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HRH THE DUKE OF YORK, KG, KCVO, ADC

FROM THE PRESIDENT: Professor Caroline MacEwen, MD FRCSEd, FRCOphth, FFSEM

14 November 2014

Mrs Rosalind Harrison FRCOphth
Chairman
Association of Health Professions in Ophthalmology

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Mrs Rosalind Harrison'.

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists (RCOphth) would like to congratulate the Association of Health Professions in Ophthalmology (AHPO) in launching the Diploma and Apprenticeship in Ophthalmic and Visual Science. This important development will ensure that the Ophthalmic Associate Practitioner, having undertaken this training and qualification, will have a consistent set of skills for performing tests and investigations on ophthalmic patients.

The workload within the eye service has increased enormously over the past decade due to population changes and advances in successful treatments. The RCOphth supports the value of multidisciplinary working and recognises how a well-trained team can work together in an efficient fashion that is beneficial for patients. The curriculum and assessment processes for this course will ensure that the team includes support staff with this recognised diploma, and that they may use it to progress on a career pathway in ophthalmic and visual science.

This course is timely and welcome.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Caroline MacEwen'.

Professor Caroline MacEwen, MD, FRCSEd, FRCOphth, FFSEM
President