
Subject: therapeutics
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As a 58 year old behavioural optometrist practicing in a rural area , I can see the value of my boss having therapeutics endorsement but not in having it myself . The emphasis on therapeutics means less emphasis on tending to the traditional basis to optometry which is providing clear, comfortable binocular vision at all distances for our patients.

For example today I tested an 11 year old boy who has been tested several times in his school career but no one else has prescribed to help overcome his intermittent esotropia. He has experienced reading difficulties , intermittent blurred vision, loss of place when reading and now headaches but has only been told you have a lazy eye but offered no assistance to overcome this.

I only work part-time but I provide a valuable service to my community. If I was coerced to study therapeutics i would retire instead and my community would be the poorer. I realize this is not the intention of the current review but I am disturbed by the lack of attention to basic visual skills in some optometric practices. regards Carol Bartlett