

Subject: Registration
Date: Saturday, 5 February 2011 5:30:24 PM

To whom it may concern,

I wish to state my objection to the proposal that therapeutic accreditation be necessary for future registration.

As a practitioner that has been in private practice for 27 years and has always made the effort to keep up to date with the trends and developments and continuing education requirements I feel adequately qualified to be in the front line of eye health care and treatment.

Whilst not opposed to the idea of gaining increased knowledge and skills I would question whether this needs to be mandatory in the case of therapeutics.

I don't believe, in most cases, that the public interest is best served. As I have done for almost 3 decades, I can always refer to the appropriate practitioner or GP or ophthalmologist any condition which I feel the care of the patient may be better served by.

Plus the logistics of trying to get 80% of the optometric work force accredited will be immense. There are cost and time out of the practice issues to be considered, not to mention that a large proportion of people are likely to fail to meet the criteria.

I trust that the Registration Board will make a sensible and considered decision.

Sincerely,

Bernard Starfield