For the attention of: all practitioners who refer patients to Bath Royal United Hospital (RUH) eye department as emergency or urgent,

You will now be aware that RUH have taken the decision to turn off their fax machine. As such all referrals for medical retina and emergency appointments should be emailed to RUH via the following email address:

ruh-tr.emergencyeyeclinic@nhs.net

You should be using a nhs.net email account to send making the communication secure. Any other communication is not secure and risks GDPR consequences for you even with consent.
I have an alternative however, anyone who has not completed the below link and got a nhs.net email account must let me have **1 official email account for their practice**. (my email is at the bottom of this note)
I can then arrange for the RUH to send an email to you with the term [secure] in the subject. This forms a secure encrypted pathway between that email account and the RUH.
Please **save this email reply from RUH** and keep it to reply for any referrals that you need to make - thus keeping the secure link.

Some key points:

Please make the referral as an attachment that is printable to the email - ideally pdf but word can also work. Make sure that it's on headed paper or with the practice details clearly visible at the top of the referral.
I know this is not possible for Specsavers stores without a scanner - there is an internal solution being sought but in the meantime please emphasise the practice name in the body of your email with *** to highlight.

Links:
For a nhs.net email account application:
https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/info-professional/eye-health/south-west/

About 1/3 down the page is the application form. The IG toolkit they refer to is out of date and you would need to do the below….

The data governance site for having a nhs.net email account - this needs to be completed by March 2019 and will take a bit of time but is the future so please do action this.

Data Security & Protection Toolkit (DSP Toolkit)

Best wishes,

Amar Shah
Chair Avon LOC
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