

# Optometry and eye-care in Scotland



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CROATIA

BOSNIA & HER.

SERBIA

BULGARIA

MONTENEGRO

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GREECE

TURKEY

SYRIA

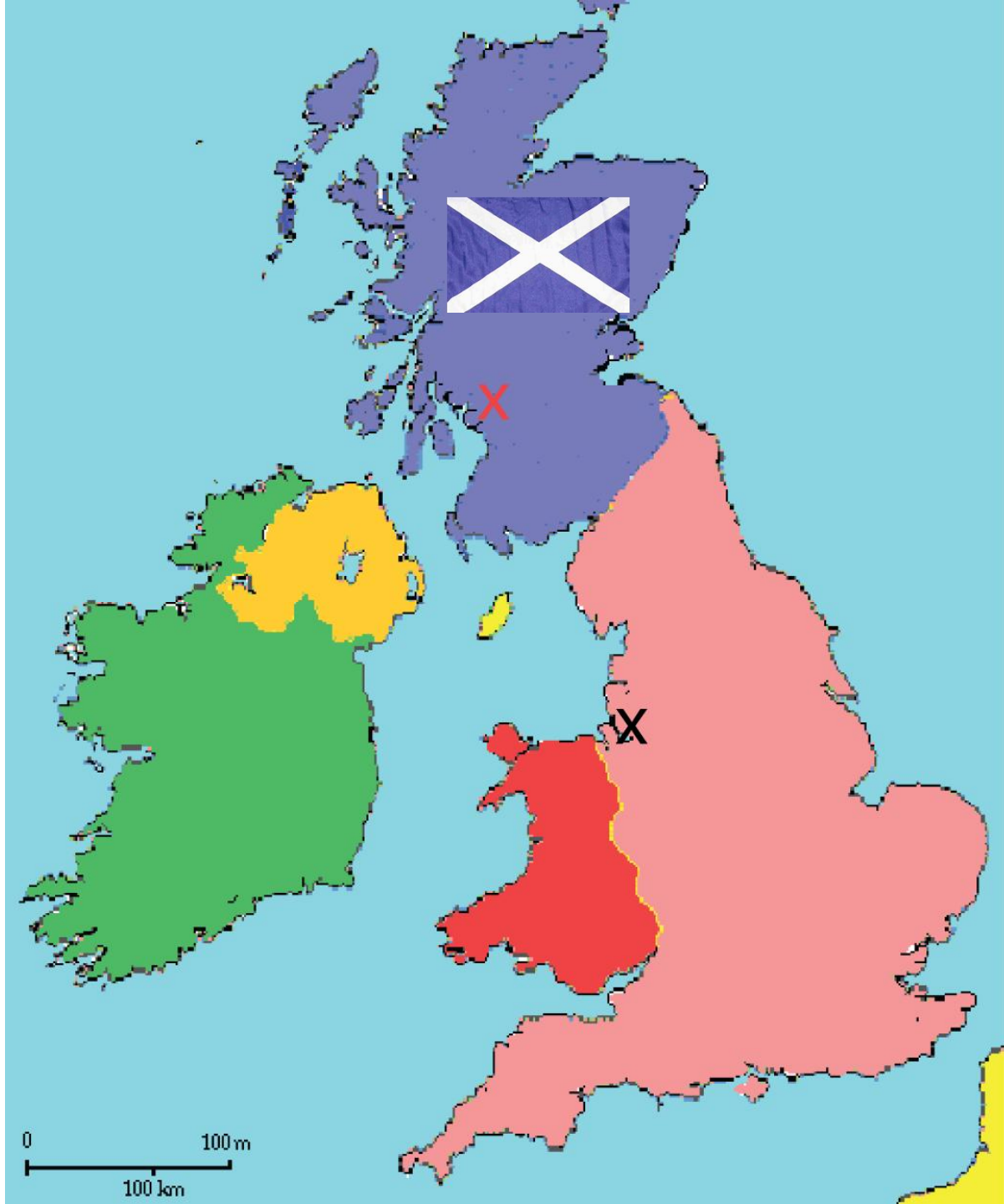
IRAQ

MOROCCO

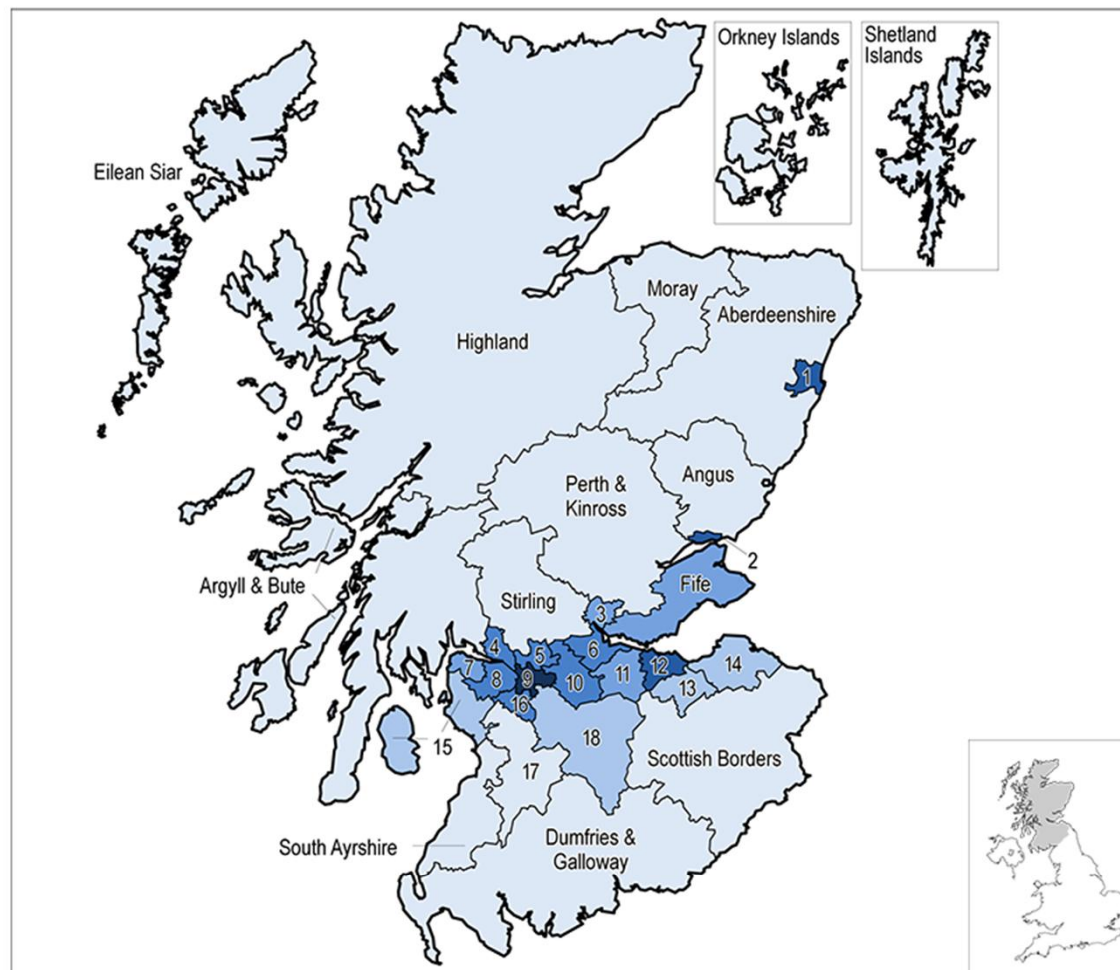
ALGERIA

TUNESIA

SAUDI ARABIA

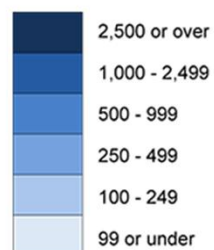


## Scotland population density: by council area, 2010



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Population density, 2010  
(people per sq km)



1 Aberdeen City	10 North Lanarkshire
2 Dundee City	11 West Lothian
3 Clackmannanshire	12 City of Edinburgh
4 West Dunbartonshire	13 Midlothian
5 East Dunbartonshire	14 East Lothian
6 Falkirk	15 North Ayrshire
7 Inverclyde	16 East Renfrewshire
8 Renfrewshire	17 East Ayrshire
9 Glasgow City	18 South Lanarkshire







## Optometry and eyecare in Scotland

1970's UK-wide mode of practice very similar to Finland?

- “lip service” to more

All UK healthcare tax-funded

- National Health Service

Now

- Scotland separate to rest of UK
  - Spectacles expensive?
  - Optometric responsibilities higher
  - NHS pay (approx) 50€ for optometric eye examination
  - 20€ for “supplementary” examination



## Ophthalmology

- Very few

## Optometry (GCU)

- Refraction, dispensing, orthoptics, diagnosis, some treatment
  - Rapidly expanding into therapeutic prescribing
  - Full medical codex
  - 20% of optometrists by 2015?
- Shared care in/ with HES

Rest of UK optometrists must pass extra exams to practice in Scotland

## Orthoptics (GCU)

- Binocular vision
- Stroke recovery
- Shared care in HES, taking on similar role to optometry

## Ophthalmic dispensing (GCU/ distance learning)

- Management and supply of spectacles
- Future role?
- Development being obstructed?

## Optical assistants (NES/distance learning)

- No formal training for most
- Reception, supply of spectacles

## Eyecare assistants (GCU)

- Role not yet fully established
- Early exit level from degree programmes
- Using ophthalmic dispensing to enter another area at a lower level
  - E.g. "orthoptic assistant", "clinical vision scientist(?)"

## Clinical vision scientist

- New profession – only 1 in Scotland
- Generalist and specialist
- Only 1 currently registered in UK (I think)
- Formal clinical scientist training starting next year? (GCU only)

## Minimum eye examination in Scotland

- Full medical history
  - Will have access to full medical records within 2 years
- Refraction & binocular vision
- Stereopsis & colour vision (children)
- Slit lamp exam
- Dilate over 60
- Volk indirect ophthalmoscopy
- Visual fields, repeat later date
- Tonometry (contact of over 21), repeat later date
- Retinal photography (over 60)
- Soon? Gonioscopy & pachymetry when appropriate