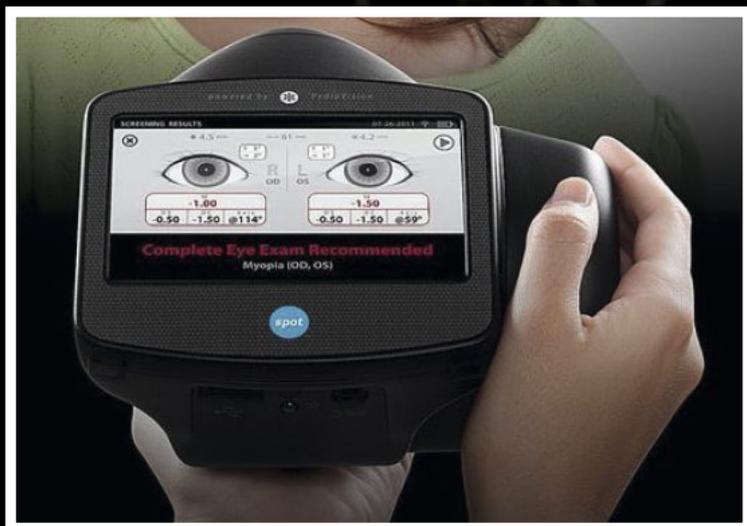




ChildSight UK – UK Lions vision screening project

Many Lions from across MD 105 will have heard about the exciting new service project, ChildSight UK that is starting to take shape.



Lion Stuart Young RN, the MD105 GST – Vision Screening Lead, explains this eye screening programme for young people under the age of 16 that can detect many sight-related health issues. These range from the need for glasses, to stigmas and even complex optical conditions that may require further interventions.

At present, some five-year-old children in reception classes have a basic eye-screening test in school or an assessment via software to detect if they can see an object or picture. This testing does not examine the child's eye – our screening does and helps to understand if what they were looking at is focused, fuzzy, off centre, or not seen properly at all.

Approximately 45 percent of children do not have an eye examination during their early years of development and many go years without seeing an optician. The purpose of our screening is to support schools and the NHS screening to endeavour to get as many children screened as possible.

It has been established that some 13 percent of young people under the age of 11 have an undiagnosed vision problem, this can lead to underperformance in concentration, reading, engagement in lessons and learning.

STRICT SCREENING PROCEDURE

We have now completed three trials, screened 670 young people and issued 73 referral letters, meaning that 10.9 percent of all those screened needed further assessment by qualified healthcare professionals.

The initial feedback from these schools has been very positive and a number of young people referred to the optician are under complex medical investigations



and many are now wearing glasses for the first time.

The Multiple District Global Service Team under the leadership of Lion Stuart Young RN are currently compiling a report, role descriptors, process document and training plan to ensure that every Lion in every Club across MD 105 is delivering the screening in the same way, which is essential for both the project and Lions reputation with the public in the UK.

No screening session should be carried out unless the training team have signed off the Lions as competent.

TRAINING PROGRAMME

Development of this project continues and includes training in the use of the cameras, discussions with appropriate national health bodies and importantly, our Council of Governors will be looking at this project in the coming months. Once fully approved

we will be negotiating on camera purchases and rolling out a training programme to every district.

This is a great opportunity for Lions Clubs to engage with their local community and schools, and to raise awareness of one of our five core service activities.

We would like to challenge every UK Lion to become a Knight Of The Blind!

