

TWOP News

TWOP News exclusively delivering informations, ideas and connects people in The World of Optometry

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much" -Helen Keller

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OPTOMETRIST IN

VISION 2020









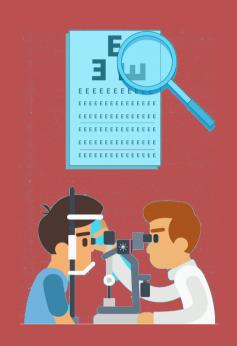


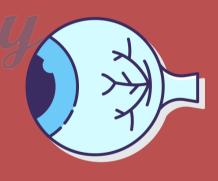


Introduction

Vision 2020: The Right to Sight

 Established by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness, has created valuable and effective collaborations of organizations involved in a wide range of eye care and community healthcare activities aimed at the elimination of avoidable blindness and impaired vision.









Major Priorities

Selected due to the burden blindness that they represent and because of the feasibility and affordability of interventions to prevent and treat these conditions:



- Cataract
- Trachoma
- Onchocerciasis
- Childhood blindness
- Refractive error
- Low vision





Our Role as an Optometrist

- Providing screening and vision care services at secondary and tertiary levels
- Detection and management of potentially; blinding diseases such as cataract, diabetes, and glaucoma
- Research into the understanding of global eye care needs and solutions, especially in vision correction and vision care service delivery
- Building economic and logistical models of self-sustainable eyecare.







Optometry as a part of the eyecare team

- Optometrist and Opticians need to pass on knowledge of the logistics, supply systems, and economic management that is done so well in private practice, to a public health program.
- Spectacle supply can effectively fund more expensive or intensive needs such as low vision and cataract surgery. An important part of practical and cost-effective eye care systems to communities in need is the understanding that it does not make sense to bring 50% of the population that require refractive services into a hospital setting for refractive care.











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- It makes much more sense to screen, refract and supply spectacles and vision care, including the detection and treatment of minor problems, and referral of those with more serious problems, at the community level. Optometry can make a major contribution in supporting eye care at this more convenient and cost-effective level.









Conclusion

- Preventable blindness is one of our most tragic and wasteful global problems.
- Optometry is an essential part of the team that will eliminate this tragedy, by understanding global eyecare needs and delivering effective and sustainable vision care to people in need, thereby ensuring their fundamental right to sight.







