

Q.REC Indicators

The Q.REC indicator(s) are used to compare the dispensed spectacles from optical services to the USP's baseline prescription.

Q.REC indicator 1: Optimally prescribed spectacles

Q.REC Indicator 1 is the key primary outcome for this study. It has been demonstrated that when glasses pass this indicator that USPs have significantly better vision and comfort compared to glasses that do not pass this indicator.⁵ This shows us the quality of refractive error care and information to plan and monitor optical services.

Q.REC Indicator 1 criteria

Spectacle component	Tolerance limits compared to averaged baseline prescription
Spherical power	± 0.50 dioptre
Cylindrical power	± 0.50 dioptre
Cylindrical axis (if baseline cylindrical power ≥ 0.12 DC and ≤ 0.25 DC)	± 16 degrees
Cylindrical axis (if baseline cylindrical power > 0.25 DC and ≤ 0.50 DC)	± 9 degrees
Cylindrical axis (if baseline cylindrical power > 0.50 DC - ≤ 0.75 DC)	± 6 degrees
Cylindrical axis (if baseline cylindrical power > 0.75 DC and ≤ 1.50 DC)	± 4 degrees
Cylindrical axis (if baseline cylindrical power > 1.50 DC and ≤ 2.50 DC)	± 3 degrees
Cylindrical axis (if baseline cylindrical power > 2.50 DC)	± 2 degrees
Horizontal prism (total)	< 1 prism dioptre (in/out direction)
Vertical prism (total)	< 0.50 prism dioptre (up/down direction)

Q.REC indicator 2: Adequately prescribed spectacles

For settings where sphero-cylindrical lenses are rarely prescribed or available, Q.REC indicator 2 can be used as the primary outcome that shows the quality of refractive error care. Similarly, it can help with planning and monitoring optical services, however it is not as accurate as Q.REC indicator 1. For projects that use Q.REC indicator 1 as the primary outcome, Q.REC indicator 2 can be a secondary outcome or not used at all.

Q.REC Indicator 2 criteria

Spectacle component	Tolerance limits compared to the baseline prescription
Spherical equivalent power	± 0.50 dioptre
Horizontal prism (total)	< 1 prism dioptre (in/out direction)
Vertical prism (total)	< 0.50 prism dioptre (up/down direction)