

# Key community eye health messages

## Accurate biometry is essential for good sight outcomes after cataract operations

- Measure both eyes and cross-check readings to identify errors before selecting the intraocular lens (IOL) power
- Use optical biometry wherever possible for greater precision; if ultrasound is used, ensure the probe is properly aligned and corneal compression is avoided
- Confirm that the IOL power calculation formula (for example, SRK/T, Holladay 1, or Barrett Universal II) is appropriate for the eye's axial length
- Regularly calibrate and maintain the biometer to prevent drift and inaccurate measurements
- Recheck calculations or repeat measurements when results differ greatly between eyes or seem inconsistent with refraction

## Choosing and maintaining good-quality intraocular lenses (IOLs) matters

- Always perform accurate axial length and keratometry measurements to calculate IOL power precisely
- Use a biometry formula that matches your patient population and available technology (e.g. SRK/T, Barrett Universal II)
- Inspect IOL packaging and labelling carefully before use to confirm power, sterility, and expiry date
- Record the IOL model and power in the patient's record for postoperative audits and quality monitoring

## Monitoring refractive outcomes helps improve cataract services

- Record the unaided and best-corrected sight of each patient at follow-up to assess surgical outcomes
- Compare the achieved postoperative refraction with the target refraction to identify sources of error
- Keep a register of refractive outcomes by surgeon or service site to monitor trends and guide quality improvement
- Review outcome data regularly and discuss findings during team meetings to plan corrective actions
- Use simple tools or software to calculate the mean prediction error and maintain records for audits

## Training and teamwork ensure safe and consistent biometry and IOL practices

- Provide regular hands-on training for staff performing axial length and keratometry measurements
- Develop and follow standard operating procedures (SOPs) for biometry, IOL storage, and recording outcomes
- Encourage communication between the operating team, optometrists, nurses, and counsellors to avoid avoidable errors
- Assign clear roles and checklists for each stage of cataract service delivery to maintain efficiency and accountability

## NEW Research Skills in Global Eye Health: A 16-week Online Course



**Start Date:** November 2025

**Institution:** London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)

**Delivery Mode:** Online, flexible learning with expert-led sessions

This short course is designed for eye health professionals and public health practitioners seeking to deepen their understanding of:

- Global challenges in eye health
- Epidemiology and statistics applied to eye care
- Research methods, ethics, and data analysis
- Health economics, planning, and service implementation

**Course Structure:** 4 modules over 16 weeks + additional 4 weeks for final

assessment submission. Includes videos, lectures, quizzes, discussion forums, and live expert sessions

**Assessment:** End-of-module MCQs, a short video presentation, and a written report

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