

Subject: calvin murray
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TO THE BOARD

16February 2011

In response to the Boards request to respond to 7 questions in particular;

1. There is minimal public benefit in requiring all optometrists to have therapeutics.
Only the occasional patient requires therapeutics and there are plenty of people to refer to.
2. It is unreasonable to make optometrists do it. Some don't want to do it and are still good optometrists.
Nowadays many practices are struggling so the financial outlay is a problem.
For optometrists on wages it is unfair they have to pay.
There is no Medicare gain if you do it.
3. At this stage therapeutics should not be a requirement for practice.
4. If there is a period of grace it should be 20 years so we have a gradual transition.
5. Overseas trained optometrists should only be therapeutic if they qualify from 2014 in line with Australian graduates.
6. No
7. A fair percentage of optometrists do not want to do it.
There is nothing wrong with referring. Doctors do it every day.

Otherwise 2 tiers is a simple solution.

Calvin Murray