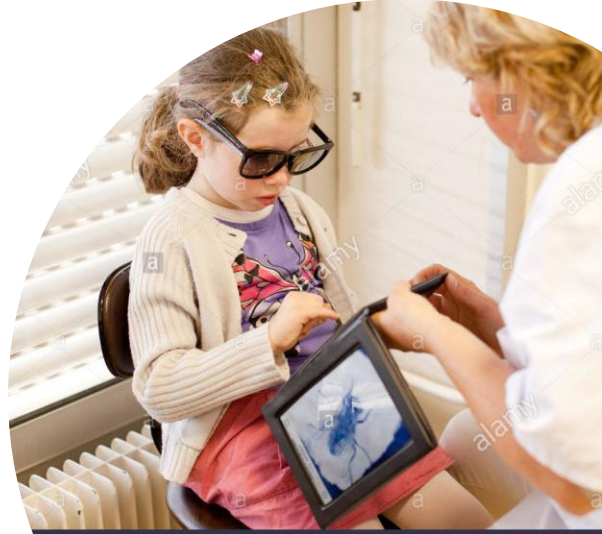




ORTHOPTICS

Rachel McKay
Head of Profession-Orthoptics
NHSL



British and Irish Orthoptic Society

- Founded in 1937 by Professor Brady
- Member of the AHP Federation Group which is made up of 12 bodies representing more than 158,000 workers in the UK
- Member of the International Orthoptic Association

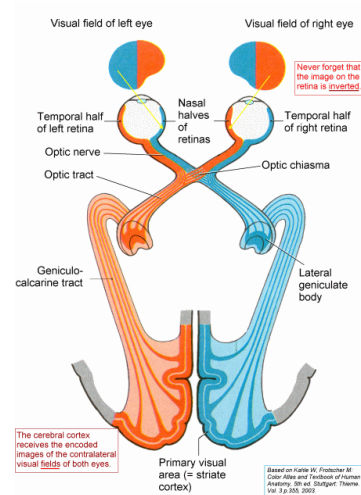


Registered AHP
regulated by HCPC

Attributes



Good interpersonal skills



Interest in science subjects



Enjoy working with children and the elderly

What do we do?

Assess, diagnose, treat
and monitor a variety of
eye disorders

Work autonomously and
as part of the eyecare
team

Many work in multi-
professional health,
education, or social care
teams

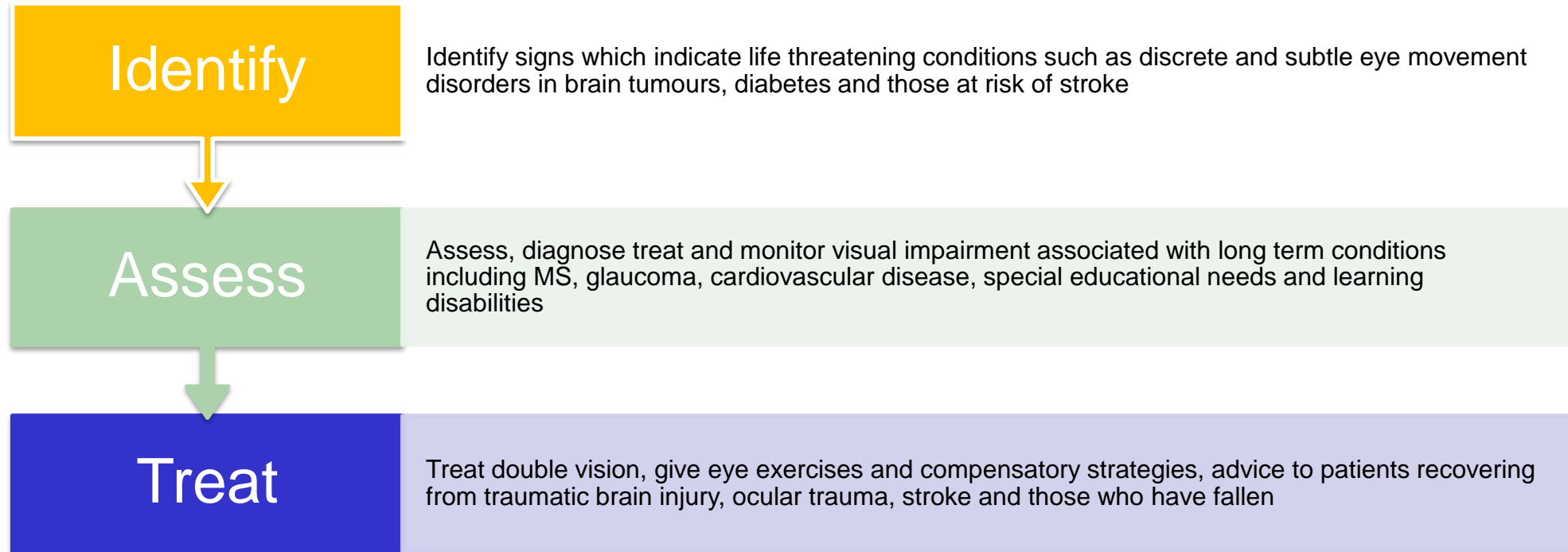
We are experts in how
the eyes move and work
together

Assessment of visual
function, particularly in
children and those with
communication
difficulties





We can:



All orthoptists see patients presenting with:

Amblyopia

Strabismus

Diplopia

Blurred
vision

Refractive
errors

Ptosis

Nystagmus

Ocular head
postures



Entry requirements

- GCU: BBBBC including English and 2 sciences, National 5 maths at B essential
- Liverpool: Highers BBBB
- Sheffield: Highers AABBB



About the course and employment

- Combination of academic study and clinical placements
- 4 year course in Scotland and 3 years in England
- There is demand for Orthoptists so high employment rates
- The roles are expanding with opportunities to perform different extended roles particularly in view of aging population
- Salaries; Band 5 £26104 to Band 9 £103358



Where do orthoptists work?

Most of us in the UK are employed by the NHS and work in:

- Hospitals (in patients, out patients and theatre)
- Community clinics
- Rehab centres
- Special schools and child development centres
- Mainstream schools



We contribute
to public health
framework and
public health
agenda



- Offering preventative programmes such as vision screening and falls prevention
- Educating patients in healthy lifestyle choices to improve outcomes:
- Smoking cessation in patients with thyroid dysfunction
- Dietary choices with patients with diabetes
- Alcohol reduction advice in patients at risk of stroke
- Promoting sight tests for those at risk of stroke

ORTHOPTICS

