In response to the request for comments:

1) Yes, there are public benefits for optometrists to be eligible for therapeutic endorsement, BUT may not necessary be ALL optometrists. Just like there are subspecialty in other health professions that are specialised by a small number. Not only it saves time, but it creates a trust in the profession hence resulting in an effective management of the condition.

2) It is a reasonable expectation of optometrists since we are the primary eyecare providers. There are practitioners that are not primary eyecare providers but able to prescribe.

3) It will raise the standard of optometrist in Australia as a whole.

4) Yep, grace period 2-5 years.

5) YES! Should also work along side a ‘mentor’ or a senior optometrist to gain more experience.

6) Exceptions to these optometrists as they wouldn’t have any contact with the general public in clinical roles.

7) Remote practitioners with personal issues that choose not to further their studies. Perhaps the course could be simplified for these optometrists so they believe that it’s possible to achieve it.