

# Cataract Surgery (Adult)

## Introduction

### General Comments and Directions

- Scoring should be based on the considered view of the clinician taking into account the patient's history, examination, results of investigations and the clinician's experience in treating like patients.
- Criteria only apply for patients where a procedure is indicated and the patient wishes it and all non-surgical therapeutic options have been explored.
- These criteria only apply to elective and arranged admissions.
- The score should be calculated during the consultation, and the patient informed whether they will be accepted for publicly funded treatment.
- If due to exceptional factors not included in the prioritisation criteria, the booking status generated does not adequately reflect the patient's priority, the booking status may be overridden. The reason for the exception must be documented.

### More than one procedure

Where two or more related but independent procedures are contemplated at the same operating session the score should relate to the most significant procedure.

### This tool does not cover:

- Paediatric cataracts

# Automatic Priority

An appropriate priority score reflecting the clinically appropriate timeframe for treatment will be automatically assigned for the following cases.

- A patient in whom the presence of an operable cataract makes the monitoring of their diabetes difficult
- A patient in whom the presence of an operable cataract makes the monitoring of their glaucoma difficult
- Risk of macular degeneration (worsening or recurrence)
- Risk of angle closure
- Unacceptable risk of operative complication in the event of delay
- Not a special case

# Prioritisation of Cataract surgery

# Impact on Life

**Warning:** please proceed with this prioritisation event only if you have a completed Impact-on-Life Self-Assessment form from the patient.

Impact of the condition on ability to engage in and enjoy activities which are important to the individual patient.

Please transcribe information from the questionnaire completed by the patient.

This scale ranges from 1: *No difficulty* to 6: *Extremely difficult*.

## Social Interaction



## Personal Interaction



## Ability to fulfil your responsibilities to others



## Personal Care



## Personal Safety



## Leisure Activities



# Best Corrected Distance Visual Acuity in operative eye

Measured on standard illuminated 6m or 4m chart.

- Visual acuity is tested at a distance of 6 or 4 metres from an illuminated Snellen Chart.
- Test for best-corrected distance vision (distance, bifocal, multifocal glasses or contact lenses if appropriate).
- Test each eye separately.
- Encourage patients to read down the chart until errors are made.
- They should be strongly encouraged to guess at the next line even if mistakes are made.
- Visual acuity is recorded as the lowest line where 50% or more of the letters are correctly identified on first attempt.
- If the patient has anisometropia of 4 dioptres or more, please use uncorrected visual acuity.

- 6/6
- 6/9
- 6/12
- 6/15
- 6/18
- 6/24
- 6/36
- 6/60
- CF/HM

## Best Corrected Binocular Distance Visual Acuity

- Test both eyes together.
- Visual acuity is tested at a distance of 6 or 4 metres from an illuminated Snellen Chart.
- Test for best-corrected distance vision (distance, bifocal, multifocal glasses or contact lenses if appropriate).
- Encourage patients to read down the chart until errors are made.
- They should be strongly encouraged to guess at the next line even if mistakes are made.
- Visual acuity is recorded as the lowest line where 50% or more of the letters are correctly identified on first attempt.

- 6/6
- 6/9
- 6/12
- 6/15
- 6/18
- 6/24
- 6/36
- 6/60
- CF/HM

## Presence of Axial Posterior sub-capsular lens opacity

Axial posterior sub-capsular lens opacity where Snellen acuity is likely to underestimate degree of visual disability.

- Not present
- Present – axial

## Potential Visual Acuity in the operative eye after surgery

Expected level of acuity in the operative eye in the presence of a clear lens. Consider effect of maculopathy, keratopathy, optic neuropathy, amblyopia etc.

- Worse than 6/36
- 6/12 – 6/36
- Better than 6/12