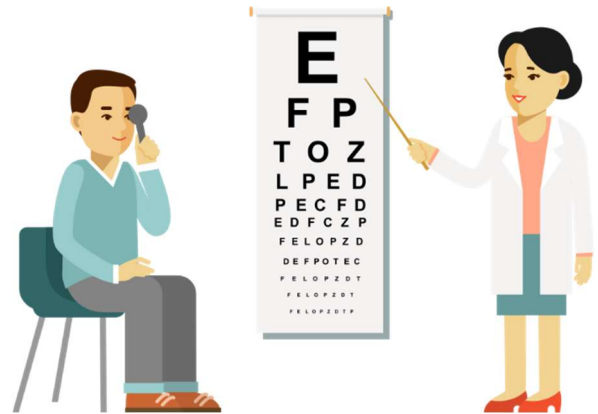




24.16 Assessment Standards for Vision Testing

Introduction

Visual assessments form part of many Occupational Health activities including those that are associated with fitness for driving and safety critical work. In addition, some other types of visual assessment are conducted in isolation such as quality eye tests for inspection and metrology. Different standards require different acuities or measurements, and this can be confusing for both the employer and employee.



The Purpose of this document

This guide lists most types of tests undertaken by MOHS practitioners. It also documents the reasons they may be required and the standards that are required to be met. In most cases, employees can use aids such as spectacles or contact lenses to meet a particular standard, but the use of such aids must be recorded along with the result.

Frequency of Review

Historically, MOHS has reviewed vision every 2 years in line with common ophthalmic practice. However, this frequency is at odds with some of the other types of assessment that we undertake, such as those for Drivers & Safety Critical medicals. Where these medicals are undertaken, it makes sense to synchronise vision testing with their recall frequencies. Note that PSL/44 requires that all components of the standard (including colour vision which is unlikely to change) are retested and certified annually.

Other standards

Some customers will have their own standards (particularly for inspection etc) which can continue to be used. However, in the absence of a clearly defined customer standard, MOHS will champion PSL/44 for quality eye testing as the default standard.

Standards for Visual Assessment Components

Reason for Test	Test Name	Standard
Driving (car, van, tug, remote crane, FLT Truck etc.)	Distance test (Snellen @ 3 meters)	6/12 in at least one eye if monocular vision (6/12 both eyes preferable).
Driving (Bus & HGV)	Distance test (Snellen @ 3 meters)	6/7.5 in one and at least 6/60 in the other.
Driving (All classes)	Peripheral Vision (Confrontation test)	No significant deficits. Any problems should be referred to an optician for decision.



Reason for Test	Test Name	Standard
Near vision (Reading, office, VDU, & graphical work)	Near Vision (Sussex @ 40 cm)	Ideally N6 in both eyes – any problems referred to an optician. MOHS test is not VDU Regulations compliant.
Colour Vision	Ishihara	Normal result. Employees with deficits may be referred to an optician for confirmation and require adjustments or functional assessment of ability/safety.

PSL/44 Standards for Quality Eye Testing

Near Vision PSL/44	Sussex @ 40 cm	N4 both eyes open @ 40cm (J1)
Near Vision Tumbling “E” for poor readers	MOHS 11.11 Tumbling E chart	Correctly identify all optotypes from lines 1 to 9 inclusive
Colour Vision	Ishihara (24 plates)	No deficits
Grey Scale Test	Dr Kolbl test	Minimum 20 out of 25
Distance Vision (Optional)	Snellen @ 3 meters	6/9 (Not required for certification purposes).

SABRe Standard as per PSL/44 except for:

Near Vision RR SABRe	Sussex @ 40 cm	N5 both eyes open @ 40cm (J2)
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Note: In most cases, spectacles or contact lenses are allowed to enable employees to meet near and far acuity standards, but their requirement should be documented on any certification.

Other types of vision testing

If you have a requirement for a different type of test not listed in this document, please get in touch as we may still be able to help, either by undertaking industry standard tests such as the Munsell Colour System tests or in some instances trade test or functional assessments. Some tests require a specialised piece of equipment that we do not have access to. In these cases, we may offer another test to an equivalent or better standard.

Instructions for your Optician.

Please ask your optician to test or correct your vision to the following standard(s):

Distance Vision Minimum 6/12 both eyes (6/6 desirable). Most vehicle operations.
Minimum 6/7.5 one eye 6/60 in other (6/6 desirable) HGV/PCV

Near Vision Minimum N6 both eyes where possible (VDU/design/office work)
Minimum N5 both eyes where possible (SABRe inspection standard)
Minimum N4 both eyes where possible (PSL/44 inspection standard)

Other Testing Peripheral vision test
Colour Vision test

A copy of this & other documentation can be found from <https://mohs.co.uk/resources> or using the QR code at the top of this page.