

DAY 1		27 AUGUST 2026			
TIME	TRACK 1	TRACK 2	TRACK 3	TRACK 4	WORKSHOP
09:00 - 09:55	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: (AI)	PAEDIATRIC VISION	CONTACT LENSES	LOW VISION:	SAFILO WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Ms Martelie Burger</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Tuwani Rasengane</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Enrique Nzula</i>	<i>Chair: Dr Casandra Seethal</i>	
	Teleretina in the primary care setting. Dr Tareq Issam Nabhan	Digital Device use in Children. Dr Glen Steele	The Good, Bad and the Ugly of Scleral lens fitting. Ms Marelize Le Roux & Ms Annelize van Zyl	Matching Patient Goals with Bi-optic Solutions: The Optometrist's Role. Mrs Hazel Sacharowitz	
09:55 - 10:35	TEA BREAK & EXHIBITION				
10:35 - 11:35	RESEARCH (AI)	PAEDIATRIC VISION	CONTACT LENSES	PUBLIC HEALTH	CONTACT LENS WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Ms Martelie Burger</i>	<i>CHAIR: Prof Tuwani Rasengane</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Enrique Nzula</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Thendo Mashudu</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Chris Eksteen</i>
	Innovation in Optometry. Dr Naimah Khan	Visual Examination of the Preschool Child: Foundations for Lifelong Vision. Dr Marietjie Richter	Navigating Contact Lens Complications: Preparing for 2030 and beyond. Ms Dina Bornman	Impact of eyecare health promotion on school communities in the Free State, South Africa. Mr Xolani Nyathela	Basic scleral handling techniques and care regiment. Ms Marelize Le Roux & Ms Annelize van Zyl
11:35 - 12:35	OPENING CEREMONY – HALL 1A				
12:35 - 13:35	LUNCH, EXHIBITION & POSTERS (8)				
13:45 - 14:45	PAPERS: VISION SCIENCE	OCULAR PATHOLOGY	DISPENSING	PUBLIC HEALTH	EssilorLuxottica WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Mr Dollars Boloka</i>	<i>Chair: Dr Naimah Khan</i>	<i>Chair Ms Marna Pieterse</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Thendo Mashudu</i>	
	Inter-examiner reproducibility of subjective refraction. Prof Solani Mathebula	Ocu-Path Challenge from Image to Intervention: Clinical Decision-Making Under Pressure. Prof Nabeela Hasrod	Rethinking Frame Design: Aligning Spectacle Fit with African Facial Anthropometry. Mr Sanele Buthelezi	WHO Specs: An Opportunity Optometry cannot afford to ignore. Prof Kovin Naidoo	
	Ocular biometry of Zulu eyes differs significantly from that of European eyes. Dr Tanya Evans				
	Effect of Menstrual Cycle on Central Corneal Thickness. Ms Seyuri Bisetty & Dr Naimah Khan				

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14:50-15:10	TEA BREAK & EXHIBITION				
15:15 - 16:15	PAPERS: EPIDEMIOLOGY	OCULAR PATHOLOGY	LOW VISION	PEADIATRIC VISION PANEL	DISPENSING WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Dr Raymond Mabaso</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Caroline Berry</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Elmarie Grendele</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Ingrid Metsing</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Marna Pieterse</i>
	<p>The Effect of Vaping on Tear Film Stability Among University Students: A Cross-Sectional Study. Prof Tuwani Rasengane</p> <p>Prevalence and Determinants of Vernal Conjunctivitis. Mr Thendo Mashudu</p> <p>Strengthening Eye and Metabolic Health Evidence in Sub-Saharan Africa. Prof Levi Osuagwu</p>	<p>How to Elevate your Glaucoma Diagnosis and Treatment Effectively. Prof Prithipaul Ramkissoon</p>	<p>Low vision: What should I be doing in a low vision examination and can I really help this patient? Ms Annelize van Zyl</p>	<p>Big considerations for little people. Dr Glen Steele, Dr Casandra Seethal & Dr Naimah Khan</p>	<p>Trouble Shooting in Dispensing – How to Manage the come-back patient. Mr Asenso Prince & Mr Anthony Carlson</p>
16:20 - 17:20	PAPERS: PUBLIC HEALTH	OCULAR PATHOLOGY	LOW VISION	ETHICS	
	<i>Chair: Dr Raymond Mabaso</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Caroline Berry</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Elmarie Grendele</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Ingrid Metsing</i>	
	<p>Readiness of Undergraduate Optometry Students for Sustainable HealthCare: Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices. Dr Rayishnee Pillay</p> <p>Eye Care for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: A Systematic Review. Dr Joas Ramaja</p> <p>Towards Sustainable Clinical Practice: A Decision-making model for Waste Management in Optometry. Dr Rayishnee Pillay</p>	<p>Dry Eye Disease Across Diverse Populations and Challenging Environments: Insights from Saudi Arabia. Prof Waleed Alghamdi</p>	<p>Healthy Eyes, Healthy Life and The World in our Pocket. Ms Karen Denton & Mr Many Moodley</p>	<p>Navigating Medical Malpractice in a Digital Age: Ethics, Risk, and Resilience. Ms Fia Samuels & Ms Noleen Podrouzek</p>	
17:30 - 21:00	Cocktail evening co-sponsored by SAOA & Cooper Vision: (EXHIBITION ARENA)				

DAY 2		28 AUGUST 2026				
TIME	TRACK 1	TRACK 2	TRACK 3	TRACK 4	CAMP SIDE STORY & COMPLIMENTARY STUDENT PRESENTATIONS	WORKSHOP
08:00 - 09:00	BINOCULAR VISION	CONTACT LENSES	NEURO-OPTOMETRY	SPORTS VISION	SAOSA PRESENTATION	MYOPIA MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Prof Solani Mathebula</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Tania Noach</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Leane Cilliers</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Patrick Mawila</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Harry Rosen</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Martelie Burger</i>
	Binocular vision considerations in Myopia. Prof Alvin Munsamy	Managing Contact Lenses in the Paediatric Population. Dr Khaled Alzahrani	Effects of concussion on the visual system. Ms Catherine McCarthy	Visualisation Assessment and Training Among University Football Players. Dr Joas Ramaja		The latest advancements in Binocular Vision and Myopia Management. Ms Ilse Homan
09:00 - 10:00	BINOCULAR VISION	CONTACT LENSES	NEURO-OPTOMETRY	SPORTS VISION	SAOSA PRESENTATION	
	<i>Chair: Prof Solani Mathebula</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Tania Noach</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Leane Cilliers</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Patrick Mawila</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Harry Rosen</i>	
	Investigating an acute symptom of double vision with no history of trauma: A systematic approach to the examination. Dr Nashua Naicker	Contact lens options for managing pediatric myopia. Dr Obinwanne Chukwuemeka	I spy with my pupil: Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). Mr Dharmendra J Bhoola	Promoting Active Lifestyles for Visual Impairment: A Vision Beyond Sight. Ms Linsay Engelbrecht		ACUVUE - 09:30 - 10:30
09:55 - 10:35	TEA BREAK & EXHIBITION					
10:35 - 11:35	PAPERS: SPORTS VISION	MENTAL HEALTH	MYOPIA	DISPENSING	CAMP SIDE STORY	CONTACT LENS WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Mr Quinton Hindricksen</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Sandy Govender</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Martelie Burger</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Prelina Ramkissoon</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Nabeela Hasrod</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Chris Eksteen</i>
	Vision and Sports Science: A Systematic Review. Dr Joas Ramaja	Mental health in African higher education: what data and experiences in Sub Saharan Africa, tell us. Dr Isaura Brito Dos Santos	How Have Animal Models Increased our Understanding of Human Myopia? Prof Mark Bullimore	Progressive lens Dispensing Masterclass. Mr Derek McCarthy	A comparative evaluation of mihindra retinoscopy and contralateral fogging methods with cycloplegic refraction in paediatric	Assessing keratoconus risks and fitting contact lenses in low resource contexts. Prof Vanessa Moodley & Ms Yurisa Naidoo

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					patients. Ms Nimra T Naveed et al	
	Short-Term Effects of Exercise on IOP Among Two South African University Student Athletes. Dr Dimakatso Given Mashala				Communication with Hope: A narrative from community eye health outreach. Ms Andiswa Zulu	
					Growing into Confidence. Ms Lesedi Mphahlele	
					Helping The Child I Once Was. Ms Noxolo Mahlangu	
11:35 - 12:35	PAPERS: POLICY	NEURO OPTOMETRY	MYOPIA MANAGEMENT PANEL DISCUSSION	DISPENSING	CAMP SIDE STORY	CONTAMAC
	Chair: Prof Solani Mathebula	Chair: Ms Leane Cilliers	Chair: Mr Dollars Boloka	Chair: Ms Prelina Ramkissoo	Chair: Ms Lesego Mokoka	
	A Strategic Framework for Vision Screening Standards for Driving in South Africa. Dr Tsholofelo Tamenti	Hidden Chemistries: The Link Between Concussions and Motor Neuron Disease. Mr Dharmendra J Bhoola	Understanding the Myopia Pandemic. Prof Mark Bullimore, Mrs Martelie Burger & Ms Ilse Homan	Dispensing pearls, processes and procedures for vision excellence. Ms Jorina Lombard	Investigating the Accuracy and Agreement of Cyclocladia and Borish Delayed Refraction Test Compared to Cycloplegic Refraction in Myopia and Hyperopia. Ms Fezile Nkosi	
	Health Regulation Policy Shaping the Landscape for Optometry. Ms Yurisa Naidoo				The Campside Story Track. Ms Betty Thobakgale	
					The Optrex Blink test. Ms Kiara Kisten	

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	Low Vision: Family Case Report of Peters Anomaly: Visual Assessment and Individualized Low-Vision Management. Dr Ithar Beshtawi				Through a Different Lens: A Call for Equitable Eye Care in Rural South Africa. Mr Thabiso Chili	
12:35 - 13:35	LUNCH, EXHIBITION & POSTERS (7)					HOYA WORKSHOP
13:35 - 14:45	PAPERS: LOW VISION, CLINICAL OPTOMETRY	CONTACT LENSES	THERAPEUTICS	OCULARISTRY	CONTACT LENS	COOPER VISION
	Chair: Ms Ronel Ducci	Chair: Mr Quinton Hindricksen	Chair: Mr Dollars Boloka	Chair: Mr Harry Rosen	Chair: Dr Naimah Khan	
	Comparative Assessment of Diurnal Variations Across Intraocular Pressure Measurement Devices. Dr Mahwash Khan	Orthokeratology for Myopia, Hyperopia, Astigmatism and Presbyopia. Mr Chris Eksteen	The Evolving Landscape of Glaucoma Management. Dr Sarah Gleason	The Magic of Ocularistry. Ms Gail Altona & Ms Beryl Carvalho	Breaking Barriers: Building Your Specialty Lens Practice with Confidence. Dr Elizabeth Chetty	
	A comparison of Patient – Reported Dry Eye Symptoms Using the Ocular Surface Disease Index (ODSI). Mr Percy Khosa					
14:45 - 15:45	PAPERS: EPIDEMIOLOGY, MENTAL HEALTH	CONTACT LENS PANEL DISCUSSION:	OCULAR THERAPEUTICS	PAEDIATRIC VISION	MYOPIA	BINOCULAR VISION WORKSHOP
	Chair: Ms Ronel Ducci	Chair: Mr Pieter Naude (CLSSA)	Chair: Mr Dollars Boloka	Chair: Prof Tuwani Rasengane	Chair: Dr Naimah Khan	Chair: Ms Martelie Burger 15:00 - 16:00
	Evaluation of the risk of Keratoconus (KC) among secondary school learners in the Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality of Gauteng Province, South Africa. Ms Lebohang Ntlabathi	The Future of Contact Lenses. Dr Khaled Alzahrani, Dr Obinwanne Chukwumeka, Dr Elizabeth Chetty & Prof Vanessa Moodley	Beneath The Surface: Branded Versus Generic Ophthalmic Drugs. Mr Dharmendra J Bhoola	Small Means, Big Impact: Advancing Paediatric Vision and Eye Health in South Africa. Dr Casandra Seethal	Myopia Management: What I know now, that wish I'd known then. Prof Mark Bullimore	Binocular vision made simple. Prof Alvin Munsamy
	The Association between Cataract and Visual Function in Elderly Patients in Limpopo, South Africa. Mr Moshe Makombela					

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	Optometry Students' Mental Health: Investigating the Links Between Anxiety, Depression, and Key Variables. Dr Velibanti Sukati					
16:00 - 17:00	PAPERS: SPECIAL INTEREST PAPERS: CONTACT LENSES, PAEDS	OCULAR PATHOLOGY	ETHICS	PAEDIATRIC VISION	CAMP SIDE STORY	VISUAL OPTIC SCIENCE WORKSHOP
	Chair: Prof Solani Mathebula	Chair: Ms Ntombi Zitha	Chair: Mr Harry Rosen	Chair: Ms Tania Noach	Chair: Prof Paul Ramkissoo	Chair: Prof Nabeela Hasrod
	Contact Lenses: South African Optometrists' Contact Lenses Prescribing Practices. Ms Woanda Tshidino	Maximizing Dry Eye Diagnosis and Management Using Everyday Clinical Techniques. Prof Waleed Alghamdi	To Follow or Not to Follow? The Ethical Imperative of Clinical Guidelines in Optometry. Dr Ansunel de la Rey & Ms Yurisa Naidoo	Fetal alcohol syndrome and its effects on the visual system of children. Prof Ingrid Metsing	Medical Gaslighting- Who is affected, and how to avoid it. Dr Carel Masemola	From laboratories to the real world: the China Eye Valley model. Prof Yi Gao
	Paediatric Vision: Exploring the Management modalities for the pediatric population presenting with binocular vision anomalies in public health care facilities in Limpopo South Africa. Ms Ennie Maribeng				Strengthening human resources to achieve who's 2030 refractive error targets in South Africa. Prof Tuwani Rasengane & Dr Haseena Majid	
	Paediatric Vision: Development of a Children's Visual Function Quality of Life (CVF-QoL) Instrument for Rural School-Going Children with Visual Impairments Within a South African Context: Item Generation and Validation. Dr TSS Magakwe				Assessing knowledge and perceptions of South African optometrists on the National Health Insurance. Dr Zamadonda Xulu-Kasaba, Ms Zoe Dhawraj & Ms Thobeka Mathenjwa	
18:30 - 19:00	SAOA GALA DINNER: HALL 1 A					

DAY 3			29 AUGUST 2026			
TIME	TRACK 1	TRACK 2	TRACK 3	TRACK 4	CAMP SIDE STORY	WORKSHOP
08:00 - 09:00	PAPERS: OCULAR PATHOLOGY/ THERAPEUTICS, AI (Emerging Technologies)	OCULAR PATHOLOGY	VISION SCIENCE	PAEDIATRIC VISION	CAMP SIDE STORY	MYOPIA MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Prof Ingrid Metsing</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Tshepo Malatji</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Nabeela Hasrod</i>	<i>Chair: Dr Casandra Seethal</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Nivien Subramany</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Dharmendra J Bhoola</i>
	<p>Ocular Pathology</p> <p>Great Clinical Pearls of Ocular Therapeutics Cases. Prof Prithipaul Ramkissoon</p> <p>Recent Advances in Corneal Cross Linking. Ms Ayesha Suliman</p> <p>Meibomian Gland Dysfunction: An Ocular Surface Profile in Keratoconic Patients Attending an Eye Clinic in Johannesburg. Mr Adam Choma</p> <p>AI (Emerging Technologies)</p> <p>Exploring the Integration of Augmented Reality in Optometric Practice. Ms Seyuri Bisetty</p>	<p>The future of vision science: Innovation, Technology and Patient Care. Dr Adeline Yang</p>	<p>Seeing through Autistic Eyes. Mr Abdurazaak Abdol</p>	<p>Loving optometry still in 2026. Ms Leane Cilliers</p> <p>Evaluation of the JENVIS Pro Dry Eye Report as a Diagnostic Tool for Dry Eye Disease in a University Clinic. Ms Tebatso Tsotetsi</p> <p>Reimagining Access to Eye Care Delivery in SA: Lessons from the Atlantis Eye Care Project. Mr Frederik Jansen</p> <p>Access to eyecare in rural South Africa: Bridging the gap with mobile clinics. Ms Kirthi Rewasankar</p>	<p>Myopia Management: how do I know it's working? Prof Mark Bullimore</p>	
09:00 - 09:55	PAPERS: EPIDEMIOLOGY	AI TECHNOLOGY	VISION SCIENCE	PAEDIATRIC VISION	CAMP SIDE STORY	PEADIATRIC WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Dr Raymond Mabaso</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Tshepo Malatji</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Nabeela Hasrod</i>	<i>Chair: Dr Casandra Seethal</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Enrique Nzula</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Quinton Hindricksen</i>

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	Determinants of Eye Care Seeking Behaviour Among Grade 8 - 12 Learners in Giyani, South Africa. Mr Justice Mulungwa	AI for an Eye. Dr Tareq Issam Nabhan	Are visual perception and visual functions affected in myopic populations? Prof Yi Gao	It's Not Rare If It's in Your Chair: Clinical Recognition of Genetic Disorders in Optometric Practice. Dr Ansunel De La Rey & Ms Chantelle Brits	I can't read through these new glasses. Prof Prithipaul Ramkissoon	Just Look Retinoscopy and Child Development. Dr Glen Steele
	Barriers to the accessibility of Eye and Vision Care Services in Gqeberha, Eastern Cape. Ms Anche Oosthuizen				Traumatic Thrills: The Impact of G Forces on Vision. Mr Dharmendra J Bhoola	
	A retrospective Analysis of the Prevalence of Non Strabismic Binocular Vision Anomalies Among University Students: A cross-sectional study. Mr Justice Mulungwa				Scoliosis - Go Left, to go Right. Mr Abdurazaak Abdol	
					A Whole New World in Sight: Restoring Lives with Scleral Lenses—Reflections from the Camp side. Ms Dina Bornman	
09:55 - 10:15	TEA BREAK & EXHIBITION					
10:15 - 11:15	OCULAR PATHOLOGY	PUBLIC HEALTH	ETHICS	DISPENSING		OCULAR THERAPEUTICS WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Dr Naimah Khan</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Ntombi Zitha</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Jenny Gopal</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Martelie Burger</i>		<i>Chair: Prof Paul Ramkissoon</i>
	DEWS III - Key changes to diagnosing Dry Eye Disease. Ms Marilize le Roux	Humanitarian values in Optometry. Dr Tariq Issam Nabhan	Ethical Quagmires with 2030 In Sight. Mr Harry Rosen	Through the looking glass. Mrs Prelina Ramkissoon		Clinical Decision-Making in Glaucoma: Interactive Case-Based Workshop. Dr Sarah Gleason
11:15- 12:15	OCULAR PATHOLOGY:	LOW VISION	ETHICS	DISPENSING PANEL DISCUSSION		EUROTECH
	<i>Chair: Dr Naimah Khan</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Ntombi Zitha</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Jenny Gopal</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Marna Pieterse</i>		
	Leukocoria- All white pupils are not due to cataract. Dr Mologadi Ntsoane	Clinical Pearls of Low Vision. Ms Hazel Sacharowitz	A Whole New World: An ethical Perspective. Dr Pheagane Nkoana	Optical Dispensing: The art and the science. Mr Anthony Carlson, Mrs Prelina Ramkissoon, Mr Asenso Prince & Ms Angelique Walbrugh		



A WHOLE NEW WORLD
WITH 2030 IN SIGHT

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12:30 - 13:30	CLOSING CEREMONY: EXHIBITION ARENA
13:30 - 14:30	LUNCH, EXHIBITION & POSTERS (4)



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POSTER PRESENTATIONS		
Day 1 – 27 August 2026		
Knowledge and practices of South African optometrists regarding childhood myopia management	Ms Shivani Naipal	MYOPIA MANAGEMENT
Eye safety practices and knowledge of occupational hazards among workers in selected quarry mines, Limpopo province, South Africa.	Ms Thudzelani Mukwevho	OCCUPATIONAL OPTOMETRY
Myopia Control Awareness and Practices of Optometrists in Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa	Dr Urvashni Nirghin	MYOPIA MANAGEMENT
Normative Interpupillary Distance Measurements Among Different Ethnic Groups in Witbank, Mpumalanga	Ms Bevily Nukeri	OTHER
Preference in usage of spectacles and low vision devices by visually impaired students at the University of Limpopo	Ms Gloria Ramonyai	LOW VISION
Prevalence of refractive error Among Children presenting at selected private optometry practices in Witbank, Mpumalanga	Ms Bevily Nukeri	PEADIATRIC VISION
Ready-made readers vs CR-39: A study of refractive index, clarity, and scratch resistance	Ms Mieke Vermeulen	RESEARCH
Lead time of optometry services in selected public hospitals in rural South Africa	Ms Mapula Precious Rapao	PUBLIC HEALTH
Day 2- 28 August 2026		
Primary Challenges Facing Optometrists Today	Mr Henry Alexander	OTHER
Profile of ocular conditions for patients presenting at selected public eye care facilities in the uMgungundlovu district, KwaZulu-Natal, South African ocular conditions	Ms Rorisang Mosololi	PUBLIC HEALTH
Protocol Overview of a Controlled Clinical Trial Evaluating the Efficacy of Myopia Control Lenses in African Children	Ms Asiphe Tobotshane	MYOPIA MANAGEMENT
Retinal nerve fibre layer thickness of male rugby players at the University of the Free State	Ms Siddeeqa Jhetam	SPORTS VISION
Tearfilm viscosity, lipid layer colour interference patterns and their association to tearfilm integrity in patients at university clinic	Ms Patience Maleta	CONTACT LENSES
Vision-Specific Tools for the Assessment of Health-Related Quality of Life (HR-QoL) in Children and Adolescents with Visual Impairment: A Scoping Review	Dr T Sello Simon Magakwe	RESEARCH
Knowledge, attitude and perception of dry eye among students of the University of Benin	Mr Oghenekume Oghenetega	PUBLIC HEALTH
Day 3- 29 August 2026		
Viewing distance of smartphone users: a comparison between sitting and standing postures	Dr Nishanee Rampersad	OTHER
Integrating Private Optometry with Community Screening: A Cross-Sectional Study of Eye Care Access Amongst SASSA Pensioners in Atlantis	Mr Frederik Jansen	PUBLIC HEALTH
An evaluation of peripapillary choroidal vascularity index and choroidal thickness in low to moderate myopia	Dr Lungile Buthelezi	RESEARCH
The visual acuity, refractive error and stereopsis in children with mild and moderate intellectual disabilities in the Capricorn District Municipality, Limpopo Province	Ms Lorato Segwati	PEADIATRIC VISION