bullous keratopathy, bandage lenses</li> </ul>
<b>Ability</b> to identify and manage Contact lens related complications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies CL complications on the basis of aetiology, type of lens, structures</li> <li>Evaluates previous wear compliance</li> <li>Demonstrates skilled history taking related to problem solving</li> <li>Manages the complication within the scope of practice and demonstrates understanding of timely referral</li> </ul>
<b>Ability</b> to refer special cases to contact lens experts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies conditions that require specialty contact lens fitting - Keratoconus, irregular corneas, dry eye, post refractive surgery</li> <li>Refers the patients to relevant practitioner</li> </ul>

**C2) BINOCULAR VISION:**

<b>Ability</b> to assess and interpret the diagnostic parameters of motor binocular vision and oculomotor performance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performs a detailed assessment of the following monocular oculomotor functions in infants, children and adults using standard clinical procedures and interpret these findings in the light of the underlying physiology of these responses: steady-state fixation (stability of fixation, eccentricity of fixation, etc), ductions, saccades, pursuits, various forms of physiological and pathological nystagmus, vestibulo-ocular reflex.</li> <li>Performs a detailed assessment of the binocular oculomotor functions in infants, children and adults using standard clinical procedures and interpret these findings in the light of the underlying physiology of these responses: vergence (fusional, accommodative, proximal), horizontal and vertical phorias, graphical analysis of the zone of clear and single binocular vision, versions, comitance and incomitance of deviations.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Ability</b> to assess and interpret accommodative status.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measures near point of accommodation and amplitudes (monocular and binocular), relative accommodation, accommodation facility (monocular and binocular), accommodative lag, lead and accuracy</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to assess and interpret the diagnostic parameters of sensory binocular vision</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performs a detailed assessment of the various aspects of sensory binocular vision using standard clinical procedures and interpret these findings in the light of the underlying physiology of these responses: normal and abnormal forms of sensory correspondence, fusion, diplopia, suppression, stereopsis, distortions in space due to abnormal binocularity (e.g. those induced due to aniseikonia, anisometropia, etc).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to diagnose and manage amblyopia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performs diagnostic tests to understand the underlying sensory and spatial pathology in amblyopia (e.g. decreased visual acuity, contrast sensitivity, crowding, suppression)</li> <li>• Performs diagnostic tests to understand the underlying motor pathology in amblyopia (e.g. poor accommodative and vergence behavior, eccentric fixation, etc)</li> <li>• Manages amblyopia using non-surgical therapies such as occlusion, sensory stimulation, etc</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to identify and manage children at risk of developing an anomaly of binocular vision.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies signs and symptoms in relation to personal / family history</li> <li>• Understands/ administers and interprets appropriate examination procedures with respect to age and developmental ability</li> <li>• Provides appropriate management of the child within the scope of practice, co manage when required and refers where appropriate for further management</li> <li>• Schedules follow up routine appropriate to underlying condition/s</li> </ul>

**C3) VISUAL IMPAIRMENT:**

<p><b>Ability</b> to identify patients benefiting from low vision services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Knowledge of conditions leading to visual impairment (LV)</li><li>• Takes relevant history from the patient with emphasize on task related history</li></ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to identify and prescribe low vision devices suited to the patient's visual requirements and functional needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Performs comprehensive Low vision work up, including LogMAR VA, accurate objective and/or subjective refraction, functional vision assessment (contrast, color, fields) and suitable rehabilitation.</li><li>• Selection and prescription of most appropriate optical and/or non-optical low vision device</li><li>• To take into account the ability of the patient to manipulate the device and to meet the cost,</li><li>•</li></ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to demonstrate a range of low vision devices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Knowledge of correct working distances with magnification requirements,</li><li>• Physical ability of the patient to manage different devices also considering the age factor.</li><li>• Knowledge of pathology associated with low vision; and awareness of indications and contraindications of different devices for low vision pathology</li><li>• Awareness of incidental optical effects, low vision aid design, aberrations, unwanted prismatic effects, tints, lighting requirements associated with different devices.</li></ul>

<p><b>Ability</b> to instruct the patient in the use of the low vision device</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates selection of correct working distance to the patient for the power selected.</li> <li>• Knowledge of appropriate lighting conditions</li> <li>• Knowledge of training requirements for the success of low vision devices for near and distant tasks.</li> <li>• Knowledge of Simulation of the condition and devices to the escort.</li> </ul>
<p>Ability to evaluate and monitor the success of the low vision device and prescribe additional or alternative devices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review follow up visits, re-assessment of the vision and the efficacy of the device for the functional needs of the patient.</li> <li>• Awareness of patient's compliance with the device.</li> <li>• Reassurance of the dispensed device and correct instruction followed.</li> <li>• Schedules appropriate follow up routine and understands its importance</li> </ul>
<p>Ability to inform and, if necessary, refer the patient to Other rehabilitative services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of correct referral to tertiary Low vision clinics, other practitioners, co-management team (Ophthalmologist, Rehabilitation specialist, Orientation and mobility expert, Career counselor, computer training experts).</li> <li>• Refers where appropriate for further management ie. Speech therapist, Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, Special Educators, Neuro-physicians.</li> </ul>

**D) OPTICAL DISPENSING:** Ability to counsel and dispense ideal spectacle lenses, spectacle frames based on the eye examination done by the optometrist or any other eye care team members.

Performance Criteria	Indicators
<p><b>Ability</b> to interpret the prescription</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understands specifications and international notations used in prescriptions,</li> <li>• Considers validity of prescription</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to identify parameters of previous spectacles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performs lensometry to validate prescription</li> <li>• Demonstrates transposition of prescription in various forms</li> <li>• Considers lens forms, materials, apparent errors, frame material and type</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to assess suitability of spectacles as a form of correction for the patient</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtains detailed history – Optical, recreational, occupational requirements</li> <li>• Understands the limitations of the previous spectacles</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to assist patient in selecting the appropriate spectacle frame.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates knowledge about frame materials and frame designs</li> <li>• Considers limitations of previous spectacle frame and gives appropriate recommendations to overcome them</li> <li>• Selects spectacle frames considering anatomical, physiological factors, features - benefits; suitability, fashion / cosmesis, materials, safety factors, proposed usage, cost</li> <li>• Awareness of availability of special purpose spectacles</li> <li>• Demonstrates ability to perform frame modifications</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to recommend the appropriate ophthalmic lenses to the patient</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates knowledge and application of contemporary lens forms, lens treatments/enhancements, features - benefits; suitability, fashion/ cosmesis, materials, safety factors, proposed use factors, costs</li> <li>• Awareness of market availability of various lenses - single vision, bifocal, progressive, lens coatings and enhancements</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to perform face and frame measurements and markings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates knowledge of datum system and boxing system</li> <li>• Exhibits skills in measuring IPD, optical centre positions, Fitting height, Minimum Blank Size, Pantoscopic angle, Pantoscopic tilt, Vertex distance and frame wrap</li> </ul>

<p><b>Ability</b> to order lenses in accordance with accepted standards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accurately fills parameters in order form</li> <li>• Exhibits an understanding of requirements, processes and limitations involved in the fabrication of optical appliances</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to verify the ordered lenses against the prescription prior to delivery</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performs lensometry and knows transposition in all forms.</li> <li>• Verifies optical centers, segment heights, vertex powers - spherical, cylindrical, axis, bifocal addition, base curves, prism power and base orientation, lens thickness, tints, coatings &amp; treatments, lens diameter</li> <li>• Identifies and verifies progressive lenses - micro-engravings, remarking the lens, checks the prescription and fit</li> <li>• Demonstrates knowledge of lens manufacturing, processing &amp; glazing and detects faults in lenses</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to adjust the spectacles at the time of delivery</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates skills in adjusting spectacles to optimize comfort and performance, knowledge of optical tools and dexterity in handling them</li> <li>• Checks frame alignment - Verification and adjustment of length to bend, pantoscopic tilt, facial wrap, nose pads, earpiece</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to instruct the patient in the proper use and maintenance of the spectacles and of any adaptation effects which may be expected</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggests specific lens cleaners and accessories and provides product information</li> <li>• Understands potential adaptive symptoms</li> <li>• Counsels the patient and demonstrates usage of the spectacles - the required head and eye movements.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability</b> to manage patients with complaints - Troubleshooting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verifies spectacle parameters and relates complaints to errors and misalignments</li> <li>• Makes required modifications or recommends appropriate changes in the spectacles</li> </ul>

**E) DOCUMENTATION:** Ability of the optometrists to document all the procedures, interactions and dispositions done to the patients either in the electronic record format or the hard copy; and preserve the document for specific period as per the legal requirements.

Performance Criteria	Indicators
<p><b>Ability</b> to record all relevant information pertaining to the patient in a format which is understandable and useable by the optometrist and his/her colleagues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Date, patient’s name and address, examining practitioner, history, procedures, clinical observations, diagnoses, results and management strategies, standard terminology, photographic, video, written and manner. computer records, records of consultations, consent form where required</li> <li>• Timing of review, advice to the patient, microbiological tests and results, modifications to management, initialing and dating of corrections, signature, record release forms, referral letters</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability to</b> keep patient records in a readily retrievable format and physically secure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Correct labeling, cross-referencing, staff understand filing system, legible and permanent (i.e. not pencil) and if electronic, backed up</li> <li>• Understands and marks coding as per international coding system of diseases for better statistical analysis</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability to</b> understand the need to ensure that access to records is limited to authorized personnel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Security of records, confidentiality, knowledge of relevant laws</li> <li>• Takes periodic back-ups and stores copies at same &amp; another premises in the case of electronic record systems</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ability to</b> obtain information from patient records and/or from patients and release only with the consent of the patient</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintains records in accordance with ethical standards and the law, patient names and addresses are not released for use in mailing lists. Anonymity of the patient is maintained when confidential information regarding the patient is discussed with others unless those parties are engaged in the management of the patient or prior consent of the patient is obtained.</li> <li>• Maintains follow-up for a routine review and Contact Lens replacement</li> <li>• Demonstrates knowledge of relevant laws relating to confidentiality and duration of preservation of the medical records of the patient.</li> </ul>