**Eye Condition Snippet**

**Condition Name:** CHARGE syndrome

**Description:** A syndrome is when a number of different conditions are always seen together. CHARGE is sporadic which means it occurs by chance. Each letter of CHARGE stands for the condition or body part affected. Coloboma (A notch like cleft is present in the developing eye) – Heart – Atresia choanae (parts of the nose don’t develop) – Retarded growth and development – Genital abnormalities – Ears (hearing impairment). With colobama parts of the eye do not fully develop, depending on how far back it goes this can affect the eye lid, iris, lens, retina or optic nerve. Associated conditions include nystagmus (fine wobble of the eyes), microphthalmia, cataracts’ and glaucoma.

**Effects on Vision:** Depends if both eyes are affected (colobomata), where one eye has fully formed the student will function well and have monocular vision. Where the coloboma is deep and has reached the retina and optic nerve vision may be poor and there will be visual field loss and reduced acuity. The student will very often be short sighted and require glasses.

**Educational implications:** Student may have visual field loss and would need to be positioned in the classroom to take advantage of better eye where one eye is affected. High contrast and adaptations for low vision including low vision aids and large print may be required. It is likely the student will have a dual sensory loss and if this is the case would need advice from a teacher for Deaf blind.