

**Subject:** submission on therapeutics  
**Date:** Thursday, 27 January 2011 1:40:26 PM

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As per your request for information on above subject....

- 1 The analogy may well be that not all optometrists are contact lens practitioners but still able to practice and see patients in regards there well being, with referral if an area outside their expertise arises. So optometrists are trained (have largely always been able) to detect abnormal issues with regards to eye disorders/disease with referral to ophthalmologist if appropriate need. This situation can still operate with those optometrists not fully therapeutically endorsed, as they will still be detecting any abnormal issue.
- 2 No ( and see above)
- 3 No especially if this puts at risk of loss of refraction and binocular coordination abilities as emphasis on continuing education becomes therapeutic-based at expense of clinical visual applications.
- 4 N/a
- 5 As they are newly entering the Australian workforce they need to have the equivalent qualifications as the Australian education system provides – as presently occurs – so there is an equal footing.
- 6 No unless some educational areas dictate knowledge in this area if it is to be passed on in training.
- 7 Name the impediments and then can assess if can be overcome

