

[Stroke rehabilitation]
Stakeholder Comments

Please enter the name of your registered stakeholder organisation below.

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Stakeholder Organisation:	<p>This is a joint response from the Optical Confederation, and the LOC Support Unit (LOCSU).</p> <p>The Optical Confederation represents the 12,000 optometrists, the 6,000 dispensing opticians, and 7,000 optical businesses and 45,000 ancillary staff in the UK, who provide high quality and accessible eye care services to the whole population. The Confederation is a coalition of five optical representative bodies: the Association of British Dispensing Opticians (ABDO), the Association of Contact Lens Manufacturers (ACLM), the Association of Optometrists (AOP), the Federation of Manufacturing Opticians (FMO) and the Federation of Ophthalmic and Dispensing Opticians (FODO). As a Confederation, we work with others to improve eye health for the public good.</p> <p>LOCSU provides quality, practical support to Local and Regional Optical Committees (LOCs/ROCs) in England and Wales to help them to develop, negotiate and implement local objectives in respect of primary ophthalmic services. It is a key interface between the optical, representative bodies and the LOCs/ROCs, facilitating robust lines of communication between the national organisations and the grass roots of the professions.</p>
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Name of commentator:	David Hewlett
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Order number <i>(For internal use only)</i>	Document	Page Number	Line Number	Comments
	Indicate if you are referring to the Full version NICE version or the Appendices	Number only (do not write the word 'page/pg') . Alternatively write 'general' if your comment relates to the whole document.	Number only (do not write the word 'line') . See example in cell below	<p>Please insert each new comment in a new row.</p> <p>Please do not paste other tables into this table, as your comments could get lost – type directly into this table.</p>

Example	Full	16	45	Our comments are as follows
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Proformas that are not correctly submitted as detailed in the line above may be returned to you

1	Full	211	10	As the main providers of primary eyecare in a community setting they are appropriately skilled and trained to assess and monitor the visual performance (and mobility) status of patients who have suffered from stroke. As a profession optometry is well qualified to provide management and advice on all aspects of vision including visual impairment (with or without field loss) and diplopia.
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				<p>Optometrists are familiar with working as part of a multidisciplinary team and it would seem unreasonable not to include their input in stroke rehabilitation once the patient has been discharged back to the community setting.</p> <p>A recent survey within the profession has shown that more than 85% of practitioners routinely examine stroke patients within their practice and more than 70% would want to participate in any future enhanced eye care service pathway (please see attached survey results from the Local Optical Committee Support Unit). We would suggest that the inclusion of optometrists in the rehabilitation pathway should be reviewed and included in the updated NICE Guidance.</p>
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Please add extra rows as needed

Please email this form to: strokerehab@nice.org.uk

Closing date: 5pm on Thursday 14th February 2013

PLEASE NOTE: The Institute reserves the right to summarise and edit comments received during consultations, or not to publish them at all, where in the reasonable opinion of the Institute, the comments are voluminous, publication would be unlawful or publication would be otherwise inappropriate.