**Eye Condition Snippet**

**Condition Name:** Refractive Error

**Description:** The curvature of the cornea and the lens determine their power, for normal sight the power of the cornea and lens are matched exactly with the length of the eye ball. It is a mismatch between these two factors, the optical power and the length of the eye which cause Myopia (short sight) and long sight (Hypermetropia). If the eye is too long or too short then the image is not focused properly on the retina and appears blurred. Other refractive errors include Astigmatism where the eyeball curvature is irregular, more the shape of a rugby ball.

See Snippet for Myopia or Hyperopia or Astigmatism

**Effects on Vision:** A person with short sight sees things better close up, and with long sight the focusing power is weak as the eyeball is relatively short so objects farther away can be seen more clearly. Refractive errors can usually be corrected with prescription glasses.

**Educational implications:** Early diagnosis and correction of refractive errors is very important in young children as a blurred image on the developing retina causes ambliopia (lazy eye). Encourage the child to wear their glasses, and give them a variety of tasks to do, very often when the child is engaged in a favored activity then they will forget about the glasses.