Guidelines for External Referrals
to the Ophthalmology Services at Interim LSU Public Hospital

Routine Referrals

A routine referral to the ophthalmology ambulatory clinics at Interim is accepted through the PELICAN system (Interim’s electronic medical record). The referral should include a diagnosis and an indication for the referral. The patient will be triaged according to medical necessity.

A routine referral for a patient who is not an established patient at Interim is made by having the patient go to the Urgent Care Clinic at 2025 Gravier Street, New Orleans, where the health care providers will see the patient and create an electronic referral to the ophthalmology ambulatory clinics.

A routine referral must go through the process described above, and cannot be made by calling the appointment desk.

Emergent and Urgent Referrals

An emergent or urgent referral to the ophthalmology services at Interim is made by calling 504-903-3000, and asking to speak with the ophthalmologist on call (who may be from the LSU Ophthalmology Service or the Tulane Ophthalmology Service). Depending on the results of that discussion, the patient may be asked to go the Emergency Room at Interim LSU Public Hospital at 2021 Perdido Street, New Orleans, or to the Interim LSU Public Hospital Ambulatory Clinic at 1400 Poydras Street, New Orleans.

The logistics of an emergency-room-to-emergency-room transfer is done by the health care providers at the two emergency rooms, and must comply with the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA).

The process described above for an emergent or urgent referral should be used both during and after normal clinic hours.