



NETWORK GUIDELINE

Guideline:	Babies Requiring Laser Treatment for Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) (North Hub)
Version:	2
Date:	March 2021
Review Date:	March 2024
Approval:	EMNODN Clinical Governance Group
Authors:	Dr Anneli Wynn-Davies, revised by Miss Rosemary Lambley
Consultation:	EMNODN Clinical Governance Group
Distribution:	Neonatal Units within EMNODN North Hub
Risk Managed:	Timely treatment for ROP to meet national guidance

This document is a guideline. Its interpretation and application remains the responsibility of the individual clinician, particularly in view of its applicability across the different Trusts in the East Midlands Neonatal Operational Delivery Network – North Hub. Please also consult any local policy/guideline document where appropriate and if in doubt contact a senior colleague.

Caution is advised when using guidelines after a review date.

REVIEW AND AMENDMENT LOG

Version	Type of Change	Date	Description of Change
1	-	Sept 2016	-
1	No change to content	Feb 2019	TPN Guideline transferred to EMNODN Guideline format
2	Minor	March 2021	Updated theatre start times and contact details

Background

This document arose following uncertainty around the referral pathways for ROP treatment. This incorporates all types of ROP treatment. There needs to be communication between ophthalmology services, neonatal services and transport services. The usual referral pathway for babies in EMNODN North Hub units (aside from Derby who have expertise in-house for laser therapy), is to Queen's Medical Centre. It can be difficult to coordinate referral to ensure the baby is in the correct place at the correct time within the limitations of all services.

Limitations in the current system include:

- Nottingham theatre times for laser therapy - currently available on Wednesday and Thursday mornings between 8.30-12.30
- need for referral to both ophthalmology and neonatal services,
- bed availability and
- transport capacity

Screening should ideally take place at a time that allows for referral for surgery to be done in a timely manner so as to comply with the tight theatre schedules in Nottingham.

Referral Process

It is important that the screening ophthalmologist and local paediatrician from the referring unit are both involved. The referral process needs to include an ophthalmology consultant-to-consultant referral to agree treatment is needed and a theatre slot, and the securing of a NICU bed. This is best accomplished by the local paediatrician contacting the consultant neonatologist at QMC/other centre. A cot at QMC will only be refused in exceptional circumstances after discussion with the Neonatal Consultant on-call.

Once a bed and treatment plan has been confirmed, timely referral to CenTre transport team is required to ensure appropriate transfer to the treating centre.

Useful Telephone Numbers:

CenTre Transport call centre – 0300 300 0038

Mr Shery Thomas (Consultant Ophthalmologist QMC) – 07759 891814 (sec 0115 969 62679)

Miss Rosemary Lambley (Consultant Ophthalmologist QMC) – 07443 529107 (sec 0115 924 9924 X 88485) rosemary.lambley@nuh.nhs.uk

Mrs Shivani Kasbekar (Consultant Ophthalmologist RDH) – 07588 402244 shivani.kasbekar1@nhs.net

Summary Process

