

**Subject:** therapeutic qualifications  
**Date:** Tuesday, 25 January 2011 12:35:22 PM

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To whom it may concern,

No I do not agree that all optometrists should have therapeutic qualifications to maintain consistency across the board.

I believe a grandfather clause should exist, as it does already in the broader medical profession. At the very least, optometrists practising in metropolitan areas that are well catered for in terms of ophthalmology and GP coverage, should not require therapeutic qualification. I believe it is unnecessary in these cases. Not to mention that chlorsig is currently available over the counter at any pharmacy.

I believe it is unreasonable to require adults, who in many instances will have their own practice or practice full time, to spend the time to do the extra qualifications (partic in metro areas). It is a different story to do these qualifications as a young student.

In our case, my husband and I run our own practice and we have no staff due to the young age of our business. We also have a one year old child and most likely will have another in the next few years. I would have no time to complete therapeutics, run a business and look after kids. Also, I don't believe I am disadvantaging my patients when GP's and ophthalmologists are in abundance.

Feel free to contact me should you wish to discuss the matter further.

Regards,