

Subject: Therapeutics and optom registration
Date: Monday, 31 January 2011 2:49:07 PM

I am opposed to the implementation of therapeutics for standard optometry registration. I work in Sydney in a very busy practice and don't see the need to prescribe therapeutics. On the odd occasion when I see a red eye ,patients have access to chlorsig an antibiotic sold over the counter.

If the issue is more svere then they are promptly referred to an ophthalmologist which is the best for the patient when they have a compromised cornea or something more serious.

Also I do not have a spare \$15000 to cover the cost of the course as well as days that I will not be able to work due to study and placement with an eye specialist, I have a high mortgage , as most people do who live in a main city. This amount would be then added to the cost of OAA membership which would make it even more unobtainable...

I believe the optometrist should be able to prescribe artificial tears to pensioners so they can get it cheaper on PBS but that is it,

The community is well served in the major cities by existing practises of referral when required , which we still would have to do even if we were therapeutically endorsed.

Regards
James Michael
OPtometrist Sydney