**Changes to Referral Process for Ophthalmology in Wiltshire**

From **1 September 2020** you will be able to send an ophthalmology referral to the Ophthalmology Triage Referral Service via eRS rather than by email.

You will also be able to send ophthalmology referral funding requests directly to the funding team via eRS.

**Summary of the changes:**

* This will reduce the steps required to make a referral and positively affect the way GP practices refer for ophthalmology
* The new speciality service will appear as a Referral Assessment Service (RAS).
* The change continues the process towards starting to streamline referral processes across BSW and ensuring full utilisation of eRS capability.
* Following the processing of a funding requests, those granted funding will be forwarded to the Referral Service for onward referral rather than back to yourselves

**What will l need to do as a Referrer?**

1. Initiate the Referral on eRS
2. Select the appropriate RAS speciality
3. Send the referral via eRS to the RSS
4. Add the patient referral letter. (Please ensure that this includes key information for triage including BMI and BP). The latest referral form is here:

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1. Share the eRS generated letter with your patient so that they aware of the next steps. (See practice guide to support the process below)



1. Check the eRS Referrer Action Required Worklist regularly because provider rejections will now be sent directly back to the GP practice.
2. Please note - For Ophthalmology referrals, the RSS will contact you directly by email if any action is required regarding a rejected referral.

**What do I look for on eRS?**

All the new referral RAS services begin with the letters **BSW** followed by the **team** and then the **speciality**:

* BSW Wiltshire Ophthalmology Referral Assessment Service

All the new funding team RAS’s are named ‘**Funding Requests BSW’** followed by the **speciality**:

* Funding Requests BSW Opthalmology

For queries or further information, Wiltshire Referral Management Centre can be contacted on 0300 123 6250, or by email at bswccg.rsseyes@nhs.net