Our Experience Setting up Virtual Glaucoma Service with EyeWise at Kettering General Hospital.



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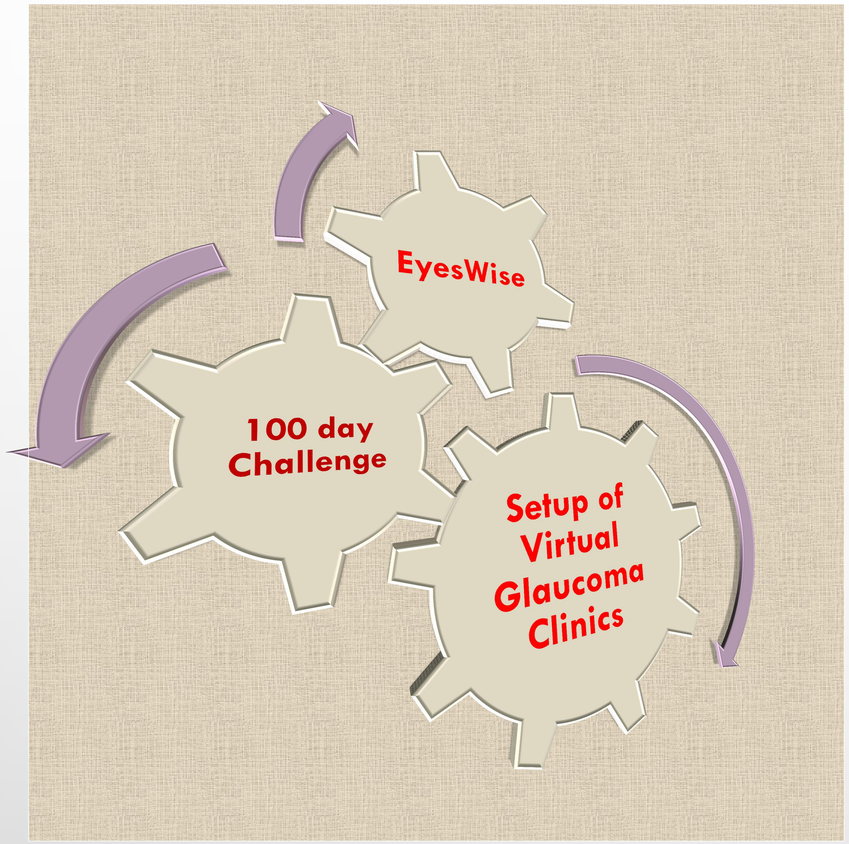
Introduction:

Our organisation is one of the five centres which took part in the pilot project in 2019-2020 with EyeWise pioneered by ***NHS England***.– EyesWise is the Elective Care Transformation Programme in collaboration with the ***Royal College of Ophthalmologists.***

EyeWise platform helped in
- failsafe prioritisation,
- clinical risk/prioritisation audits,
- reviewing eye health capacity,

EyeWise Hub helped access
- case studies and other resources developed during High Impact Intervention programme.

Within the 100 Day Challenge, the team were able to make significant progress on an idea that had been considered as 'too hard' logistically for a number of years.



Virtual Glaucoma Clinic (VGC) Proforma

Date of Clinic:

Patient sticker

1) **Age** of the Patient:
2) **Ethnicity**: White/Black/ Asian/ Other
3) **Diabetes**: Yes/No Specify:
4) **Smoker** Yes/No Specify
5) **Family history of Glaucoma** Yes/ No Specify:
6) **History of Cataract Surgery** Yes/ No Specify:
7) **History of Previous Eye Laser Procedure** Yes/ No Specify:
8) **History of short slightness (Myopia)** Yes/ No Specify:
9) **History of Previous Eye Injury** Yes/ No Specify:
10) **Taking any form of Corticosteroids** (Oral, Topical...) Yes/ No Specify:
11) **History of Asthma/ COPD/ Use of any inhalers** Yes/ No Specify:
12) **Do you suffer with migrane/Raynauds or poor peripheral circulation?** Yes/ No Specify:
13) Any problems with your Eyes **OR** Changes since last visit Yes/ No Specify:
14) **Are you on any treatment for your Glaucoma**? Yes/ No Specify:

Name of the drops	Which Eye	Frequency

15) Any issues/problems with your eye drops?
16) How often do you think you miss your drops? Very often/sometimes/ Rarely/ Never
17) Do you have questions or concerns that you would like the clinician to address on your clinical letter?

Evaluations:

VA
RVA LVA

IOP
RE LE

Investigations:
VF ☐ Mac OCT ☐ Disc OCT ☐ Pachymetry ☐

Person who performed the Clinic (signature and Date)

Results: Challenges addressed:

- Compiling list of low risk/stable patients in the absence of electronic records.
- Space and nursing staff to run the clinics in the pre-COVID busy period.

Solutions found:

- A nurse led clinic proforma designed, feedback was collected .
- A Glaucoma failsafe officer employed.
- All patients gave a positive feedback
- Tests which consumed time in a an consultant clinic were performed more efficiently in VGC.

Number of patients reviewed	Outcome
61 patients {2 DNAs} in 5 months (In early 2020)	58% to be reviewed in 6-8 months 42% had change in treatment and early review

Methods:

Retrospective review of steps leading to set up of the virtual glaucoma service/clinic (VGC). Clinics were performed by nurses , HCAs and virtually reviewed by ophthalmologists.
Please note:
This abstract was originally made in Dec 2019 before the Pandemic .

Conclusions: A virtual glaucoma clinic helps reduce back log of glaucoma patients reducing risk of visual loss in units with insufficient clinic capacity due to the growing demands of ophthalmology services. Setting up a Virtual Glaucoma service just before the pandemic helped to manage the glaucoma service affected due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

This virtual clinic (VC) model has now helped us expand VCs to the subspecialties of Age related macular degeneration and Diabetic retinopathy and we are currently running 12 VCs per week reviewing a average of 100 patients per week and have examined 6000 patients in VCs since march 2020.

References:
https://www.england.nhs.uk/elective-care-transformation/best-practice-solutions/eyeswise/
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VCG proforma by Dr YB Moghaddam and special thanks to Ophthalmic nurses H. Hart and T.Cherry.