**Optometrist job description**

**Job brief**

The optometrist shall always endeavor to develop positive optometrist-patient relationships and educate patients as to their treatment options. The optometrist's role is to evaluate patients or other refractive surgery and make recommendations as to treatment options to the ophthalmologist. The ophthalmologist shall always make the decision as to the appropriate treatment for every patient. Post-operatively, the optometrist shall work together with the ophthalmologist to achieve the best possible outcomes for all patients.

**Responsibilities**

* Participate in the development of the Optometric services within the hospital
* Provide a high quality, effective and evidence-based service that is current and responsive to patient needs.
* Be accountable for the subjective or dilated refraction and ocular and fundus examination (i.e. examine the structures of the eye, using relevant instrumentation) of children referred to the Department.
* Be responsible for prescribing glasses in line with the child’s orthoptic/ophthalmic management and in collaboration with the Orthoptist and Consultant
* Ophthalmologist as appropriate according to departmental policies and
* procedures.
* Be responsible for detecting ocular abnormalities in children referred to
* the Department.
* Provide support and advice to patients, parents concerning abnormal ocular conditions, for their immediate management and for appropriate action to be taken (usually referral to the Consultant Ophthalmologist (routine or soon).
* Provide support, and advice, concerning refractive errors and optical correction (ie spectacle and contact lens wear) to patients, parents and colleagues.
* Participate in formal/informal teaching for other health care professionals within the multi-disciplinary team.
* Participate in audit and research projects with the aim of enhancing the service.
* Keep accurate records of assessment and prescriptions in the Medical Records and be aware of all relevant legislation.
* Work closely with all members of the multi-disciplinary team, including administrative, nursing, medical and orthoptic disciplines to provide an integrated service.
* To be aware of and comply with Organizational, Professional and Departmental Policies and Procedures and to be involved in updating these with the Clinical Team (eg at team meetings).

**Requirements**

* O.D. from a duly accredited school of Optometry
* Completion of an Optometric residency/fellowship (cornea and contact lens residency/fellowship preferred)
* Interest in research and education with respect to the treatment of complex corneal disease.
* 3 to 5 years’ experience