

Ophthalmic Schedule Communications



December
paid January
2026

Welcome to the schedule communications, where you will find useful information and helpful tips

Access the schedule close dates and payment timescales [here](#)

January paid February 2026 cut-off date: Wednesday 11 February 2026 at 5pm

PCA(O)2026(01)

This PCA advises on the Full Implementation of the GOS Specialist Supplementary eye examination service which came into effect on the 19th January 2026 and discusses recent enhancements made to NHS Inform.

Update to Community Eyecare Guidelines

At the request of the Scottish Government, National Services Scotland (NSS) has been working on redrafting the Community Eyecare Guidelines (CEGs) on eyes.nhs.scot.

In line with the planned full implementation of the General Ophthalmic Services (GOS) Specialist Supplementary eye examination service on Monday 19th January, 14 updated CEGs will be published alongside supporting documents and will be available on eyes.nhs.scot from the morning of Monday 19th January.

Practitioners are encouraged to read the supporting information, background and disclaimer pages before using the updated guidelines and be mindful that the older guidelines may contain outdated advice and information.

Work will continue into the future to update the other CEGs and there is a briefing page on eyes.nhs.scot (which will also go live on the morning of Monday 19th

January – [Recent updates to Eyecare Guidelines](#)) to keep abreast of these changes as they happen.

If practitioners have any questions regarding the new CEGs or would like to share feedback please email NSS.ComEyecareGuidelineGroup@nhs.scot.

GOS Specialist Supplementary Independent Prescriber application forms

The full implementation of the General Ophthalmic Services (GOS Specialist Supplementary service will go live on 19 January 2026. **Only** Independent Prescriber Optometrists and ophthalmic medical practitioners who have been approved by a Health Board to provide the GOS Specialist Supplementary service in the Board's area will be able to submit claim for GOS Specialist supplementary activity undertaken on or after this date.

If you have not yet submitted an application and wish to provide the GOS Specialist Supplementary service from 19 January 2026, you are encouraged to do so **as soon as possible**. Further information on the application process and service requirements is set out in circular [PCA\(O\)2025\(08\)](#) and the application forms and published guidance on the Stream A application form can be found on the [eyes.nhs.scot](#) website.

You will not be able to submit a GOS Specialist Supplementary claim for activity undertaken on or after 19 January 2026 if any of the following apply:

1. You have not submitted a Stream A application to Practitioner Services Division (PSD) or a Stream B application form to the relevant Health Board (see circular [PCA\(O\)2025\(08\)](#) for more information on the different application streams), OR
2. You have submitted an application (either via Stream A or Stream B), but it has been returned to you for correction due to errors or omissions, OR
3. You have submitted an application (either via Stream A or Stream B), but you are waiting to receive confirmation from PSD or the relevant Health Board that the application has been approved or rejected.

Claiming arrangements for the transition from the interim measures phase to the full implementation phase of the GOS Specialist Supplementary service is set out in paragraphs 42-45 of [PCA\(O\)2025\(08\)](#).

Links to Guidance and Application form:

[Guidance](#)

[Application forms](#)

Reminder: Ophthalmic Clinician Data Access (OCDA)

You will be aware that the Scottish Government has funded the development of a new application hosted on the TURAS system – Ophthalmic Clinician Data Access (OCDA).

This application, which launched on 24 September 2025, enables clinicians to access relevant data held about them by Health Boards in relation to General Ophthalmic Services (GOS) and the Community Glaucoma Service (CGS).

The OCDA will provide clinicians with the means to submit data change requests to Health Boards on a system-to-system basis, including:

- Personal details (title, name)
- Private address details
- Contact details (personal telephone number(s), non-NHS email address)
- Host Health Board (the Health Board in which the clinicians carry out the majority of their GOS activity)
- (For clinicians on Part 1 of a Health Board's Ophthalmic List) Whether or not the clinician provides GOS in domiciliary locations from the practice premises that they are associated with

Some of the above data change requests will be automatically approved and then applied in the National Primary Care Clinician Database (NPCCD). Others, such as name and Host Health Board, will require the relevant Health Board(s) to review the change request in NPCCD and then approve or reject it.

All clinicians with an NHS email account are asked to participate in this process as soon as possible after the OCDA invitation email has been sent to them

Action required by clinicians after OCDA account creation and sign-in

After you have created an OCDA account and signed in (see [PCA\(O\)2025\(06\) paragraphs 14–17](#) for further guidance on account creation and sign-in), review the data displayed and submit one of the two declarations:

- the data is accurate and thus no changes are required; or
- at least one data change is required.

Where the second declaration is made, clinicians are asked to ensure these data change requests are submitted as soon as possible. Once any data change requests have been made and you are satisfied that the data displayed is now accurate, you must submit a further declaration to that effect

Detailed OCDA guidance for clinicians is available on the eyes.nhs.scot website.

Coming Soon: Practitioner Services (PSD) Customer Satisfaction Survey 2026

Your feedback matters. At PSD, we want to know how we are doing and how we can serve you better. Our annual Customer Satisfaction Survey launches 1 February 2026, and it only takes a few minutes to complete online. Every response helps us understand what is important to you and where we can improve. Look out for the survey link in our regular communications, on social media, and via your professional networks. We would love to hear from you.

Practitioner Services Website

[Our website](#) is designed to help you find useful information. You can access information and guidance on important areas, including [claims and allowances](#), [eSchedule reports](#), and [schedule close and payment dates](#).

We update our website regularly and invite you to please take time to familiarise yourself with the information that is available.

If you have any suggestions for any improvements or changes to the information that is available to you, please email us at nss.psdophthalmic@nhs.scot

Telephone: 0345 034 2458 | email:

NSS.psdophthalmic@nhs.scot

Visit [Ophthalmic services page on the NSS website](#)

Visit [Scotland's national website for eyecare services and eye health information – For the public For professionals](#)

