

**Table 5 Roles of primary, secondary and tertiary level facilities for eye care**

Type	Tasks/role
Centre of excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dedicated specialized eye care services for complicated and referred cases</li><li>• Training in general ophthalmology for ophthalmologists and medical graduates</li><li>• Subspecialty training in the areas of vitreo-retina, paediatric ophthalmology, cornea, glaucoma and community eye health</li><li>• Training for allied health personnel especially in ophthalmic services</li><li>• Coordination, facilitation and management of developing eye health services in the respective province and zones</li><li>• Lead on research/situation analysis of eye health, and advocacy for health system strengthening as part of sustainable development</li><li>• Serve as Master trainers for CME, and eye health component of primary health care, school health programmes and pilot initiatives</li></ul>
Teaching hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dedicated specialized eye care services for complicated and referred cases</li><li>• Training in general ophthalmology for ophthalmologists and medical graduates</li><li>• Training of allied health personnel in ophthalmic services</li><li>• Facilitation to Centre of Excellence in developing eye health services, advocacy and research</li><li>• Support linkages development with district and subdistrict hospitals for referrals and medical education</li></ul>
DHQ/civil hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dedicated eye care unit with an ophthalmologist and two or three ophthalmic assistants</li><li>• Diagnosis and treatment of common eye diseases</li><li>• Receiving referrals from basic health units/rural health centres and THQ hospitals for treatment, and referring the complicated cases to tertiary units</li><li>• Serve as trainer/technical expert for school eye health programmes in refractive errors and early detection of eye problems</li></ul>
THQ/subdistrict hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dedicate eye care unit to be established where staff is available</li><li>• Diagnosis and treatment of common eye diseases</li><li>• Receiving referrals from basic health units/rural health centres for treatment, and referring the complicated cases to DHQ hospitals or tertiary units</li></ul>
Rural health centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dedicated vision screening and assessment</li><li>• Provision of eye health promotion as part of primary health care</li><li>• Early detection and identification of priority blinding conditions</li><li>• Referrals of the cases to THQ/DHQ hospitals for prescription and treatment</li><li>• Support in school eye health programmes especially for refractive errors</li></ul>
Basic health unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provision of eye health promotion as part of primary health care</li><li>• Early detection and identification of priority blinding conditions</li><li>• Referrals of the cases to rural health centre for vision screening and THQ/DHQ hospitals for prescription and treatments</li><li>• Support in school eye health programmes especially refractive errors</li></ul>

CME = continuing medical education; DHQ = district headquarter; THQ = tehsil/taluka headquarter.