

Subject: OT
Date: Friday, 4 March 2011 10:01:45 AM

Optometrists should be able to continue to practise as they do now. If they are not therapeutically endorsed, that can be so stated on their registration. Compulsion is a dangerous tool often employed with unexpected consequences. The relationship between the qualifications standard of new graduates and the 'maintenance of clarity, consistency and equity' (quoted from your letter) is curious. When has a university course ever been designed around the parameters of clarity, consistency and equity?

re: the specific questions posed

1. The public benefit is doubtful in built up areas where most of the population reside due fast access to medical services
 2. I presume this is directed at older optometrists because new graduates will be OT endorsed. And so No it is not reasonable.
 3. Again, I presume you are referring to older optometrists. The answer is No
 4. I do not believe in a time limit for registrations. I find it interesting to note that many new graduates take years to learn the skills of RGP C/L fitting, vision therapy, diagnosing convergence weakness, low fusional reserves. This example proves that the concept of time limits is a poor conception.
 5. Pass OCANZ then gain registration like non OT endorsed experiences Australian optometrists.
 6. No. Voluntary is best. Compulsion brings unexpected outcomes
 7. Currently, courses in W.A for OT are few and far between, are over subscribed, expensive and require huge amount of personal time.
- Laurence Elliott B.Sc B.Optom