

Subject: Prposed changes to registration  
Date: Friday, 4 February 2011 4:04:14 PM

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FAO Colin Waldron

Dear Sir,

My Name is Brian Donovan and I am a registered practicing Optometrist. I feel that this proposal to require compulsory therapeutic endorsement for registration is unnecessary and wrong. I have been a practicing optometrist for over 30 years now and have had a productive not to mention secure career since 1979. To suddenly **have** to go back to Uni to retain that career I feel is unreasonable. I had to work very hard to achieve my qualifications especially as I had a major illness through my time at university. The stresses that go with exams contributed to that illness. In effect what could happen is that the illness could return. If I failed to reach the grade my career would effectively be over!! I am sure I am not on my own.

As it happens I am an employed Optometrist but if I had my own business, the same failure to reach the grade would also mean the end of a business and unemployment for others. My point in mentioning this is that there **will** be others whom will face this dilemma.

I know this is a worst case scenario but, if it did happen then there may be other Optometrists who will not be able to work and in effect the board will have achieved the opposite of what it presumably wants i.e. it will create a reduction in the service to the public!!

If I had wanted to be a GP or doctor I would have done that instead, which appears to be what some of the members of the profession are trying to achieve. As all new graduates are coming out of university with therapeutics endorsement in time all optometrists will be so equipped. Australia and indeed most of the world has been served well by the status quo, quite why we suddenly have to have this changed when natural selection will achieve the same result is beyond me!

Thank you for your time.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Donovan  
Bsc., (Hons)  
Optometrist