

European Society of Ophthalmology



Name Christine Goodchild

European Leadership Development Programme, Class of 2025-2027

Project Abstract

Title of Project: Introduction of handheld fundus camera to aid diagnosis of optic disc swelling in the acute setting in at tertiary hospital

Purpose:

To develop and implement a service innovation in the acute hospital services that enables earlier and more accurate diagnosis of optic disc swelling. The project aims to reduce delays in patient care, improve patient safety, minimise unnecessary ophthalmology referrals, and foster interdisciplinary collaboration.

Methods:

The Lumo handheld fundus camera will be introduced in the emergency and acute medicine department. Clinicians will be trained in image acquisition, image interpretation and reviewed by ophthalmology when required. Stakeholder engagement across ophthalmology, emergency medicine, AMAU and neurology will be undertaken to establish governance, training, and workflow integration.

Results:

Primary outcomes include improved speed and accuracy of diagnosing optic disc swelling, reduced inappropriate referrals to ophthalmology, and better patient experience through timely reassurance or escalation. Evaluation will be through baseline and post-implementation audit of referral patterns, clinician confidence, supplemented by staff feedback surveys.

Conclusion:

This project demonstrates how a portable imaging tool can transform the diagnostic pathway for patients with suspected papilledema in the emergency setting. By leading multidisciplinary change, the initiative has the potential to improve patient safety, enhance efficiency, and optimise specialist resources in a tertiary hospital.