

Quality Standards

Eye Care Pathway

‘Information and Support to Service Users and Carers’ Quality Standards only

Taken from the full version 1.2 (14 pt font)

November 2017

West Midlands Quality Review Service (WMQRS)

NHS England, West Midlands - Local Eye Health Network (LEHN)



8831

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Review by: December 2019 at the latest

Version No	Date	Change from previous version
V1.2	16.11.17	N/A

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INTRODUCTION

The Quality Standards for the Eye Care Pathway have been developed as part of the West Midlands Quality Review Service's work to support NHS organisations in the West Midlands to improve the quality of services. They are based on relevant literature and have been developed in collaboration with a Steering Group (Appendix 1) comprising representatives of clinical staff from across the West Midlands. The draft Standards were circulated to relevant organisations in the West Midlands and comments received have been included. Service users and carers were involved in this process through a focus group and through participation in a regional workshop.

ABOUT THIS VERSION OF THE QUALITY STANDARDS

The first section of each set of Quality Standards cover 'Information and Support to Service Users and Carers'. There are usually between seven and 15 Standards in this section which describe the aspects of the service that should be apparent to the service user and their carer – and which can be reviewed by service users and carers. There are Standards for 'Information and Support for Service Users and Carers' for each of the following services in the eye care pathway:

- Primary care
- Enhanced primary care service
- Specialist service
- Low vision service

Some of the Standards are common to all services and may appear as repetition; some are slightly different for different services. Service providers, and hopefully service users, find it helpful to have all of the Standards applicable to their service together in one place. This makes it easier for the Standards to be used. This version includes all of these Standards

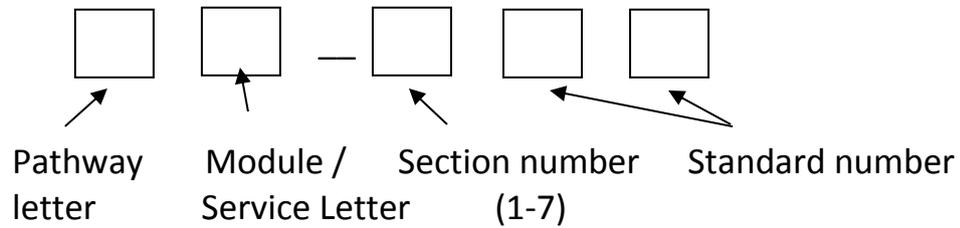
The full version of the WMQRS Quality Standards are available on the WMQRS website www.wmqrs.nhs.uk.

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STRUCTURE OF THE QUALITY STANDARDS

WMQRS QUALITY STANDARDS REFERENCE STRUCTURE

WMQRS Quality Standard reference numbers have the following structure:



<p>Each Standard is structured as follows:</p> <p>Reference Number (Ref)</p>	<p>This column contains the reference number for each Standard, which is unique to these Standards and is used for all cross-referencing. Each reference number is composed of two letters and three digits (see above and below for more detail).</p> <p>The reference column also includes a guide to how the Standard will be reviewed:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="715 577 1315 1301"> <tr> <td>BI</td> <td>Background information</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visit</td> <td>Visiting facilities</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MP&S</td> <td>Meeting service users (children, young people, adults) and staff</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CNR</td> <td>Case note review or clinical observation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Doc</td> <td>Documentation should be available. Documentation may be written or be in the form of a website or other social media</td> </tr> </table> <p>The shaded area indicates the approach that will be used to reviewing the Quality Standard. Appendix 5 summarises the evidence needed for review visits.</p>	BI	Background information	Visit	Visiting facilities	MP&S	Meeting service users (children, young people, adults) and staff	CNR	Case note review or clinical observation	Doc	Documentation should be available. Documentation may be written or be in the form of a website or other social media
BI	Background information										
Visit	Visiting facilities										
MP&S	Meeting service users (children, young people, adults) and staff										
CNR	Case note review or clinical observation										
Doc	Documentation should be available. Documentation may be written or be in the form of a website or other social media										
<p>Quality Standard (QS)</p>	<p>This describes the quality that services are expected to provide.</p>										
<p>Notes</p>	<p><i>The notes give more detail about either the interpretation or the applicability of the Standard.</i></p>										

Pathway and Service Letters:

These generic Standards use the pathway letter 'V'. The Standards are in the following sections:

VA-	Eye Care Pathway	Primary Care
VM-	Eye Care Pathway	Enhanced Primary Care Service
VN-	Eye Care Pathway	Specialist Service
VP-	Eye Care Pathway	Low Vision Service
VE-	Eye Care Pathway	Emergency Department
VK-	Eye Care Pathway	Child Health Screening
VZ-	Eye Care Pathway	Commissioning

Topic Sections:

The Quality Standards in this version only cover the following topic:

-100	Information and Support for Patients and Carers
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COMMENTS ON THE QUALITY STANDARDS

The Quality Standards will be revised as new national guidance becomes available and as a result of experience of their use. Comments on the Quality Standards are welcomed and will be taken into account when they are updated. Comments should be sent to swb-tr.SWBH-GM-WMQRS@nhs.net

More information about WMQRS and its Quality Standards and reviews is available at www.wmgrs.nhs.uk or 0121 612 2146.

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PRIMARY CARE

Ref	Standard
INFORMATION AND SUPPORT FOR PATIENTS AND CARERS	
VA-101 MP&S	<p>Primary Care Information and Support</p> <p>Information and support for patients and, if appropriate, their carers should be available, covering at least:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Health promotion, including smoking cessation, healthy eating, weight management, exercise, alcohol use, sexual and reproductive health, and mental and emotional health and well-being b. Services available in the local patient pathway, including self-referral to the low vision service c. Condition-specific information d. Eligibility for patient transport <p>Information should be available in a range of accessible formats. Written information should be in at least 14 point font size with good contrast.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Information should conform to latest UK Association for Accessible Formats guidance and the NHS England 'Accessible Information: Specification' (2015).</i> 2. <i>Condition-specific information suitable for patients and carers is available on The College of Optometrists website: www.college-optometrists.org or the Association of Optometrists website: www.aop.org.uk</i>

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ENHANCED PRIMARY CARE SERVICE

Ref	Standard
INFORMATION AND SUPPORT FOR PATIENTS AND CARERS	
VM-101 Visit MP&S	Service Information Each service should offer patients and their carers information covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Organisation of the service, such as opening hours, clinic times and transport arrangementsb. Arrangements for patients who are houseboundc. Staff and facilities availabled. Preparation for attending including, if appropriate, advice on driving and pupil dilatione. How to contact the service for help and advicef. Eligibility for patient transportg. How to raise concerns about the service Information should be available in a range of accessible formats. Written information should be in at least 14 point font size with good contrast.

Ref	Standard
	<p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Information should conform to latest UK Association for Accessible Formats guidance, NHS England 'Accessible Information: Specification' (2015) and the local policy on offering accessible information (QS VM-601).</i> <i>2. Information should be written in clear, plain English and should be available in formats and languages appropriate to the needs of the patients.</i> <i>3. Information may be in paper or electronic/e-learning formats. Guidance on how to access information is sufficient for compliance so long as this points to easily available information of appropriate quality. If the information is provided only in individual patient letters then examples will need to be seen by reviewers.</i> <i>4. Information may be combined with condition-specific information (QS NM-102) and should be clear about information carers can receive with and without the patient's permission.</i> <i>5. Throughout the Quality Standards, 'carer' refers to family and informal carers as well as to paid carers.</i>
<p>VM-102</p> <p>Visit MP&S CNR</p>	<p>Condition-Specific Information</p> <p>Services providing diagnosis, assessment or treatment for specific conditions should offer patients and their carers up to date, written information about their condition and its impact.</p> <p>Information should be available in a range of accessible formats. Written information should be in at least 14 point font size with black writing with good contrast.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. As QS VM-101 notes 1 and 2.</i> <i>2. Information may be in the form of national or locally produced booklets and combined with service information (QS VM-101).</i> <i>3. A note of the information given should be made available in the patient's clinical notes.</i>

Ref	Standard
VM-103 MP&S CNR	<p data-bbox="355 275 549 309">Plan of Care</p> <p data-bbox="355 342 1401 488">Each patient and, where appropriate, their carer should be offered a written record covering the plan of care agreed with them, covering at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="355 499 976 539">a. Agreed goals, including life-style goals <li data-bbox="355 551 671 591">b. Self-management <li data-bbox="355 602 1091 642">c. Planned investigations, treatments or referral <li data-bbox="355 654 847 694">d. Arrangements for future care <p data-bbox="355 705 1426 907">The patient should be offered a copy of their plan of care in at least 14 point font size with good contrast. The plan of care should be sent to the patient's GP and, with the patient's agreement their referring optometrist.</p> <p data-bbox="355 929 459 969"><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="355 981 1394 1182"><i>1. It is desirable that patients are offered a copy of their plan of care in their preferred format. They should also be offered the opportunity for a copy of their plan of care to be sent to their referring optometrist.</i> <li data-bbox="355 1193 1374 1283"><i>2. If the patient will be reviewed by the Enhanced Primary Care Eye Service then the plan of care should include a review date.</i>

Ref	Standard
VM-199 Visit Doc	<p data-bbox="360 277 815 315">Involving Patients and Carers</p> <p data-bbox="360 344 735 383">The service should have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="360 398 1378 488">a. Mechanisms for receiving regular feedback from patients and, if appropriate, their carers about treatment and care they receive <li data-bbox="360 504 922 542">b. Audits of patients' experiences of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="392 557 756 595">i. Accessing the service <li data-bbox="392 611 995 649">ii. Availability of accessible information <li data-bbox="360 665 1410 754">c. Mechanisms for involving patients and, if appropriate, their carers in decisions about the organisation of the service <li data-bbox="360 770 1251 860">d. Examples of changes made as a result of feedback and involvement of patients and, if appropriate, their carers <p data-bbox="360 889 448 927"><i>Notes</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="360 943 1426 1133">1. <i>NICE Commissioning Guidance, CMG 49, Support for Commissioning (2013), suggests patient satisfaction surveys should cover accessibility of venues or domiciliary visits, availability of convenient appointment times especially for working age adults.</i> <li data-bbox="360 1149 1347 1187">2. <i>Audits should normally be undertaken at least every two years.</i>

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SPECIALIST SERVICE

Ref	Standard
INFORMATION AND SUPPORT FOR PATIENTS AND CARERS	
VN-101 Visit MP&S	<p>Service Information</p> <p>Each service should offer patients and, if appropriate, their carers information covering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Organisation of the service, such as opening hours, clinic times and transport arrangements b. Staff and facilities available c. Preparation for attending including, if appropriate, advice on driving and pupil dilation d. Availability of low vision aids e. How to contact the service for help and advice, including out of hours f. Eligibility for patient transport g. How to raise concerns about the service <p>Information should be available in a range of accessible formats. Written information should be in at least 14 point font size with good contrast.</p>

Ref	Standard
	<p><i>Notes</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Information should conform to latest UK Association for Accessible Formats guidance, NHS England 'Accessible Information: Specification' (2015) and the local policy on offering accessible information (QS VN-601).</i> <i>2. Information should be in clear, plain English and should be available in formats and languages appropriate to the needs of the patients, including developmentally appropriate information for young people and people with learning disabilities. Information for young people should meet the 'Quality Criteria for Young People Friendly Health Services' (DH, 2011).</i> <i>3. Information may be in paper or electronic/e-learning formats. Guidance on how to access information is sufficient for compliance so long as this points to easily available information of appropriate quality. If the information is provided only in individual patient letters then examples will need to be seen by reviewers.</i> <i>4. This may be general Trust-wide (or equivalent) information. If so, services or clinics which are specific to one condition should be clearly identified. If the information is provided only in individual patient letters then examples of these will need to be available to reviewers.</i> <i>5. Information may be combined with condition-specific information (QS VN-102) and should be clear about information carers can receive with and without the patient's permission.</i> <i>6. Throughout the Quality Standards, 'carer' refers to family and informal carers as well as to paid carers.</i>

Ref	Standard
VN-102 Visit MP&S	<p data-bbox="355 275 836 315">Condition-Specific Information</p> <p data-bbox="355 342 1246 434">Patients and, if appropriate, their carers should be offered information covering, at least:</p> <ol data-bbox="355 450 1425 1272" style="list-style-type: none"> a. Brief description of their condition and its impact b. Possible complications and how to prevent these c. Therapeutic and rehabilitation interventions offered by the service, possible side-effects and likely outcomes d. Early warning signs of problems and action to take if these occur <p data-bbox="355 712 1254 752">Information should be available for, at least, the following:</p> <ol data-bbox="355 768 1414 1272" style="list-style-type: none"> i. Squints and other problems of vision development (children only) ii. Cataracts iii. Glaucoma iv. Eye trauma v. Corneal and conjunctival problems vi. Retinal problems including detachment, macular degeneration and retinopathy vii. Inflammatory eye conditions viii. Oculoplastics ix. Any other conditions commonly managed by the service <p data-bbox="355 1288 1386 1429">Information should be available in a range of accessible formats, including digital and audio information. Written information should be in at least 14 point font size with good contrast.</p> <p data-bbox="355 1462 459 1503"><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol data-bbox="355 1518 1425 2024" style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>As QS VN-101 notes 1, 2 and 3.</i> 2. <i>Information may be combined with service information (QS VN-101).</i> 3. <i>Condition-specific information suitable for patients and carers is available on The College of Optometrists website: www.college-optometrists.org or the Association of Optometrists website: www.aop.org.uk. The Royal National Institute for the Blind www.rnib.org.uk, the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and other national organisations also provide relevant information for patients and carers.</i>

Ref	Standard
VN-103 Visit MP&S	<p data-bbox="354 277 911 315">Visual Impairment and Information</p> <p data-bbox="354 344 1246 434">Patients and, if appropriate, their carers should be offered information covering, at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="354 450 1262 488">a. Managing with vision impairment or sight loss, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="395 504 783 542">i. Accessible information <li data-bbox="395 557 751 595">ii. Contrast and lighting <li data-bbox="395 611 879 649">iii. Magnification and visual aids <li data-bbox="395 665 887 703">iv. Aids and equipment available <li data-bbox="395 719 1315 801">v. Safety, mobility and independent living, including training available <li data-bbox="354 817 995 855">b. Low Vision Service and how to access it <li data-bbox="354 871 1410 909">c. Specialist Vision Impairment Teaching Service and how to access it <li data-bbox="354 925 959 963">d. Peer support groups available locally <li data-bbox="354 978 1286 1061">e. Range of statutory and voluntary services available locally, including counselling and psychological support services <li data-bbox="354 1077 1315 1160">f. Sources of further advice and information including national organisations <li data-bbox="354 1176 1150 1214">g. Certification of vision impairment (if appropriate) <li data-bbox="354 1229 815 1267">h. Benefits and welfare advice <li data-bbox="354 1283 1158 1321">i. DVLA regulations and driving advice (if applicable) <li data-bbox="354 1337 1374 1532">j. Health promotion, including smoking cessation, health eating, weight management, exercise, alcohol use, sexual and reproductive health, and mental and emotional health and well-being <p data-bbox="354 1547 1386 1688">Information should be available in a range of accessible formats, including digital and audio information. Written information should be in at least 14 point font size with good contrast.</p> <p data-bbox="354 1720 459 1758"><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="354 1774 863 1812">1. As QS VN-101 notes 1, 2 and 3. <li data-bbox="354 1827 1362 1910">2. Information may be combined with service information (QS VN-101). <li data-bbox="354 1926 1390 2018">3. The requirements of this QS may be met at different times and do not all need to be covered at the start of the patient pathway.

Ref	Standard
VN-104 MP&S CNR	<p data-bbox="355 277 547 311">Plan of Care</p> <p data-bbox="355 344 1390 434">Each patient and, where appropriate, their carer should discuss and agree a plan of care covering at least:</p> <ol data-bbox="355 450 1430 1061" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="355 450 847 483">a. Preferred information format <li data-bbox="355 501 975 535">b. Agreed goals, including life-style goals <li data-bbox="355 553 671 586">c. Self-management <li data-bbox="355 604 1243 694">d. Planned assessments, therapeutic and/or rehabilitation interventions <li data-bbox="355 712 1430 801">e. Early warning signs of problems, including acute exacerbations, and what to do if these occur <li data-bbox="355 819 1382 909">f. Planned review date and how to access a review more quickly, if necessary <li data-bbox="355 927 1353 1016">g. Name of 'key worker' who they can contact with queries or for advice <li data-bbox="355 1034 1337 1068">h. Whether referred to or in contact with the Low Vision Service <p data-bbox="355 1095 459 1128"><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol data-bbox="355 1146 1398 1650" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="355 1146 1302 1180">1. <i>As QS1 The plan of care may be in the form of a clinic letter.</i> <li data-bbox="355 1198 1390 1288">2. <i>The requirements of this QS may be met at different times and do not all need to be covered at the start of the patient pathway.</i> <li data-bbox="355 1305 1398 1496">3. <i>It is desirable that patients are offered a copy of their plan of care in their preferred format. They should also be offered the opportunity for a copy of their plan of care to be sent to their referring optometrist.</i> <li data-bbox="355 1514 1398 1650">4. <i>The nominated 'key worker' responsible for the coordination of their care and for liaison with the patient's GP and other agencies involved in their care.</i>

Ref	Standard
VN-105 MP&S CNR	<p data-bbox="357 277 842 313">Contact for Queries and Advice</p> <p data-bbox="357 344 1401 539">Each patient and, where appropriate, their carer should have a contact point within the service for queries and advice. If advice and support is not immediately available then the timescales for a response should be clear and should be specified for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="357 555 624 591">a. Urgent queries <li data-bbox="357 607 711 642">b. Post-surgery queries <li data-bbox="357 658 651 694">c. All other queries <p data-bbox="357 710 1422 853">Response times should be no longer than the end of the next working day. All contacts for advice and a sample of actual response time should be documented.</p> <p data-bbox="357 884 459 920"><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="357 936 1406 1182">1. <i>The 'response within agreed timescales' means a response by, or following discussion with, a health or social care professional. It does not mean that a particular health or social care professional involved in the individual's care will respond by the end of the next working day.</i> <li data-bbox="357 1198 1401 1285">2. <i>Suggested response times are: Urgent: One hour, Post-surgery: 24 hours, Other: Next working day</i>

Ref	Standard
VN-106 MP&S CNR	<p data-bbox="355 277 1398 367">Education Health Care Plan (Services caring for children and young people only)</p> <p data-bbox="355 398 1417 591">A Education Health Care Plan should be agreed with each child or young person whose eye condition impacts on their interaction with education materials or the educational environment, their family and their school. This plan should cover at least:</p> <ol data-bbox="355 609 1422 1323" style="list-style-type: none"> a. Eye condition b. School attended c. Preferred format for learning materials and arrangements for sourcing materials in this format d. Safety and mobility while at school e. Aids and adaptations to learning environments f. Psychological and emotional support g. Care required while at school including medication h. Responsibilities of Specialist Visual Impairment Teaching Service, carers and school staff i. Likely problems and what to do if these occur, including what to do in an emergency j. Arrangements for liaison with the school k. Review date and review arrangements <p data-bbox="355 1355 459 1391"><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol data-bbox="355 1406 1422 2018" style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>This QS is not applicable to services for adults.</i> 2. <i>An education health care plan is not required for children wearing glasses only or those with a squint or other condition that has no impact on their interaction with:</i> <ol data-bbox="395 1619 858 1704" style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>Educational materials</i> b. <i>The education environment.</i> <p data-bbox="395 1720 1350 1805"><i>Other agencies may also be involved in agreeing the Education Health Care Plan.</i></p> 3. <i>Consideration of preferred format for learning materials should include consideration of font size, braille and audio formats.</i> 4. <i>'School' refers to nursery, school or college and this QS is applicable to all children and young people in full-time education.</i>

Ref	Standard
VN-195 MP&S CNR	<p>Transition to Adult Services</p> <p>Young people approaching the time when their care will transfer to adult services should be offered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The opportunity to discuss the transfer of care with paediatric and adult services b. A named coordinator for the transfer of care c. A preparation period prior to transfer d. Information in their preferred format about the transfer of care, including arrangements for monitoring during the time immediately afterwards <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <p><i>1. This QS applies only to services where significant numbers of young people transfer from paediatric services or where the responsible clinical staff change when the young person becomes an adult. It is not applicable to services where the same clinical staff provide care for both children and adults.</i></p>
VN-196 MP&S CNR	<p>Discharge Information</p> <p>On discharge from the service patients and, if appropriate, their carers should be offered information in their preferred format covering at least:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Care after discharge b. Safety, mobility and independent living c. Ongoing self-management of their condition d. Possible complications and what to do if these occur e. Who to contact with queries or concerns <p>This information should be communicated to the patient's GP and, with the patient's agreement, their referring optometrist.</p>

Ref	Standard
VN-197 Visit MP&S	<p>General Support for Patients and Carers</p> <p>Patients and, if appropriate, their carers should have easy access to the following services and information about these services should be easily available:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Interpreter services b. Independent advocacy services c. Complaints procedures d. Social workers e. Benefits advice f. Spiritual support g. <i>HealthWatch</i> or equivalent organisation <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As QS VN-101 note 1. 2. This QS is about signposting to relevant services. The actual services available may be different in different areas. 3. Availability of support services should be appropriate to the case mix and needs of patients and, if appropriate, their carers. 4. Information should explain patients' rights under the NHS Constitution.
VN-198 MP&S	<p>Carers' Needs</p> <p>Carers should be offered information on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How to access an assessment of their own needs b. What to do in an emergency c. Services available to provide support <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support for carers may include carer's breaks, emergency response, support for children in the family and cognitive and behavioural therapy, usually accessed through primary care-based psychological therapy services.

Ref	Standard
VN-199 MP&S Doc	<p data-bbox="355 277 815 315">Involving Patients and Carers</p> <p data-bbox="355 344 735 383">The service should have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="355 398 1374 488">a. Mechanisms for receiving regular feedback from patients and, if appropriate, their carers about treatment and care they receive <li data-bbox="355 504 919 542">b. Audits of patients' experiences of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="395 557 759 595">i. Accessing the service <li data-bbox="395 611 994 649">ii. Availability of accessible information <li data-bbox="355 665 1406 754">c. Mechanisms for involving patients and, if appropriate, their carers in decisions about the organisation of the service <li data-bbox="355 770 1426 860">d. Examples of changes made as a result of feedback and involvement of patients and, if appropriate, their carers <p data-bbox="355 889 459 927"><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="355 943 1406 1182">1. <i>The arrangements for receiving feedback from patients and, if appropriate, their carers may involve surveys, including the national patient survey, focus groups and /or other arrangements. They may involve Trust-wide arrangements so long as issues relating to the specific service can be identified.</i> <li data-bbox="355 1198 1353 1236">2. <i>Audits should normally be undertaken at least every two years.</i>

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LOW VISION SERVICE

Ref	Standard
INFORMATION AND SUPPORT FOR PATIENTS AND CARERS	
VP-101 Visit MP&S	<p>Service Information</p> <p>Information on the Low Vision Service should be widely available covering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How to contact the service for help and advice b. Arrangements for patients who are housebound c. How to access the service d. Opening hours e. Range of services, staff, facilities, equipment and technology available f. Eligibility for free or subsidised transport to the service and how to arrange this g. How to raise concerns about the service <p>Information should be available in local optometrists' premises, diabetic retinopathy screening locations and in the local specialist eye service. Information should be in a range of accessible formats.</p> <p>Written information should be in at least 14 point font size with good contrast.</p>

Ref	Standard
	<p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="357 344 1406 539">1. <i>Information should conform to latest UK Association for Accessible Formats guidance, NHS England 'Accessible Information: Specification' (2015) and the local policy on offering accessible information (QS VP-601).</i> <li data-bbox="357 555 1425 853">2. <i>Information should be in clear, plain English and should be available in formats and languages appropriate to the needs of the service users, including developmentally appropriate information for young people and people with learning disabilities. Information for young people should meet the 'Quality Criteria for Young People Friendly Health Services' (DH, 2011).</i> <li data-bbox="357 869 1414 1115">3. <i>Information may be in paper or electronic/e-learning formats. Guidance on how to access information is sufficient for compliance so long as this points to easily available information of appropriate quality. If the information is provided only in individual service user letters then examples will need to be seen by reviewers.</i>

Ref	Standard
VP-102 Visit MP&S	<p data-bbox="357 277 836 315">Condition-Specific Information</p> <p data-bbox="357 344 1324 434">Service users and, if appropriate, their carers should be offered information covering, at least:</p> <ol data-bbox="357 450 1382 595" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="357 450 767 488">a. Common eye conditions <li data-bbox="357 504 1142 542">b. Possible complications and how to prevent these <li data-bbox="357 557 1382 595">c. Early warning signs of problems and action to take if these occur <p data-bbox="357 611 1393 748">Information should be available in a range of accessible formats including digital and audio information. Written information should be in at least 14 point font size with good contrast.</p> <p data-bbox="357 781 459 819"><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol data-bbox="357 835 1422 1435" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="357 835 858 873">1. <i>As QS VP-101 notes 1, 2 and 3.</i> <li data-bbox="357 889 1358 978">2. <i>Information may be combined with service information (QS VP-101).</i> <li data-bbox="357 994 1422 1339">3. <i>Condition-specific information suitable for service users and carers is available on The College of Optometrists website: www.college-optometrists.org or the Association of Optometrists website: www.aop.org.uk. The Royal National Institute for the Blind www.rnib.org.uk, the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and other national organisations also provide relevant information for patients and carers.</i> <li data-bbox="357 1355 1334 1435">4. <i>Throughout the Quality Standards, 'carer' refers to family and informal carers as well as to paid carers.</i>

Ref	Standard
VP-103 Visit MP&S	<p data-bbox="354 277 842 315">Visual Impairment Information</p> <p data-bbox="354 344 1323 434">Service users and, if appropriate, their carers should be offered information covering, at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="354 450 1262 488">a. Managing with visual impairment or sight loss, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="395 504 783 542">i. Accessible information <li data-bbox="395 557 754 595">ii. Contrast and lighting <li data-bbox="395 611 877 649">iii. Magnification and visual aids <li data-bbox="395 665 887 703">iv. Aids and equipment available <li data-bbox="395 719 1315 801">v. Safety, mobility and independent living, including training available <li data-bbox="354 817 1410 855">b. Specialist Vision Impairment Teaching Service and how to access it <li data-bbox="354 871 957 909">c. Peer support groups available locally <li data-bbox="354 925 1286 1014">d. Range of statutory and voluntary services available locally, including counselling and psychological support services <li data-bbox="354 1030 1315 1120">e. Sources of further advice and information including national organisations <li data-bbox="354 1135 1150 1173">f. Certification of vision impairment (if appropriate) <li data-bbox="354 1189 820 1227">g. Benefits and welfare advice <li data-bbox="354 1243 1158 1281">h. DVLA regulations and driving advice (if applicable) <li data-bbox="354 1296 1374 1480">i. Health promotion, including smoking cessation, health eating, weight management, exercise, alcohol use, sexual and reproductive health, and mental and emotional health and well-being <p data-bbox="354 1496 1342 1534">Information should be available in a range of accessible formats.</p> <p data-bbox="354 1550 1418 1639">Written information should be in at least 14 point font size with good contrast.</p> <p data-bbox="354 1671 459 1709"><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="354 1724 858 1762">1. As QS VP-101 notes 1, 2 and 3. <li data-bbox="354 1778 1358 1868">2. Information may be combined with service information (QS VP-101).

Ref	Standard
VP-104 MP&S CNR	<p data-bbox="355 277 635 313">Personalised Plan</p> <p data-bbox="355 344 1398 488">Each service user and, where appropriate, their carer should discuss and agree their personalised plan of care, and should be offered a written record covering at least:</p> <ol data-bbox="355 501 1430 1532" style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preferred information format b. Summary of assessment of visual function and eye health c. Agreed goals, including life-style goals d. Self-management e. Planned interventions and associated costs including, if applicable: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Preventing further sight loss ii. Safety, mobility and independent living training iii. Provision of optical and non-optical equipment and technology, including any associated costs iv. Social care provision v. Counselling and emotional support vi. Specialist Vision Impairment Teaching Service support vii. Employment advice and support f. Welfare and benefits advice g. Certification of vision impairment (if appropriate) h. Early warning signs of problems, including acute exacerbations, and what to do if these occur i. Planned review date and how to access a review more quickly, if necessary j. Who to contact with queries or for advice <p data-bbox="355 1545 1422 1738">The service user should be offered a copy of their personalised plan of care in their preferred format. The plan of care should be communicated to the patient's GP and, with the patient's agreement, to other services involved in their care.</p>

Ref	Standard
VP-105 MP&S CNR	<p>Contact for Queries and Advice</p> <p>Each service user and, where appropriate, their carer should have a contact point within the service for queries and advice. If advice and support is not immediately available then the timescales for a response should be clear. Response times should be no longer than the end of the next working day. All contacts for advice and a sample of actual response time should be documented.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <p><i>1. A contact card, or similar, may be a useful way of disseminating this information.</i></p>
VP-106 MP&S CNR	<p>Education Health Care Plan (Services caring for children and young people only)</p> <p>An Education Health Care Plan should be agreed with each child or young person whose eye condition impacts on their interaction with education materials or the educational environment, their family and their school. This plan should cover at least:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Eye condition and other medical conditions (if applicable) b. School attended c. Preferred format for learning materials and arrangements for sourcing materials in this format d. Safety and mobility while at school e. Aids and adaptations to learning environments f. Psychological and emotional support g. Care required while at school including medication h. Responsibilities of Specialist Visual Impairment Teaching Service, carers and school staff i. Likely problems and what to do if these occur, including what to do in an emergency j. Arrangements for liaison with the school k. Review date and review arrangements

Ref	Standard
	<p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. This QS is not applicable to services for adults.</i> <i>2. An education health care plan is not required for children wearing glasses only or those with a squint or other condition that has no impact on their interaction with</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a. Educational materials</i> <i>b. The education environment.</i> <p><i>Other agencies may also be involved in agreeing the Education Health Care Plan.</i></p> <i>3. Consideration of preferred format for learning materials should include consideration of font size, braille and audio formats.</i> <i>4. 'School' refers to nursery, school or college and this QS is applicable to all children and young people in full-time education.</i> <i>5. Agreement of the Education Health Care Plan is not the responsibility of the Low Vision Service but the service should have access to, and contribute to, these plans.</i>
<p>VP-196</p> <p>MP&S</p> <p>CNR</p>	<p>Discharge Information</p> <p>On discharge, service users and, if appropriate, their carers should be offered information covering at least:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Maintaining agreed goals, including ongoing self-management b. Possible problems and what to do if these occur c. How to re-access the service d. Who to contact with queries or concerns <p>This information should be communicated to the service user's GP and, with the service user's agreement, to other services involved in their care.</p>

Ref	Standard
VP-197 Visit MP&S	<p>General Support for Service Users and Carers</p> <p>Service users and, if appropriate, their carers should have easy access to the following services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Interpreter services b. Independent advocacy services c. Complaints procedures d. Spiritual support e. HealthWatch or equivalent organisation <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>This QS is about signposting to relevant services. The actual services available may be different in different areas.</i> 2. <i>Availability of support services should be appropriate to the case mix and needs of service users and, if appropriate, their carers.</i>
VP-198 MP&S	<p>Carers' Needs</p> <p>Carers should be offered information on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How to access an assessment of their own needs b. What to do in an emergency c. Services available to provide support d. Services specific to visual impairment including sight awareness training <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Support for carers may include carer's breaks, emergency response, support for children in the family and cognitive and behavioural therapy, usually accessed through primary care-based psychological therapy services.</i>

Ref	Standard
VP-198 MP&S	<p data-bbox="357 277 895 315">Involving Service Users and Carers</p> <p data-bbox="357 344 735 383">The service should have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="357 398 1422 488">a. Mechanisms for receiving regular feedback from service users and, if appropriate, their carers about treatment and care they receive <li data-bbox="357 504 991 645">b. Audits of service users' experiences of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="395 555 759 593">i. Accessing the service <li data-bbox="395 607 994 645">ii. Availability of accessible information <li data-bbox="357 660 1377 750">c. Mechanisms for involving service users and, if appropriate, their carers in decisions about the organisation of the service <li data-bbox="357 766 1426 855">d. Examples of changes made as a result of feedback and involvement of service users and, if appropriate, carers <p data-bbox="357 887 459 925"><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="357 938 1410 1133">1. <i>The arrangements for receiving feedback from service users and, if appropriate, their carers may involve surveys, including the national service user survey, focus groups and /or other arrangements.</i> <li data-bbox="357 1146 1353 1184">2. <i>Audits should normally be undertaken at least every two years.</i>