



THE COLLEGE
OF OPTOMETRISTS



National Institute for
Health Research



Sight Loss and Vision Priority Setting Partnership

Michele Acton – Fight for Sight

19 April 2012

The
Royal
College of
Ophthalmologists



RNIB
supporting blind and
partially sighted people



Aims

- To work with patients, carers and eye health professionals to identify unanswered questions about the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of sight loss and eye conditions
- To agree by consensus prioritised lists of those unanswered questions for future research
- To publicise the results of the exercise
- To take the results to research commissioning bodies

Steering Committee

James Lind Alliance UK DUETs Cochrane Eyes and Vision Group Fight for Sight Fight for Sight NIHR Biomedical Research Centre UK Vision Strategy	Katherine Cowan Mark Fenton Mr Richard Wormald Michele Acton Dolores Conroy Karen Bonstein Anita Lightstone
Patients	Carol Bronze Heather Giles
Ophthalmic nursing	Professor Heather Waterman
Ophthalmology	Kathy Evans Professor Marcela Votruba
Optometry	Michael Bowen Robert Harper
Orthoptics	Dr Fiona Rowe
Research	Professor Alan Stitt
Social care	Simon Labbett

Methodology

1. Identification and invitation of potential partners and supporters
2. Initial Stakeholder meeting
3. Identifying unanswered questions – the survey
4. Refining questions and uncertainties
5. Prioritisation
 - interim stage
 - final stage
6. Publicising the results of the exercise
7. Taking the results to research commissioning bodies

The Survey

- Open from 1 May 2012 initially for 3 months
- Survey can be taken on-line, by downloading a copy or by telephone
- Single broad question about unanswered questions
- Request to name eye condition, if known
- The survey will also ask for information about the respondent
- Feedback regarding the survey

Refining Questions and Uncertainties

- Raw questions will be assembled into “collated indicative questions” and categorised by type of eye condition
- Similar or duplicate questions will be combined
- Existing literature will be surveyed to check whether raw questions are in fact unanswered
- Unanswered questions about treatment will be entered into UK DUETs

Prioritisation

- Interim prioritisation to reduce long lists of uncertainties to shorter lists eg 20 for each condition or group of conditions
- Partners and supporters to be included in this consultation, subject to a declaration of interests
- Final prioritisation to agree a top 10 list for each condition or group of conditions
- Methodology will include face-to-face discussions, group discussions and plenary sessions
- JLA to facilitate process to ensure transparency, accountability and fairness

Publication and Dissemination

- Findings reported to funding and research setting organisations eg NIHR HTA Programme and the MRC
- Findings available for all charitable funders of eye research
- Findings available to support researchers in their applications
- Partners to raise awareness of the results among the public and scientific audiences
- Academic papers

Indicative Timetable

- Initial Stakeholder meeting 19 April 12
- Identifying unanswered questions – the survey* May – July 12
- Refining questions and uncertainties* Aug – Oct 12
- Prioritisation – interim stage* Nov 12 – Jan 13
– final stage* February – Apr 13
- Publication* May 13 onwards

* Timetable subject to number of responses

Importance to Fight for Sight

- Funder of research into wide range of eye conditions
- Help ensure Fight for Sight's funding is well targeted
- Wider sector relevance
- Increase funding into eye research