

Subject: therapeutics/registration
Date: Saturday, 5 February 2011 8:17:30 PM

To the Board,

re: the proposal to make therapeutics qualification a requirement for general registration.

I believe this proposal will unfairly penalise those of us who have not received training in therapeutics - which was not a requirement when I studied optometry.

The absence of therapeutics training does not make me an incompetent optometrist.

I note that some optometrists practice Behavioural optometry and yet the board has not felt it necessary to make a qualification in Behavioural optometry a requirement for general registration. I do not understand why therapeutics should be such a critical issue.

If the Board wishes to differentiate between those who are qualified to prescribe drugs and those who are not, I would suggest that those trained and qualified to prescribe be given a 'therapeutics registration number', in addition to the standard optometrist registration number. The therapeutics registration number could be used on prescriptions.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Lee