

Optometrist Hospital Referrals-Notes

“Optometrist Hospital Referrals” was produced by OWA to clarify the preferred procedures and protocols when optometrists refer clients for hospital treatment.

Over the years OWA has received the occasional enquiry related to optometrist referrals using the Central Referral Service encountering difficulties. This document is a response to those enquiries, and I thank the optometrists who brought this to our attention for contacting us.

Please refer direct to the hospital in all cases using the emergency, semi-urgent or routine protocols listed. It is very important to choose the hospital based on catchment area, using the client's postcode, unless the ophthalmologist is named.

“Optometrist Hospital Referrals” was developed by contacting the hospital ophthalmology heads of department. I thank Steve Colley (Fremantle hospital), Jean-Louis de Sousa (Royal Perth Hospital) and Vignesh Raja (Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital) for their kind and thoughtful assistance. Tricia Lyle, Clinical Nurse, Program Manager Ophthalmology at Fremantle Hospital was very helpful too.

Please note that Fiona Stanley Hospital has a very limited ophthalmology capacity and should not be referred to.

Robert Howie – OWA President