



WGOS Manual Updates April 2026 – Summary of changes

Implementation date: 1st April 2026

This summary document outlines updates to the following WGOS Manuals:

- [WGOS 1 & 2 Manual](#) Update Version 2.3
- [WGOS 3 Manual](#) Update Version 2.1
- [WGOS 4 Manual](#) Update Version 2.1
- [WGOS 5 Manual](#) Update Version 2.1

This summary of changes does not replace the full manuals but is intended for ease of reference for Performers and Contractors.

WGOS 1 & 2 Manual

The [WGOS 1 & 2 Manual](#) includes 6 additions:

1. Introduction of WGOS Signed Orders (Page 49)

This addition to the manual defines the procedures for issuing NHS Signed Orders in WGOS and includes links to the formulary, who may issue signed orders, eligibility criteria and quality assurance procedures.

Practices should receive signed orders stationary by 30th April 2026. If practices have not received their signed order pads by this date please contact: nwssp-primarycareservices@wales.nhs.uk

2. Discharge from School Vision Screening (Page 69)

This addition to the manual defines the new pathway allowing discharge from school screening to WGOS 2: Band 1.

The addition includes eligibility for discharge, clinical expectations from WGOS, clinical management guidelines, transfer of care dataset from WGOS to HES and discharge to WGOS 1.

Health boards will notify practices when this Discharge from School Vision Screening Pathway begins. They will contact practices to share any local operational elements before they receive any requests to examine failed School Vision Screening patients.

3. Complex Prisms (Page 83)

This addition describes the new Complex Prism Supplement payment intended to cover additional costs associated with incorporating prismatic correction where those costs are not fully met by the standard optical voucher and the existing prism supplement.

It also explains eligibility and the claiming process including evidence required and an example of a completed claim form.

4. Electronic Patient Record (EPR) (Page 33)

Health Boards will control when mandatory use of the EPR begins. The EPR is mandatory for all WGOS practices (fixed premises and mobile).

Local operational elements will be communicated to practices by the relevant Health Board.

5. Electronic Referral System (ERS) (Page 44)

All referrals made by Performers and Contractors in WGOS must be made electronically when the ERS is in place.

Health Boards will control when mandatory use of the ERS begins. The ERS is mandatory for all WGOS practices (fixed premises and mobile).

Health Boards will contact practices to share any local operational elements.

6. WGOS Escalation Tool (Page 18)

Contractors must enter escalation submissions in the Optometry Practice Escalation Tool on a monthly basis.

OW Footnote: The Escalation Tool has not yet been released by NHS Wales – expected to be during 2026/27. Further information will be circulated to practices.

This addition outlines Contractor requirements including submission cut-off details, change in circumstances and breach notices.

WGOS 3 Manual

The [WGOS 3 Manual](#) includes 3 additions:

- WGOS Escalation Tool (page 5) - *OW Footnote: The Escalation Tool has not yet been released by NHS Wales – expected to be during 2026/27. Further information will be circulated to practices.*
- Electronic Patient Record (EPR) (Page 11)
- Electronic Referral System (ERS) (Page 11)

All as detailed in the [WGOS 1 & 2 Manual](#).

WGOS 4 Manual

The [WGOS 4 Manual](#) includes 3 additions:

- WGOS Escalation Tool (page 11) - *OW Footnote: The Escalation Tool has not yet been released by NHS Wales – expected to be during 2026/27. Further information will be circulated to practices.*
- Electronic Patient Record (EPR) (Page 11)
- Electronic Referral System (ERS) (Page 10)

All as detailed in the [WGOS 1 & 2 Manual](#).

WGOS 5 Manual

The [WGOS 5 Manual](#) includes 3 additions:

- WGOS Escalation Tool (page 7) - *OW Footnote: The Escalation Tool has not yet been released by NHS Wales – expected to be during 2026/27. Further information will be circulated to practices.*
- Electronic Patient Record (EPR) (Page 9)
- Electronic Referral System (ERS) (Page 7)

All as detailed in the [WGOS 1 & 2 Manual](#).