

**DETERMINANTS OF SEEKING EYE CARE SERVICES AMONG
GRADES 8 TO 12 LEARNERS IN GIYANI, SOUTH AFRICA**

By

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STUDENT NO 115756721

**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTERS IN PUBLIC HEALTH AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF VENDA**

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2016

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ABSTRACT

The world faces a high burden of eye problems as a result of refractive errors namely myopia, hyperopia, and astigmatism. It has been estimated that 2.3 billion people worldwide have refractive errors and only 1.8 billion have access to eye examination leaving 500 million persons unattended. The use of eye care interventions where they are available is influenced by multiple and inter-related social, demographic and cultural factors. The aim of this study was to identify the determinants of seeking eye care services among grades 8 to 12 learners in Giyani, South Africa. The study was descriptive. The target population for this study was parents of the learners from grades 8 to grade 12 from the two randomly selected secondary schools in Greater Giyani. A questionnaire was distributed to the parents to collect information. The analysis was descriptive, and it was done with the use of SPSS. The study found that the level of knowledge about eye care among the parents of the children was reasonable, but their eye care seeking behavior was poor.