

GOS CONTRACT FAQs

Question	Answer	Additional Information
Is a limited company or LLP (body corporate) required to register with the GOC in order to practice?	Yes if you are using a protected title in connection with your business.	This includes signs, leaflets, trading name, letterheads etc etc
What is a Protected Title?	A protected title is anything including the words: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - optician - optometrist or anything else which implies the company or individual is registered with the GOC.	If a body corporate is using a protected title inappropriately it is contrary to Section 28 of the Opticians Act 1989
The practice is moving. What do we need to do?	You need to notify the Area Team at the earliest possible opportunity. This requires a contract variation and premises inspection	Email the Area Team at england.gmtop@nhs.net For Greater Manchester
What will happen if we move without telling the Area Team?	Your contract has been breached and is invalid. You are not entitled to provide GOS.	There is likely to be a recovery of any GOS monies paid in the period without a contract.
Who do I tell if I'm selling my practice?	You need to ask the Area Team for advice at the earliest possible opportunity.	There is a risk of a period without a GOS contract.
What do I do if I want to close down or retire?	Give notice and make suitable arrangements for patient records.	There is a contract closedown process.
What else do I have to tell the Area Team?	Changes of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directors • Company name • Correspondence details • Registered office address 	
Who is my GOS contract with?	NHS England	Managed by your local Area Team
Who commissions other eye care services?	Cataracts – your CCG IOP repeat – your CCG Glaucoma – your CCG Red Eye or MECS – your CCG LVA – your CCG	Check with your local CCG whether these services are commissioned. Some may be managed by GMPEC.
Who commissions diabetic retinopathy screening?	Public Health England	
Does my practice have to be accessible to disabled/infirm patients?	Existing contractors are expected to make reasonable adjustments.	For new contracts/premises there is an obligation for the premises to comply with the Equality Act.
What if an optometrist/OMP is not registered or on the NHS performers list?	It would be a criminal offence for him/her to see NHS GOS patients and also a GOS contract breach.	It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure that the performer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is registered • Is on the performers list • Has clinical indemnity insurance