

Subject: Therapeutics
Date: Friday, 4 March 2011 7:24:23 PM

Dear Mr. Waldron,

I have read all related information since the initial letter Jan 2011 regarding therapeutic qualification as a requirement for registration. Reassuring to read we will not be out of a job if not undertaking therapeutic qualification!

As a practicing optometrist of 30 years I feel strongly about this issue. My patients over the years have certainly not been disadvantaged by the fact I do not hold therapeutic qualification. At this stage in my career nor do intend to train for therapeutic endorsement.

There have always been different levels of practice in our profession as Optometrists develop different passions within the field of Eyecare. The training of students at the University ,not only in therapeutics ,is very different from the course I completed in the late 70s.

In my opinion it is totally inappropriate to make therapeutic qualification mandatory or create a second tier of practice within the profession. I think this is divisive for the profession and confusing for the public. Our industry is struggling as it is with the large corporate companies dominating the market and yet the board is considering creating further pressure within the profession

Yours sincerely

Vicki Beswick.