

Appendix: Verbatims of ECPs and patients

Sl. No	Themes emerged	Participant	Verbatim
1	Perceived barriers among ECP: Referral criteria	(ECP: Ophthalmologist, Participant 10)	"The criterion is based upon the patients' visual requirement; at 6/36 also patient may be visually fit, at 6/18 also patient may be visually handicap; it all depends what is the patient's visual requirement whether the patient has any education requirements, computer issues or office work or field work..."
2	Perceived barriers among ECP: Referral criteria	(ECP: Ophthalmologist, Participant 3)	"They (patients) will be grouping for objects with advanced defects; Retinitis pigmentosa patients, glaucoma patients, severe retinal detachment and post retinal surgery with 1 meter vision, the way they come to the OPD and approach, I know that they need low vision care; I would then myself I will make up my mind to referral apart from giving them vision care"
3	Perceived barriers among ECP: Referral criteria	(ECP: Ophthalmologist, Participant 10)	"If it is an altitudinal, three quadrant and hemianopia and advanced constricted fields, peripheral field loss all the things I suggest"
4	Perceived barriers among ECP: Referral criteria	(ECP: Ophthalmologist, Participant 4)	"Patients are quite happy, they understand, and you are giving lot of additional benefits, enhancement like giving them disability certificate, giving them counseling regarding rehabilitation facilities available in their own states..."
5	Perceived barriers among ECP: Referral criteria	(ECP: Ophthalmologist, Participant 10)	"Anybody who is going to be a poorly educated female, only in house, domestic purpose part of it with the very profound work will not opt for a low vision itself so those people will not be ideal candidate"
6	Perceived barrier among ECP: Lack of awareness	(ECP: Ophthalmologist, Participant 5)	"We have some information of all the devices available but I forgot that, it is there I really don't remember anything about it"
7	Perceived barriers among patient: ECP view	(ECP: Ophthalmologist, Participant 4)	"Sometimes patients are also not very well educated, they don't understand the meaning of low vision, they will think it's only for glasses, they might already have had certain kind of glasses previously and found it is not useful so when they hear low vision clinic is only about glasses they don't really understand they might not find the usefulness in going for another checkup"
8	Perceived barrier among patient: ECP view	(ECP: Ophthalmologist, Participant 6)	"Patients think that if my vision can't it be cured or can't it be recovered there is nothing we can do, its end of my life..."
9	Perceived barriers among patient: Patient view	(Patient: Referred but not visited, Participant 15)	"I became upset knowing that there is no treatment, what they will do here normally they will say to do some exercise... another thing is I didn't give importance for it that much"
10	Perceived barrier in hospital setup: ECP view	(ECP: Ophthalmologist, Participant 11)	"The statement what the patient puts forward is 'sir my eyes there is no treatment for it, you are asking me to go for special glasses but I am not able to get the appointment in the last 3 days or 4 days and my return ticket is also.' And he says that since it cannot be done, 'can I do it next time?' and they take it lightly"
11	Perceived benefits of LVC: ECP view	(ECP: Ophthalmologist, Participant 4)	"Patients are quite happy, they understand, and you are giving lot of additional benefits, enhancement like giving them disability certificate, giving them counseling regarding rehabilitation facilities available in their own states..."
12	Perceived benefits of LVC: Patients view	(Patient: Referred and visited, Participant 16)	"After coming there (LVC service) we understood everything about the eye and they explained in detail"
13	Suggested enablers	(ECP: Ophthalmologist, Participant 13)	"The time the optometrist screens itself, they can put in a note saying that consider for LVC clinic... this would help if you feel that the person has potential can be send"
14	Suggested enablers	(ECP: Ophthalmologist, Participant 11)	"You can always have a counselor chamber, you know patients explanation, understanding is very important and you can always explain to the patient 'what is the low vision aids?' And even without going to low vision aids clinic patient can be explained about this and how the patient can be improve and how his lifestyle can be improved by the quality of vision"