



# **THE COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRISTS**

**DOCET**

**Activity and Expenditure Report 2018-19**

May 2019

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“I got a good learning experience from DOCET courses and enjoyed doing them. They are very interactive and flexible. It’s important to me that I can access learning material flexibly, be it at work or home.

In particular, I really enjoyed doing the courses on anterior eye disorders – I still remember the details, which is not always the case with other learning.”

Saida, Independent prescribing optometrist

## Executive summary

In 1989 the Directorate of Continuing Education and Training (DOCET) was established and since then the College of Optometrists has administered funds from the four UK Health Departments for the provision of continuing education and training for UK optometrists.

For the DOCET finance year 2018-19 the total of £579,379 was made available in the form of grants from the four countries. See chapter three for details of expenditure against allocated funds.

Activity in 2018-19 has focused producing and publishing new online learning content and on marketing the content on [docet.info](http://docet.info), DOCET's learning management system (LMS).

During 2018-19 we published six new programmes with 15 CET points (13 non-interactive and two interactive points), and have commissioned another five courses. DOCET offers optometrists 28 CET points covering all required General Optical Council (GOC) Stage 2 competencies for optometrists plus some competencies for therapeutic optometrists.

Project development activity and publications during this year reflected the priority list agreed by the DOCET Council for the period of 2016-18, which included topics such as advances in contact lenses, the young eye and children's vision, learning disabilities, legal and health and safety issues in community practice, AMD, glaucoma and instrumentation. Highlights this year were the publication of *Advances in Eyecare: Referrals 2* and *Young Eye: Embryology. Imaging in Eye Care*. For a detailed overview of DOCET projects please see section 4 of this report.

We celebrated our 30-year anniversary at the College's Optometry Tomorrow conference in February 2019, expanded our reach on social media and collaborated with an expanding group of multiples in promoting DOCET CET training.

A proportion of DOCET's funding is set aside each year to support locally organised CET events such as conferences, lectures and workshops. In 2018-19 DOCET funded 46 events in total.

"I like the variety of learning resources in DOCET courses. They helped to reinforce my learning in my specialisms."

Imogen, Locum optometrist – independent and hospital setting

## 1. Introduction

The Directorate of Continuing Education and Training (DOCET) is a committee established by The College of Optometrists, at the request of the UK Health Departments. DOCET's aim is to improve the eye health and eye care of the population through the provision of high-quality CET for all optometrists registered with the General Optical Council (GOC) in the UK.

DOCET's programme of activity is made possible by shared funding from the four UK countries, which is in proportion both to the numbers of optometrists within each country and the size of their general populations. This equates to the following approximate percentages: England 83%, Scotland 9%, Wales 6%, and Northern Ireland 2%.

DOCET's provision ensures that all GOC-registered optometrists in all parts of the UK are provided with access to high-quality, impartial and comprehensive continuing education and training resources, wherever they live and practice.

DOCET's Terms of Reference are to warrant that funds are used towards ensuring that optometrists keep up to date with technological and scientific advances and assisting them in acquiring the necessary skills to improve their eye care services.

Since the introduction in 2005 of the GOC's mandatory CET scheme for optometrists, the focus of DOCET products has been on maintaining current entry-level competence for optometrists, although the aims of DOCET are broad enough to allow for other priorities to be identified.

DOCET provides optometrists not only with regular newly published CET resources, but also with ongoing access in perpetuity to a comprehensive and expanding bank of past DOCET materials made freely available through the learning management system (LMS).

DOCET's priorities and activities are agreed by all stakeholders who make up the DOCET Council, which meets twice a year. A smaller Executive Committee monitors progress and advises on activity on a more regular basis throughout the year.

Through the meetings of DOCET Council and the work of the Executive Committee, the training advisers and administrative staff, DOCET has sought to ensure that its activities respond to the changing needs of optometrists practising in the UK. DOCET aims to maintain the highest standards of quality, impartiality and relevance in the CET it provides.

"I love the information on DOCET. It is my first reference point if I need to look up something for work."

Maria, Locum optometrist - multiple

## 2. Expenditure against allocation for the year

### 2.1 DOCET funding breakdown

The total of £579,379 is the sum of the grants made by the four countries for 2018-19 serving all 16,043 optometrists currently registered with the GOC in the UK (GOC figures as at March 2019).

**Table 1 – DOCET funding breakdown 2017-18**

England	£477,599	83%
Scotland	£53,000	9%
Wales	£36,180	6%
NI	£12,600	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>£579,379</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 2.2 CET event funding

A proportion of DOCET's funding is set aside each year to support locally organised CET events such as conferences, lectures, peer discussions and workshops. We contributed the following sums for locally organised CET events during 2017-18, shown by country:

**Table 2 – CET event funding by country**

Country	No of events supported	Total funds contributed
England	41	£31,042
Scotland	1	£253
Wales	0	£0
Northern Ireland	4	£4,705
<b>Total:</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>£36,000</b>

The budget allocated to CET funding is £30,000. In 2018-19 DOCET funded 46 events in total. There was an event in Wales in March 2019. However the claim had not been submitted by the budget cut off date for 2018-19 and will therefore be included in next year's annual report. For further information about variations to expenditure please see Appendix A.

### 2.3 DOCET expenditure report 2018-19

Table 3 (below) shows a summary of expenditure against priority areas. As at 31 March 2018 the whole of the £579,379 has been committed to specific projects. Where projects span more than one financial year they are completed with part of the next year's funding.

**Table 3 – DOCET expenditure report 2018-19**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Expenditure 31/03/18</b>	<b>Reallocated Funds</b>	<b>Committed Funds</b>
<b>CET events</b>	30,000	36,000	-6,000	
<b>Distance learning projects</b>				
Advances in Eyecare	55,000	43,600	11,400	
Glaucoma update	19,879	7,140		13,000
Young Eye: Embryology	6,100	3,600	2,500	
Examining Patients with LD	60,400	64,500	-4,100	
Modern Imaging in Eyecare	53,000	46,900	6,100	
Ocular Surface Disease	42,000	63,600	-21,600	
Young Eye: Module 2	30,000	19,900		10,639
Cataract	20,000	25,000	-5,000	
Contact Lenses Module	10,000	0	9,200	
Training Advisers	65,000	49,900	15,100	
<b>Online maintenance &amp; development</b>	50,000	51,100	-1,100	
<b>Meetings &amp; subsistence</b>	3,000	500	2,500	
<b>College administration fee</b>	105,000	105,000	0	
<b>Print, mailing, marcomms</b>	30,000	39,000	-9,000	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>£579,379</b>	<b>£555,740</b>	<b>£0</b>	
Committed from 2017/18 for glaucoma update	<b>£27,100</b>	<b>£27,100</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£606,479</b>	<b>£582,840</b>		<b>£23,639</b>

## 2.4 Variation to expenditure

2.4.1 Compared to the forward plan of 2018-19, and as discussed in the DOCET Executive Committee and Council meetings, the list of priorities changed during the course of the year. It was decided to prioritise the programme on cataract instead of the update of the course on *Age Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)*, since this was identified as a gap in our resources.

2.4.2 In line with our strategy and priorities for 2018-19, we increased marketing communications activities considerably. We were able to offset the incurred costs in marketing communications as well as the increased costs in CET funding with an underspend in the budget allocated to training advisers.

2.4.3 We have accelerated Ocular Surface Disease / Dry Eye Disease and Cataract. We were able to offset this with underspend and savings in other areas such as Young Eye: Embryology, Modern Imaging in Eye Care and Contact Lens Module 3.

2.4.4 For detailed information on variation to expenditure, please see Appendix A.

### **3. Programme management**

#### **3.1 Risk and governance**

DOCET funds are maintained as a restricted fund of the College of Optometrists and high-level risks pertaining to DOCET activity are identified and addressed as part of the College's three-year strategic plan. Individual project-related risks and issues are managed and monitored as part of the work of DOCET's Executive Committee, reporting to DOCET Council.

#### **3.2 DOCET committees**

Under its Terms of Reference, the DOCET Council meets twice yearly whilst the Executive Committee meets approximately six times per year. The requisite elections and nominations are made on an ongoing basis.

#### **3.3 Strategy, activity and priorities**

The key areas of focus in 2018-19 have been to produce new, engaging and high-quality content for the LMS and increase marketing activities to attract new users.

We have continued to create interactive learning content which offers users high-quality video content, images and graphics supported by explanations and descriptions displayed in bite size sections. The content prompts users to test their learning with knowledge questions or activities at regular intervals.

After a two-year period since the introduction of the LMS and offering DVDs and CDs for optometrists who had opted in to receive the learning materials in hard copy rather than going online, we have now discontinued these obsolete formats since all materials are available online and accessible through multiple devices.

We listened to feedback from users who told us that they appreciate the quality and depth of the DOCET CET training, but felt that compared to other suppliers, they had to spend more time for fewer CET points. We have therefore divided the courses into two to four parts, which ensures that each topic is covered comprehensively. This approach also enabled us to promote each part individually and create more user interest.

We have engaged in a wide variety of marketing activities. A detailed breakdown of all marketing and communication activities can be found in the next section.

We created a 'Meet the team' page on the LMS to show the breadth of the experience of the DOCET team working behind the scenes and make the team more approachable to users. We continue to review and improve the LMS to ensure it remains user-friendly and that full use is made of the system's functionality.

During 2018-19 we published six new programmes with 15 CET points. The library now contains 83 programmes. Full details of distance learning projects undertaken in 2018-19 are provided in section 4 and Appendix B and C of this report.

The DOCET team and DOCET Executive Committee have continued to review priorities for the 2019-21 CET cycle. Although DOCET's funding is only approved on an annual basis, it is necessary to plan projects at least 18 months to two years in advance. This is to ensure continuity for users and allow for the length of project development time.

## 3.4 Marketing and communications

In 2018-19, DOCET has focused on a number of key areas in marketing and communication. We have worked with an external agency on our social media strategy and with multiples to promote DOCET courses. We also celebrated our 30th anniversary alongside our ongoing promotional activities.

### 3.4.1 Social media

We are working with an external agency on a social media strategy. We have prioritised LinkedIn and Google Analytics over Facebook and Instagram. We did advertising campaigns on Google during the final months of the last CET cycle but were not able to measure any improvements and have therefore focused our attention at the beginning of 2019 on increasing the number of followers on LinkedIn. We have used video trailers for course launches and seen an increase in followers when those were advertised on LinkedIn.

We commissioned a consultant, Harry Zutshi, to interview DOCET users and create user profiles for promotional use. We now have 10 completed user profiles to include in our promotions across social media and the LMS.

### 3.4.2 Multiples

We have been reaching out to a growing range of multiples to encourage their staff to use DOCET courses to supplement their in-house training.

ASDA are promoting DOCET with:

- A banner with a hyperlink to the DOCET site on their learning platform
- A recommendation to their clinical staff who still need their safeguarding training to access the two *Safeguarding Courses for Adults and Children for Optometrists*
- A feature for their June newsletter promoting our courses that align with their topic priorities for this quarter
- An advertorial for their July annual conference brochure.

BOOTS have included Modern Imaging in Eye Care on their learning platform with direct links into the four DOCET courses.

### 3.4.3 30-year anniversary

DOCET staff attended the College's Optometry Tomorrow conference in Birmingham in February. We handed out DOCET branded pen torches and a DOCET power bank for completing a short survey at the conference.

A flyer was distributed to all delegates at Optometry Tomorrow and is now included in info packs for College regional events.

#### 3.4.4 Promotion

We sent Mailchimp alerts to all database contacts for newly published programmes and successfully incorporated audio and video trailers in these mailshots.

We promoted DOCET's online resources in the College enewsletter.

We won bronze in the animation category of the Pharmaceutical Marketing Society Digital Media Awards in September for our case study 'Ray' from The Ageing Eye: Visual Impairment.

A DOCET flyer went into delegate bags for Bitesize, the College's one-day event in October 2018. Our brochure was distributed to NIOS and AIO for their annual conferences in the same month.

We created a postcard to welcome newly qualified optometrists to DOCET and have mailed this to 675 optometrists who qualified in 2018.

We created a year-end campaign at the end of 2018 to target users who had not yet completed all their required CET for the 2016-18 CET cycle including a guide to CET available on DOCET, categorised by competencies.

We continued to liaise with partner organisations such as FODO and LOCSU who are promoting DOCET materials to their members.

“DOCET courses are always interesting. It is an opportunity to cover more than just the basics. You gain up-to-date information. There is a good, diverse range of materials available that are easy to use. It is straightforward to watch the video and cover the materials. I particularly liked the ‘how’ questions – for example, how you would refer a patient - as there is more learning in that. I have used my learning to communicate better with my patients.”

Elizabeth, Community optometrist - multiple

## **4. DOCET projects**

During 2018-19 we published six new programmes with 15 CET points (13 non-interactive and two interactive points), and commissioned another five courses. As a result, we offered optometrists 28 CET points covering all required General Optical Council (GOC) Stage 2 competencies for optometrists plus some competencies for therapeutic optometrists.

In addition, there is a bank of past training materials, which has been made freely available to optometrists in the video and audio library section of the LMS.

Please see the summary of distance learning projects below. For further details on each course please refer to Appendix B for audio projects and Appendix C for multimedia projects.

### **4.1 Summary of DOCET audio projects**

#### **4.1.1 Audio (completed and reissued)**

- Advances in Eyecare: Neuroregeneration
- Advances in Eyecare: Referral 2
- Advances in Eyecare: Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence.

#### **4.1.2 Audio (commissioned/in development)**

- Advances in Eyecare: Drops

### **4.2 Summary of DOCET multimedia projects**

#### **4.2.1 Multimedia (completed)**

- Young Eye: Embryology, Part One: Genetics
- Young Eye: Embryology, Part Two: First Trimester
- Young Eye: Embryology, Part Three: Second Trimester
- Young Eye: Embryology, Part Four: From Birth Onwards
- Examining Patients with Learning Disabilities: Part One – Clinical Background
- Examining Patients with Learning Disabilities: Part Two – The Appointment
- Examining Patients with Learning Disabilities: Part Three – Navigating the Legalities
- Modern Imaging in Eye Care: Part One – Image Capture and Storage
- Modern Imaging in Eye Care: Part Two – Digital Cameras
- Modern Imaging in Eye Care: Part Three – Scanning Laser Ophthalmoscopy
- Modern Imaging in Eye Care: Part Four – Optical Coherence Tomography.

#### **4.2.2 Multimedia (commissioned/in development)**

- Glaucoma update
- Ocular Surface Disease/Dry Eye
- Young Eye: Development of Vision (birth to 18 years)
- Cataract
- AMD update.

## 5. Annual data and user feedback

### 5.1 Annual data review

There has been sustained engagement with the DOCET online learning site by the target user group of all UK registered optometrists during the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019. 7,275 unique users have visited the site, which is an 8% increase from the previous year. The monthly website visits have been consistently higher than in the same period of the previous year. There was an average increase of 84% in website visits (192,730 in 2017-18 to 354,264 in 2018-19).

There were 18,098 course enrolments in learning, ie optometrists viewing content, participating in learning activities and improving their knowledge and skills and 9,884 course completions ie optometrists completing courses and gaining CET points. This is in keeping with last year's numbers, there was a 1% increase in enrolments and 3% decrease in completions.

The most successful courses were: *Safeguarding* (both courses) with 3,418 enrolments and 2,999 completions, followed by *Anterior Eye* with 3,156 enrolments and 1,604 completions and *Young Eye: Embryology* with 1,598 enrolments and 857 completions. Please see the Annual Data Report 2018-19 for further details.

### 5.2 User feedback

We conducted a user survey with 120 optometrists at the College's annual conference Optometry Tomorrow.

- 55% of the delegates taking part in the survey had used DOCET in the last 12 months, 39% have visited DOCET at some time and only 6% had never used DOCET
- 67% said they use DOCET to keep their clinical skills up-to-date, followed by 43% who use it for non-interactive CET
- We asked about ease of access to online learning resources, clear course instructions, coverage of interactive and non-interactive CET, resources pitched at the appropriate level and respondents' views of the website overall. 60% of respondents gave 'Excellent' ratings and 37% gave 'Good'.
- We also canvassed opinion about offering webinars and 47% of respondents said they would welcome webinars for interactive CET and 36% for non-interactive CET.

We continue to analyse user feedback on all courses on a regular basis.

"I have certainly made use of my learning from DOCET in practice. Things I encounter in the workplace reflect material I've come across in DOCET. I find that there are tips from the courses that can be applied at work straight away."

Sandeep, Locum optometrist – multiple

## 6. Conclusion

In 2018-19 we made excellent use of the funding provided, successfully published an exciting range of distance learning projects and won an award for *Ageing Eye: Visual Impairment*.

We refreshed our website and engaged in marketing activity to celebrate our 30-year anniversary. We have expanded our reach on social media and collaborated with a growing range of multiples to promote DOCET.

The website visits and number of unique users have increased compared to last year, whereas enrolments and completions on the learning management system have been in line with last year's numbers.

The user feedback from both the short survey conducted at Optometry Tomorrow and from all users completing CET is consistently positive.

The focus for DOCET in 2019-20 will be to continue producing high-quality CET to engage optometrists in learning and support them in developing their clinical skills, fulfil their professional CET requirements and deliver the highest standard of care.

“One particular challenge I faced was how to refresh my knowledge of contact lenses. I was going back to them after a gap of 25 years. I was delighted that DOCET provided a solution to many of my concerns about professional development and gaining CET points. The contact lenses courses were invaluable and I refer back to the DOCET materials all the time.”

Jane-Anne, Locum optometrist – independent and multiple

## **Appendix A: Variation to expenditure**

### **CET events**

Although the spend on CET events was higher than the allocated budget, DOCET experienced a decrease of 18% in funded CET events and a decrease of 19% in funding compared to last year. This shows that the upward trend of the previous two years has not continued. We will continue to monitor trends in funding of CET events closely.

### **Advances in Eyecare**

Based on the acceleration of *Advances in Eyecare: Referrals 2* in the previous year and the reduction to three editions per year, it was possible to make some savings in the budget. We have also now stopped offering the course on CD. The savings will be reflected in the budget for 2019-20.

### **Glaucoma update**

The committed funds from 2017-18 and part of the 2018-19 budget for the glaucoma update have been spent. There have been some delays in completion of the programme since we rely on the availability of external subject matter experts. £13,000 of committed funds will be carried forward and the course is scheduled for completion in 2019-20.

### **Young Eye: Embryology**

The first programme in the Young Eye series was scheduled for publication in 2017-18 but due to the very labour-intensive work of the 2D and 3D animation was only released in autumn 2018. We were able to make some savings on this programme as we stopped printing DVDs for DOCET courses.

### **Examining Patients with LD**

When we filmed the patient scenarios for *Examining Patients with Learning Disabilities*, we were not able to film any patients with autism. A budget was agreed to set up an additional filming day to cover this important group of patients, hence the agreed overspend.

### **Modern Imaging in Eyecare**

The contingency of £6,000 in the budget for *Modern Imaging in Eye Care* was not spent.

### **Ocular Surface Disease (replacing contact lens module 2)**

We allowed a budget of £100,000 for this project. We spent £18,300 in 2017-18. We allowed £42,000 for 2018-19, however the project was accelerated and we spent £63,000 in 2018-19. The course is on schedule to be completed with the remaining budget of £19,000 in 2019-20.

### **Young Eye: Module 2**

The second part of the Young Eye series was commissioned in 2018-19 after completion of the first part on embryology and genetics. We allowed an overall budget of £100,000 for this project and allocated £30,000 for 2018-19. We spent £19,900 this year and £10,639 of committed funds are being carried forward to 2019-20.

## **Cataract**

We allowed a budget of £100,000 for this project with £20,000 allocated in 2018-19. The project was accelerated and the difference will be reflected in the budget for 2019-20.

## **Contact Lenses Module 3**

The children's contact lens programme was commissioned in 2018-19. We have briefed the production company and the project kick-off meeting is scheduled for June 2019. Payment will follow when the proposal and budget have been agreed shortly after.

## **Training Advisers**

In 2018-19 we allowed additional budget for training advisers, due to the popularity of the DOCET interactive exercises, in particular for the three modules of *Anterior Eye*, and to cover a surge in the demand of interactive CET at the end of the three-year CET cycle in November 2018. Due to increased administrative support by the DOCET team we did not need the additional budget.

## **Online maintenance and development**

Due to the underspend in this budget line in 2017-18 we reduced the funding allocated for online maintenance and development for 2018-19 and redirected the money into DOCET core activities. Due to the ongoing support of an external contractor necessary to keep the LMS up-to-date and the small increase for the renewal of the annual licence fee we will increase the budget for online maintenance and development again to £55,000 for 2019-20.

## **Print, mailing, marcomms**

In 2018-19 we had increased marketing activity to expand our reach on social media. Although there will be some savings in the mailing budget as we no longer send out DVDs or CDs, we are expecting similar or slightly higher expenditure in marketing communications and are therefore increasing the budget to £45,000 in 2019-20.

“I found that DOCET courses fitted my learning needs. The courses covered things comprehensively and I liked the structure. You have different people talking to you and many varied techniques are used to get information across. The key thing is that it enables you to do your own learning. Each subject is fully covered and there is a list of resources that is very helpful.”

Doug, Locum optometrist

## **Appendix B: DOCET projects – audio**

### **1. Advances in Eyecare**

The production of the DOCET podcasts is a rolling process. Each edition of the audio programme covers a range of topics linked to priority training areas and/or those of current interest in the optometric field and is published three times a year.

Until March 2019 Advances in Eyecare was available online and in CD format. From April 2019 onwards the course is available as podcast on iTunes and we have published instructions on how to access them on Android phones. We have discontinued the production of audio CDs.

Topic identification for future editions in 2019-20 is underway. Current suggestions include:

- Interviews on new approaches to macular pigment screening
- Problems with telemedicine
- Implications of laser in glaucoma and ocular hypertension (LiGHT) study for glaucoma patients and optometrists
- High intensity impulse therapy for lids
- The latest in virtual reality and portable devices for the visually impaired.

These are subject to change depending on contributor availability and amendments to priorities.

#### **1.1. Advances in Eyecare: Neuroregeneration**

- The latest theory for glaucoma and its progression
- A new way of assessing a patient's stereo vision
- Current understanding of human 3D vision and how it may be impacted upon by 3D and virtual reality displays.

This module was completed and issued in June 2018 with one non-interactive CET point.

#### **1.2. Advances in Eyecare: Referrals 2**

This programme shows how pathways are developing at both national and local level and includes interviews with key players in developing new approaches to primary care management of eye disease.

This module was completed and issued in October 2018 with one interactive and one non-interactive CET point.

#### **1.3. Advances in Eyecare: Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence**

- The role of artificial intelligence and machine learning in optometry
- Techniques already incorporated into optometric techniques
- How they support clinical management and referral
- How they may be able to support the practitioner in interpreting clinical data.

This module was completed and issued in January 2019 with one non-interactive CET point.

## Appendix C: DOCET projects – multimedia

### 1. Cataract

We want to ensure all optometrists are updated on current practice and treatments for cataract, one of the most common ocular pathologies that is encountered in community practice.

The course will be split into three parts:

- Part One: Definition, classification, physiology and pathology
- Part Two: Management and treatment
- Part Three: Post-operative assessment and management.

The course has been commissioned and is in early stages of development. It is scheduled for publication in mid-2020.

### 2. The Contact Lenses Series

To give the best advice and recommendations to a patient, an optometrist needs to understand a wide range of lenses and solutions and how best to manage contact lens patients in the context of modern lifestyles. DOCET has published *Contact Lenses: Core Skills – Fitting and Aftercare* in February 2017 and *Fitting Astigmatic Patients* in April 2018.

The focus of the next module scheduled for production will be on fitting children with contact lenses. The programme is scheduled to start in May 2019. Future modules will deal with specific types of patients and conditions that may be encountered covering the following key areas:

- Presbyopic contact lens fitting and managing dry eye in contact lens wearers
- Irregular corneas (eg post-refractive surgery, keratoconus, and contact lens wear in an allergic eye)
- New materials (covering complications eg SEALs, abrasions, hypoxia, hyperaemia)
- Overnight wear, solutions and compliance.

### 3. Examining Patients with Learning Disabilities

This course covers the specific needs and learning techniques to improve the experience and care of patients with learning disabilities:

- Part One: Clinical Background - different types of learning disabilities, symptoms, impact and how each condition affects vision (published in November 2018 with one non-interactive CET point)
- Part Two: The Appointment - expert videos explaining the techniques and different approaches to employ when examining patients with learning disabilities (published in January 2019 with one non-interactive CET point)
- Part Three: Navigating the Legalities - aspects to consider following an appointment and how to navigate the legalities surrounding consent, confidentiality and minimum requirements (published in March 2019 with one interactive CET point).

#### **4. Glaucoma Update – review**

The current DOCET Glaucoma course was first published in 2012. Once the new NICE guidelines for Glaucoma were published in November 2017, the project went ahead and began pre-production in January 2018. The course is currently in the final stages of review and is scheduled for publication in early summer of 2019.

The course covers:

- Definition
- Classification
- Pathophysiology
- Risk Factors
- Assessment
- Referral
- Management
- Treatment.

#### **5. Modern Imaging in Eye Care**

Imaging is an important part of everyday practice, as many practitioners are now exposed to OCT, either in their own practice or in the wider professional world.

The course covers various instruments and how they work, why they are useful and how they can be used most effectively. There are four parts:

- Image capture and storage
- Digital cameras
- Scanning Laser Ophthalmoscopy
- Optical Coherence Tomography.

The course was published in February and March 2019 with one non-interactive CET point for each part.

#### **6. Ocular Surface Disease/Dry Eye Disease (DED)**

Due to modern lifestyles and an ageing population, optometrists are dealing with an increasing number of conditions related to poor tear film and ocular surface disease. To give the best advice and recommendations to a patient, an optometrist needs to understand a complex range of conditions with a wide range of possible management strategies.

The programme will contain expert and patient interviews and interactive fact files and cover the following key areas based on the TFOS DEWS II report:

- What is new in DEWS II?
- Pathophysiology
- Epidemiology and risk factors
- Diagnosing DED
- Managing DED.

The project was started in March 2018 and is currently in the final stages of production. It is scheduled for publication in June 2019.

## 7. The Young Eye series

DOCET has identified the young eye and children's vision as a priority training area for optometrists. A new training programme addresses this as an umbrella topic, formed of a series of related modules, in a similar way to the ageing eye series.

It is intended that the series should cover the following key areas:

- Embryology
- Development of vision (birth to 18 years)
- Assessment of vision (birth to 18 years) including screening and protocols.
- Paediatric disease and disorders: Optometric to include prescribing for anisometropia, management of amblyopia
- Paediatric prescribing including dispensing
- Paediatric disease and disorders: Medical.

### 7.1. Embryology

Embryology has been developed as 2D and 3D animation and covers the development of the eye from conception through to birth including birth issues, impacts, defects and elements of genetics.

The course has been divided into four parts:

- Part One: Genetics - inheritance and DNA and relevance of genetics to clinical optometry in practice
- Part Two: The First Trimester - first three months of gestation and how external and internal influence may trigger eye diseases
- Part Three: The Second Trimester - the maturation of the foetus, impact of disease, toxins and lifestyle including infective agents such as zika virus and Toxoplasma, as well as alcohol, smoking and drugs
- Part Four: From Birth Onwards - third trimester and birth-related issues such as prematurity; birth; post-natal tests and social influence.

The programme was published in September and October 2018 with one non-interactive point for each part.

### 7.2. Development of Vision from Birth to 18 Years

This module covers anatomy and physiology from birth to 18 years.

We will deal with this in four age groups and follow three main development timelines

- Refractive development,
- Binocularity/neurological development
- Social and psychological development.

The project has been commissioned and is currently in pre-production with publications scheduled for early 2020.