Supporting the development of the contact lens market

ACLM Statistics for 2011

For immediate release

The size of the United Kingdom (UK) contact lens market in 2011 was £231.1 million as reported by the Association of Contact Lens Manufacturers (ACLM). This represents an increase of 2% from 2010.

The market was made up of the sale of over 583 million contact lenses. Market value comprised daily disposables (58%), soft frequent replacement lenses (8%), silicone hydrogels (28%), soft traditional lenses (2%) and rigid lenses (5%).

The number of people using silicone hydrogel lenses has increased by 10% in the last 12 months with these lenses now worn by 1.3 million people. In total there are 3.7 million contact lens wearers in the UK which represents 7.5% of the adult population.

Technological developments continue to come on-stream, making contact lenses more suitable than ever for presbyopes. Even in these economically challenging times their popularity with wearers remains strong and they offer the best opportunity for business growth to eye care practitioners. Contact lens wearers invariably remain loyal to their practitioner for aftercare.

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