Ophthalmology Referral Options

| Refer to Emergency Department | Refer to Outback Eye Service – Eye Clinic | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| Emergency | Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3 |
| Urgent cases need to be seen immediately | Urgent next clinic | < 3 months | < 6 months |
| Acute angle closure glaucoma Acute vision loss or signs of stroke Central retinal artery occlusion Chemical injury Giant Cell Arteritis Infectious keratitis (Hypopyon, fungal, Gonococcal/Chlamydia Intraocular foreign bodies Malignant hypertension Orbital cellulitis/acute dacryocystitis Orbital fractures Retinal detachment (macula on, if macula off can wait up to a week) Superior retinal tear Suspecting penetrating eye injury Transient Ischemic Attack/Amaurosis fugax | Acquired nystagmus Acute visual field loss Choroidal Melanoma or suspected retinal tumours Corneal decompensation (Bullous Keratopathy, Endothelial Keratopathy) Cranial nerve palsies Diabetes with sudden vision loss Ischemic ocular conditions Macula hole Macula oedema Non-resolving Central Serous Chorioretinopathy Optic neuritis Papilledema Post-op injection inflammation Proliferative diabetic retinopathy Proptosis with visual changes Ptosis if pupil occluded Recent onset pupil changes Retinopathy of prematurity Vitreous haemorrhage with retinal pathology (excluding Posterior Vitriol Detachment) Wet Age Related Macular Degeneration White pupil reflex in children | Cataract with Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) > 6/21 Epiretinal membrane with vitreoretinal traction VA >6/12 Eyelid tumours Glaucoma un-responsive to topical therapy Recent onset retinal hole Severe non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macula oedema | Cataract with Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) >6/12 <6/21 Epiretinal membrane symptomatic Eyelid problems: ectropion/entropion/ptosis Proptosis without visual issues (Thyroid eye disease) Pterygium encroaching pupil margin Retinoschisis Retinoschisis requiring treatment Unresolving large chalazion |
| Refer to local Optometrist | | | |
| | Category 4 | | |
| Cataract with Best Corrected Visual Acuity BCVA <6/12 Chemical injury follow up Choroidal naevus Congenital nystagmus Conjunctivitis Contact lens complications Corneal and sub-tarsal foreign bodies Corneal ulceration Diabetes review, non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy (mild-mod) | Drug toxicity screening ie. Plaquenil/tamoxifen Dry Age Related Macular Degeneration Elevated intraocular pressure >30mmHg Epiretinal membrane asymptomatic and no significant distortion Eye discharge Eye health screening Eye pain Eyelid lumps (stye, chalazion) | Flashes, floaters Fuchs dystrophy Glaucoma suspect Herpes simplex/ zoster infection Hyphema Keratoconus Monitoring of long-standing retinal hole and retinoschisis Non-infectious Keratitis Post-op cataract inflammation | Pterygium visually insignificant Pupil changes with change in vision Refractive error, presbyopia Severe dry eyes, watery eyes, blepharitis Strabismus, amblyopia Sudden onset of blurred vision/ headaches/diplopia Swollen eye Trauma to eye/orbit, chemical burns Uveitis |