

# Vision Australia and Australian College of Optometry open clinic

Vision Australia and the Australian College of Optometry launched a new clinic on 10 October (World Sight Day) that will provide a full service facility for low-vision patients.

The clinic is located on the corner of Keppel and Cardigan Streets in Carlton, an inner suburb of Melbourne.

"Vision Australia is pleased to be working in partnership with the Australian College of Optometry to provide this enhanced level of

service to Australians who are experiencing vision loss," Mr Chris Edwards, national manager of program development at Vision Australia, said.

"Patients will benefit from optometric advice from the ACO as well as advice and support from VA to help them develop the skills to remain independent despite vision loss."

The clinic, which will be located at the ACO's premises in Carlton, will provide diagnosis and treatment of chronic conditions with

optometry and occupational therapy professionals on site.

"The new venture provides a very important opportunity for the ACO and VA to develop state-of-the-art low-vision services for the residents of Melbourne," Mr Jonathan Jackson, head of clinical services at the ACO, said.

VA says it combines combines the skills and resources of seven leading blindness organisations to create one national voice and is committed to delivering "exceptional and

efficient services that open up exciting possibilities for our community".

According to the ACO, it leads clinical best practice and educates the optometry profession; delivers public health eye for those most in need; teaches optometry students and supervises research and higher degrees; and undertakes research in the National Vision Research Institute of Australia to improve understanding of vision and the diseases and disorders that impact on vision. ■