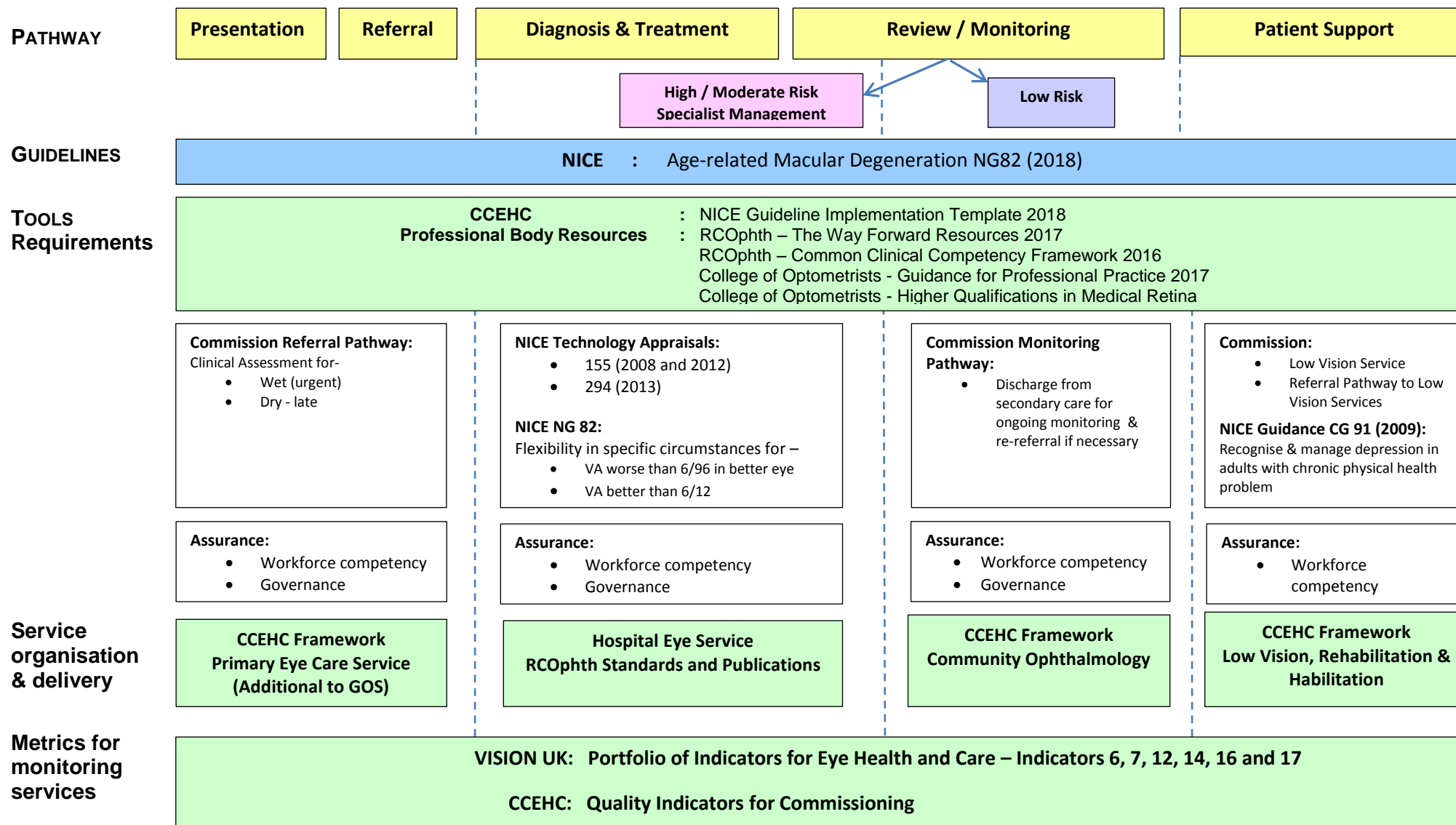


# **System and Assurance Framework for Eye-health (SAFE) – Age-related macular degeneration**

March 2018

## System and Assurance Framework for Eye-health (SAFE) – AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION



## LINKS TO TOOLS AND RESOURCES

### GUIDELINES:

**NICE** Age-related macular degeneration NG82 - 2018  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng82>

Depression in adults with a chronic physical health problem: recognition and management - CG91- 2009.  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg91>

### TOOLS:

#### Requirements

**CCEHC:** NICE Guideline Implementation Template - 2018 [www.ccehc.org.uk](http://www.ccehc.org.uk)

#### Professional Body Resources:

##### College of Optometrists

Higher Qualification in Medical Retina

<https://www.college-optometrists.org/cpd-and-cet/training-and-qualifications/higher-qualifications/medical-retina-qualifications.html>

The College of Optometrists Higher Qualification in Medical Retina prepares optometrists in the community and within a hospital setting to provide care for those with retinal disease according to agreed risk stratification mirrored within the Common Clinical Competency Framework and includes the requirements set out for diabetic screening.

Guidance for Professional Practice - 2017

<http://guidance.college-optometrists.org/home/>

The College of Optometrists' Guidance for Professional Practice is sets out what is expected of optometrists, and applies to all work environments. It helps ensure that optometrists put their patient's interests first, and work in partnership with them so they receive the best possible care. It is applicable in all optometric work environments: independent practice, multiples and hospital settings.

**The Royal College of Ophthalmologists**

The Way Forward – Age Related Macular Degeneration 2017

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/RCOphth-The-Way-Forward-AMD-300117.pdf>

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/RCOphth-The-Way-Forward-AMD-Summary-300117-1.pdf>

The Way Forward resources provide options based on good practice for developments in service delivery and organisation, whilst maintaining clinical standards and governance for patient care.

Common Clinical Competency Framework – Medical Retina 2016

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/CCCF-Medical-Retina.pdf>

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/CCCF-HCPs.pdf>

This provides the standards and guidance for the knowledge, skills and competencies for non-medical eye healthcare professionals to provide patient care – primarily, but not exclusively in hospital settings. The professional bodies are developing national educational programmes to deliver these, but in the meantime, could be applied local or regional training courses to ensure necessary competencies are met.

RCOphth Standards and Publications - <https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/standards-publications-research/>

Provided here are a range of standards and guidance for good practice, service provision, and quality.

**Service Organisation & Delivery****Clinical Council for Eye Health Commissioning**

Primary Eye Care Framework (CCEHC 2018): [www.ccehc.org.uk](http://www.ccehc.org.uk)

Community Ophthalmology Framework (CCEHC 2018): [www.ccehc.org.uk](http://www.ccehc.org.uk)

Low Vision Habilitation Rehabilitation Services Framework (CCEHC 2018): [www.ccehc.org.uk](http://www.ccehc.org.uk)

The frameworks developed by the Clinical Council for Eye Health Commissioning (CCEHC) are aimed at easing capacity problems within the hospital eye service and improving patient flows within a service system. These provide the overall architecture for how pathways of care within a service system are organised, delivered and monitored, based on clinical risk stratification of a patient's condition and the skills and competence of the health care practitioner.

**Metrics**

**VISION UK:** Portfolio of Indicators for Eye Health and Care 2018 - [www.ccehc.org.uk](http://www.ccehc.org.uk)

**CCEHC:** Quality Indicators for Commissioning - 2018 [www.ccehc.org.uk](http://www.ccehc.org.uk)

**GLOSSARY:****Service System**

A service system includes the range of pathways of care delivering services that may involve multiple providers and settings, to address the needs of a defined patient population or condition.

**General Ophthalmic Service (GOS)**

The GOS is commissioned by NHS England. This contracts primary care opticians' practices to provide NHS sight tests for preventative and corrective eye care for children, people aged 60 and over, adults on low incomes and those suffering from, or predisposed to, eye conditions and diseases.

**Primary Eye Care Service**

This service is commissioned by CCGs. It includes supplementary services that are necessary prior to referral for specialist ophthalmic opinion (usually within the Hospital Eye Service), thereby improving the quality of referrals. A primary eye care service will typically include the ability to:

- conduct re-checks to confirm abnormal test results (detected by a NHS eye test / eye examination) e.g. repeat measures as outlined in NICE Glaucoma Guideline NG 81
- further refine the decision to refer e.g. where risks and benefits are discussed with the patient prior to referral for cataract surgery
- address the needs of a patient presenting with an acute eye condition (first contact)
- manage a range of low risk primary eye conditions

**Community Ophthalmology Service**

This service is commissioned by CCGs. It involves the assessment and management of patients whose eye conditions are at low risk of deterioration who are either referred by primary care for assessment or discharged from secondary care for monitoring, in order to release capacity and improve patient flows within the system. It has some or all of the following characteristics:

- the ability to make definitive diagnoses to manage and treat the majority of cases referred into it
- be effective as a monitoring service for patients at risk of their condition deteriorating asymptotically
- provides an access point for patients with recurrent symptomatic disease

**Hospital Eye Service**

This service is commissioned by CCGs. It provides specialist ophthalmic services for acute and chronic care diagnosis, intervention and management; including emergency and urgent eye care.

**Low Vision, Habilitation and Rehabilitation Service**

This service is commissioned across the eye care pathways by both CCGs and Social Services. This service should:

- Improve the process for certification of sight impairment and the associate data flows across the health and care system
- Provide practical and emotional support post diagnosis e.g. through eye care liaison officers (ECLOs) and counsellors
- Provide timely assessments of visual function and provision of appropriate assistive aids and relevant training

**Clinical Council for Eye Health Commissioning**

The Clinical Council for Eye Health Commissioning (CCEHC) is an independent advisory body providing evidence-based national clinical leadership, advice and guidance to policy makers in health, social care and public health, and those commissioning and providing eye health services in England. It is recognised as such through a Memorandum of Understanding with NHS England. The CCEHC's recommendations are provided in the best interest of patients, on the best evidence available and independent of any professional or commercial interests. Its membership, includes the major clinical professions, social care, charity and voluntary organisations within the eye health and care sector.