



Glaucoma Detection and Decision-making in Optometric Practice *(level 9, 10 ECTS credits)*

This new, postgraduate module has been designed to provide practical skills training and updated knowledge for optometrists wishing to develop their approach to glaucoma detection in primary care.

Contact hours are split over three days, consisting of two half-day meetings, combining workshops and group tutorials, and an end of module skills assessment.

A suite of online lectures has been developed for students to work through, at their own pace, across a twelve-week semester.

The lecture material and recommended reading is designed to improve practitioners’:

- awareness of demographic, ocular and systemic risk factors for COAG.
- awareness of the risk factors for angle closure, and ability to recognise the signs and symptoms of a patient suffering from acute angle-closure, and refer the condition appropriately.
- knowledge of the characteristic features of glaucomatous optic neuropathy.
- understanding of the use of perimetric tests for the assessment of a patient at risk of COAG and an ability to choose the most appropriate test strategies, be familiar with their limitations, understand the sources of error, correctly interpret results and recognise glaucomatous field loss.
- understanding of the role and use of OCT technology in glaucoma detection and monitoring.
- ability to make appropriate clinical decisions relating to OHT and COAG diagnosis and referral.

The workshops are designed to improve practitioners’:

- ability to measure IOP using a slit-lamp mounted Goldmann applanation tonometer and to interpret the results.
- ability to perform an assessment of central corneal thickness using appropriate instrumentation and to interpret the significance of the results.
- ability to assess the optic nerve head by non-contact slit-lamp binocular indirect ophthalmoscopy.
- ability to perform and interpret the results of the van Herick test for the assessment of anterior chamber depth.

Assessment will be a mixture of online continuing assessment, written coursework, and an end of module skills assessment.

Optometrists wishing to inquire about the module can contact the module lead, Catriona Barrett, at:

catriona.barrett@dit.ie

01 402 4749