

Subject: Therapeutic registration  
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I feel that Therapeutic endorsement is a good idea for any people seeking new registration wether internally via optometry schools or from overseas. I do not believe currently registered Optoms within Australia should be required to achieve such endorsement however.

- 1) It is not practical to try and get endorsement for the more than 3000 optoms currently not endorsed.
- 2) Many Optoms may not be in a position to be able to afford the time and cost to seek therapeutic endorsement.
- 3) Natural attrition will eventually mean that the current 2 tiered system will eventually become a single tiered system and so eventually there will be no need for forced endorsement.
- 4) Requiring all currently registered Optoms to seek endorsement could cause the early retirement of a significant proportion of the optometric workforce and this would leave the Australian public in a very dire position. It would also cause significantly greater strain on the current workforce.

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