
Minimum Standard for facilities providing ophthalmology and optometric services

**Quality Assurance & Regulation
Division**

Ministry of Health

DOCUMENT RECORD

Version No	Version Date	Description of change
1		Initial release

DOCUMENT NUMBER:

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY: Fathimath Limya,
Health quality and safety compliance analyst
Quality Assurance and Regulations Division

EXPERT ADVISERS: Dr. Fathimath Niuma
Consultant Ophthalmology, IGMH
Dr. Dr. Aishath Jeneena Amir
Consultant in Ophthalmology, ADK

ENDORSED BY: Uza. Thasleema Usman
Commissioner of Quality Assurance

PUBLISHED BY: Ministry of Health
Male', Republic of Maldives

Minimum Standard for facilities providing ophthalmology and optometric services

PREAMBLE

Scope:

This standard applies to any government or private health facility subject to obtain registration and operating license from the Quality Assurance and Regulation Division (QARD), Ministry of Health (MoH) to provide optometry or ophthalmology services. QARD reserves the right to develop and amend the standards and guidelines for the service under chapter 25 of the “Health services Act” (29/2015).

The basis of optometric practice is a generally primary visual examination. The majority of optometric patients require only a visual examination with health education and eyewear. Even when specialized care is required, the primary care examination is the first step in determining the appropriate specialized service.

Comprehensive ophthalmological services constitute a general evaluation of the complete visual system. The comprehensive services constitute a single service entity but need not be performed at one session. This includes but not limited to history, general medical observation, external and ophthalmoscopic examinations, gross visual fields and basic sensorimotor examination. It often includes, as indicated; bio-microscopy, examination with cycloplegia or mydriasis, and tonometry. It always includes initiation of diagnostic and treatment programs.

Purpose:

QARD as the responsible entity for regulating, licensing, monitoring and ensuring safety of all health services in the Maldives is mandated to develop minimum requirements to ensure delivery of safe and quality services.

This standard aims to establish the minimum requirements for ophthalmology and optometry services.

Objectives:

- Provide specific service requirement for eye health facilities
- Identify the minimum infrastructure requirement
- Categorize minimum equipment requirement for the type of service
- Set minimum safety and infection control standards.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR FACILITIES

A facility providing eye health services shall have the minimum requirements as stated below:

- A. Personnel
- B. Services
- C. Infrastructure
- D. Equipment & Management
- E. Safety and Security
- F. Infection Prevention

A. Personnel

The health facility shall have the following health professionals providing services who has a valid practicing license pursuant to the Health Professionals Act 15/2015 from the relevant regulatory councils at the Ministry of Health.

- Ophthalmologist
- Optometrist

Additional professionals depending on the service requirement

- Nurse

Administrative staff

- The facility shall have minimum administrative staff to run the operation smoothly

B. Services

- Visual screening
- Prescription of optical devices and lenses
- Treatment for eye disease as per the scope of health professional
- Facility for minor procedures
- Operating theatre – depending on the scope of the operation
- Emergency care including anaphylaxis treatment and support service with referral pathway

C. Infrastructure

Minimum Infrastructure standard for Ophthalmology Services		
Areas	Qty	Remarks
Amenities for Ophthalmology OPD services		
Reception Area	1	Counter and work station
Admin office	1	Admin office OR area for administrative work
Patient Waiting Area	1	Seat allocated to people who come to make memos, consultations etc. Designated area for public relation and information counter. Should include toilets both Male and Female with a ratio of 10 people :1 toilet. Toilets to have disability access or separate disability toilet. Designated area for feeding mothers and newborn changing
Consultation Room		All OPD Rooms should have handwash facilities and required minimum equipment *if Optometrist is not available 2 rooms may not be required
Optometrist	1	
Ophthalmologist	1	
Procedure Room	1	Optional depending on additional services, which will not be able to deliver in ophthalmology consultation room
Clean Utility	1	Where procedure rooms are established
Dirty Utility	1	Where procedure rooms are established
Store	1	General, Medical and Equipment store
Amenities for Ophthalmology IPD services		
Operation theater complex	1	Should include: dirty utility, clean utility, general store, medical store, equipment room, Should include space for clinical office , staff recovery Staff changing area with toilet Pre op and post op area with minimum 1 bed in each area or 2 beds for both purposes with toilet for patients Briefing room Waiting area for patient relatives
Recovery ward	1	Minimum 2 - 4 beds for a day care center depending on the level of operation Minimum 8 - 12 beds for a hospital
Nursing counter	1	
Staff recovery area	1	
Amenities for support services		
Storage Area	1	Storage area for general, medical and equipment as required.
Sterilization Autoclave Unit /	1	Should have one way traffic, demarcation of dirty, clean and sterile areas
Laundry Area	1	
Waste Management Area	1	Management of both solid waste and waste water

- Services established as an Area Specific Center shall have OPD service ONLY
- Services established as an Area Specific Hospital Shall have both OPD and IPD services
- Services established as Specialty Center / Hospital shall have availability of advanced diagnostics and treatment facilities

Equipment, Instrument, Drugs & Management

- Equipment used should be approved and certified by the following or equivalent bodies;
 - Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
 - Conformité Européene (CE)
- Equipment shall be installed and operated in accordance with manufacturer specifications.
- Instructions of the equipment manufacturer must be followed in performing the cleansing or priming procedure prior to commencing any examination.
- The facility shall maintain the following:
 - Operating and safety manuals for equipment
 - Maintenance log books for equipment.
 - Preventive maintenance (PM) of equipment shall be maintained, documented and signed.
 - All necessary parts should be changed as per manufacturer’s instructions, documented and signed.
 - Eye lenses set shall be kept clean and in good condition.
- Computer used for eye measures should be calibrated according to manufacturers’ requirements.
- Out of service equipment shall be clearly marked
- Facility shall have an inventory of list of equipment / machineries available

Minimum List of Equipment as per the level of the facility graded

Equipment	Facility Requirement
Slit lamp	Optometry Center / Ophthalmology Center
Phoropter	Optometry Center / Ophthalmology Center
keratometer / lensometer	Optometry Center / Ophthalmology Center
Auto refractor	Optometry Center / Ophthalmology Center
Retinoscope	Optometry Center / Ophthalmology Center
Tonometer	Optometry Center / Ophthalmology Center
VA chart box	Optometry Center / Ophthalmology Center
Tomography Machine	Optometry Center / Ophthalmology Center
Operating Microscope	Ophthalmic surgery centers
Yag Laser	Ophthalmic surgery centers
Surgical Sets (cataract / pterygium etc)	Ophthalmic surgery centers
Resuscitation Equipment	Ophthalmic surgery centers
Oxygen Delivery system in theater settings	Ophthalmic surgery centers

D. Safety Measures

Fire Safety

- The health facility shall ensure all signs for fire routes are clearly noticeable and marked.
- The health facility shall maintain fire extinguishers, fire protection equipment and ensure equipment is working properly.
- The health facility shall abide with the fire prevention and safety measures required by MNDF

Occupational Health and Safety

- Protective wear
- Ergonomic mechanical chairs for better care for back, neck and shoulders

E. Infection prevention

- Availability of handwashing facilities in each OPD and procedure room
- Availability of hand rub for patients in reception and waiting area

- Hygiene procedures and precautions shall be in place, up-to-date and accessible to prevent exposure and reduce the risk of transmission of infectious diseases within the eye examination area.
- Chinrests and headrests on slit lamps, field screeners, keratometers, auto refractors, or any other equipment should be cleaned with a sterile wipe before use by each patient.
- The bridge and sides of trial frames and forehead and cheek rests of auto refractor and slit-lamp heads are cleaned anew for each patient.
- Items coming into contact with a patient's eye shall not be reused.
- Diagnostic solutions such as sterile saline or contact lens soaking solutions shall be clearly marked with the date first used and stored with caps on and not used beyond the recommended dates.

Check whether we can add any IPC standards / precaution of National guideline