

As you are aware, we have introduced eligibility criteria for our services to ensure that we can continue to provide care for those most in need within our community. To be eligible for care at CFEH, your patient must meet at least ONE of the following criteria:

1. 60 years or older
2. Concession card holder OR
3. NO private health insurance

As a result of this change, we recognised that there would be some patients who are no longer able to be seen at the Centre. As a temporary bridging measure during 2023, we have been offering a “tests only” referral option to allow these patients to pay a nominal amount for imaging, with the results transmitted securely back to the referring Optometrist.

Unfortunately, this referral option is now being retired to allow us to focus on the most financially vulnerable patients who may struggle to afford private Ophthalmological care. The “Tests only” referral option will cease to exist from the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023.

As an alternative for those patients who are ineligible for CFEH services, Luxottica has agreed to offer a similar “tests only” service at four of their stores around the Sydney area – [OPSM George St](#), [OPSM Liverpool](#), [OPSM Penrith](#) and [OPSM Warringah Mall](#).

Some key points to be aware of for this service are outlined below.

- Imaging services will be available at the four nominated OPSM stores only.
- Referrals can be made through Oculo (preferred), by faxing a [referral](#) to the appropriate store, or by providing the patient a copy of the referral to bring to the appointment.
- Imaging services at each store include widefield imaging (Optos) and optical coherence tomography (OCT)
- The patient can schedule an imaging appointment online or by phoning the appropriate store.
- The patient will be charged \$90 out-of-pocket for imaging services.
- Imaging results will be provided to the referring practitioner through Oculo. If the referrer does not use Oculo, images will be downloaded to a USB (provided by the patient) to ensure imaging is sent securely.
- Primary care of the patient remains with the referring practitioner who is responsible for interpreting the imaging results and formulating a patient management plan.

We appreciate that this change may cause some inconvenience to yourself and your patients. However, given that the Centre is financially supported by Guide Dogs NSW/ACT using donated funds, we are responsible for ensuring that these funds are being spent in the most impactful way, and that they have a positive effect on the reduction of preventable blindness within our community.

Please feel free to [contact us](#) at any time if you have questions about any of our CFEH services.

[https://www.opsm.com.au/stores/nsw/sydney/opsm-george-street/1304?cid=OA-OPG&campaign=gmb-website-clicks&details=opsm-george-st-1304&utm\\_term=plcid\\_15572705953701420540](https://www.opsm.com.au/stores/nsw/sydney/opsm-george-street/1304?cid=OA-OPG&campaign=gmb-website-clicks&details=opsm-george-st-1304&utm_term=plcid_15572705953701420540)

<https://www.opsm.com.au/stores/nsw/liverpool/opsm-liverpool/1106>

[https://www.opsm.com.au/stores/nsw/penrith/opsm-penrith-plaza/1328?cid=OA-OPG&campaign=gmb-website-clicks&details=opsm-penrith-plaza-1328&utm\\_term=plcid\\_3454759739476527796](https://www.opsm.com.au/stores/nsw/penrith/opsm-penrith-plaza/1328?cid=OA-OPG&campaign=gmb-website-clicks&details=opsm-penrith-plaza-1328&utm_term=plcid_3454759739476527796)

[https://www.opsm.com.au/stores/nsw/brookvale/opsm-warringah-mall/1201?cid=OA-OPG&campaign=gmb-website-clicks&details=opsm-warringah-mall-1201&utm\\_term=plcid\\_11407217813897430482](https://www.opsm.com.au/stores/nsw/brookvale/opsm-warringah-mall/1201?cid=OA-OPG&campaign=gmb-website-clicks&details=opsm-warringah-mall-1201&utm_term=plcid_11407217813897430482)