



‘Posterior capsule opacification (PCO) is the commonest complication of cataract surgery. It is caused by the proliferation of lens epithelial cells left behind following cataract surgery. The cells migrate behind the intraocular lens implant (IOL) to obscure the visual axis and reduce the patient’s visual function similar to that experienced with the original cataract. If PCO occurs vision may be restored by a laser capsulotomy. As patients are discharged soon after cataract surgery it is essential that they are warned of the potential problem of PCO and advised to seek attention if they feel their vision deteriorates. Regular optometry review will ensure that PCO is detected and further referral to the HES may be organised as necessary’.

Useful Information for Patients
 NHS24: 08454 24 24 24
 www.nhs.uk
 www.doctoronline.nhs.uk
 www.patient.co.uk

Self Care **Primary Care** **Secondary Care**

Optometric Examination

H & S

Refraction & VA & Pupils

Slit Lamp – anterior segment

– ? commence blepharitis management

Tonometry & Visual Field

Fundus exam – dilated slit lamp biomicroscopy

Discuss risks & benefits of surgery with patient

Issue information leaflet to patient

Agree desire for surgery with patient

Refer on standardised referral form as per local protocol.