

**Reference:** FOI.ICB-2324/075

**Subject:** Electronic Referral Pathways Between Optometry and Secondary Care

*I can confirm that the ICB **does hold some of the information requested**; please see responses below:*

QUESTION	RESPONSE
1. What electronic referral pathways are in place between optometry and secondary care within NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB?	Some optometry practices may be emailing their reports/requests for onward patients referrals via the nhs.net platforms others post them to GP practices and a medical secretary creates a referral and sends it to the BNSSG Referral Service via the NHS e-RS system for triage by secondary care optometrist who direct the referrals to the most appropriate pathway.
2. What proportion of optometry practices are able to access each platform?	We are unable to confirm this, however, we are aware that they do not have access to the NHS e-RS system but most likely to have access to nhs.net.

***The information provided in this response is accurate as of 18 May 2023 and has been approved for release by Dr Joanne Medhurst, Chief Medical Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.***