

## PROOF OF CONCEPT COMPLETED

The SCONe retinal image repository now contains over 330,000 images from over 30,000 patients.

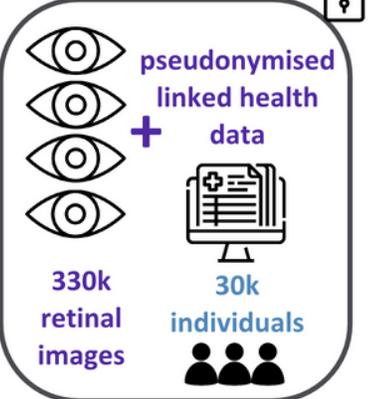
**Data Linkage:** Patient details obtained from practices were used to link each image to their unique identifier (CHI) inside the Public Health Scotland National Safe Haven. No clinical information was copied from practice, and practice patient information was deleted after CHI linkage.

**SCONe is now one of the world's largest community acquired retinal image repositories.** Within the Safe Haven images were linked to general ophthalmic & hospital in-patient datasets allowing us to identify people with diseases such as macula degeneration and glaucoma. Crucially, because they were gathered from community optometry practices, SCONe contains images before and after diagnosis – this is the key to facilitate research which predicts disease before clinical signs.

Disease prediction work using SCONe is now underway. Among the 2,231 patients in the current cohort with a diagnosis of macular degeneration in their linked data, SCONe holds 2,595 image pairs captured before their first diagnosis and 9,653 captured after. For the 2,776 people with a glaucoma diagnosis we have 11,303 image pairs captured before and 10,052 after.

Through ongoing, active engagement with the optometry community in Scotland, we aim to develop this repository further to represent the Scottish adult population and support a wide range of research which will benefit the health and wellbeing of the whole population.

PHS National Safe Haven 





## SCONE PROGRESS UPDATE

In 2023, we visited 15 optometry practices and collected retinal images from across 6 health boards.

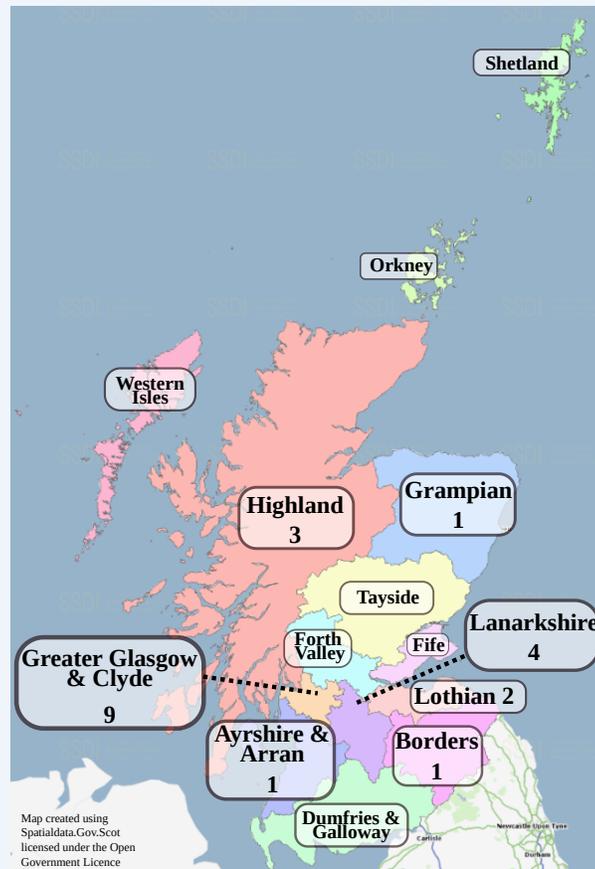
This brings our project total to 22 practices across 8 health boards.

A big thank you to everyone involved so far.

Our project is **Scotland-wide** so we are **keen to expand** to health boards that we haven't covered yet.

If you would like to get involved, please click the link below to **fill out our simple online form** and a member of the SCONE team will be in touch. Alternatively, you can email us at [scone@ed.ac.uk](mailto:scone@ed.ac.uk).

[Click HERE to register with SCONE](#)



# EYECARE

## EVENT - EYECARE GLASGOW

SCONE team members will be attending the Eyecare Glasgow Conference this month.

Visit us and find out how to unlock the potential of the retinal images captured in your optometry practice.

### Details:

21 - 22 January  
Hilton Hotel, Glasgow

[Click HERE for event details](#)



## SCONE SECURES NEURii FUNDING

SCONE has secured an initial £1M of funding from NEURii, a collaboration aiming to transform dementia care using Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning. The University of Edinburgh is a partner in the collaboration, along with Eisai, Gates Ventures, Health Data Research UK (HDR UK) and LifeArc.

[Click HERE to read about NEURii](#)

