

- 1 Is There Benefit In Requesting All Optometrist's Be Eligible for Endorsement?
Yes, all education is of personal value - none goes to waste. 02 FEB 2011
- 2 Is This A Reasonable Expectation Of Optometrists?
No, it is not needed for those practising with Ophthalmologists
in hospital;clinics
with an endorsed Optometrist
within 35 Ks of an Ophthalmologist
- 3 Therapeutic Qualifications should be required in Australia, but not as is presently planned. A less comprehensive system will allow dilation for diabetes, miotic pupils and optical side effects of prescribed medication.
- 4 A period of grace is required regarding the present poor access to courses. Previous simple, local courses were adequate; otherwise compensation for loss of earnings is necessary.
- 5 A competence assessment is required for overseas Optometrists, and for Australian Optometrists who did therapeutics since 1980 and who continue to so practice.
- 6 Administrators, research, regulatory Optometrists and those in clinics where Ophthalmologists do the therapeutics, should do the course for educational reasons, but not be required to be assessed for competency in practise.
- 7 Impediments to therapeutics:
- . The present courses are too cumbersome
 - favour young Optometrists who have no experience
 - have no texts for pre-reading
 - offer no scholarships or accommodation
 - discourage remote Optometrists
 - require competency with equipment unlikely to be available in practice, in small aircraft or 4WD.
 - . To deregister any of W.A.'s 15 VOS Optometrists for any cause is unreasonable. Those without therapeutics have already done a course appropriate to outback aboriginal culture and health. Subsequent supervision by Margie O'Neill is sufficient.
 - . If Therapeutics is to be comprehensive it should include units in 'Aboriginal Health' and 'The Prevention of Thrifty Gene Type 2 Diabetes'. Hard Copy lists of the ocular side effects of Prescribed Medicants' would be helpful.