

**Subject:** Therapeutics Requirement for Registration  
**Date:** Friday, 4 February 2011 1:19:15 AM

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To the Optometry Board,

I wish to voice my views regarding therapeutics requirement for registration. I think it is a great thing for our profession that optometrists are able to be involved in the treatment of certain ocular diseases, however, I DO NOT support the proposal that therapeutic qualification should be a requirement for practice as an optometrist in Australia.

I gained my qualifications almost 15 years ago and have been working as an optometrist only 2 days a week for the last 4 years. I love my work but do not plan to work full time as an optometrist. Gaining the qualifications for therapeutics would be a burden and I would have to reconsider my future as an optometrist - it is a profession that I enjoy and I do not want to give it up entirely.

In time all optometrists will have therapeutics training. For now, those without will just do what is in their capacity. All overseas optometrists coming in after 2014 should have therapeutics training so that you don't get anymore new optometrists without training, that way, everyone will have the same qualifications in due course.

Please take on board my views when you make this important decision.

Regards,