

## Public consultation on revised guidelines

September 2015

### Responses to consultation questions

Please provide your feedback as a word document (not PDF) by email to [optomconsultation@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:optomconsultation@ahpra.gov.au) by close of business on 20 November 2015.

#### Stakeholder details

If you wish to include background information about your organisation please provide this as a separate word document (not PDF).

<b>Organisation name</b>
Optometrists Association Australia (NSW/ACT).
<b>Contact information</b> <i>(please include contact person's name and email address)</i>
Andrew McKinnon CEO Optometrists Association Australia (NSW/ACT) 130 Great North Road (PO Box 33) Five Dock NSW 2046 02 9712 2199 <a href="mailto:Andrew@oaansw.com.au">Andrew@oaansw.com.au</a>

#### Your responses to consultation questions

<b>Proposed revised guidelines for continuing professional development for endorsed and non-endorsed optometrists</b> <i>Please provide your responses to any or all questions in the blank boxes below</i>
1. Are they clear and easy to understand? A bit wordy, but generally easy to understand.
2. Is there any content that needs to be changed or deleted? See comments in Q4 and Q5.
3. Is there anything missing that needs to be added? No

**Proposed revised guidelines for continuing professional development for endorsed and non-endorsed optometrists**

*Please provide your responses to any or all questions in the blank boxes below*

4. Are there any practical issues encountered for the assessment of CPD activities?

1. Sometimes the MCQ questions are too trivial or too long, and sometimes after the test is over there is no discussion of the answers by the speakers, which detracts from the learning opportunity.
2. The minimum requirement for the assessment is 6 MCQ per hour, which means that two incorrect answers falls just short of the required 70% pass mark, and this seems harsh. Perhaps the pass mark can be changed to 65%.
3. Under the new guidelines it would be compulsory for a CPD provider to offer a re-test to anyone who fails. This would complicate things and burden CPD providers for something that is not that important, and may lead to abuses of the system.
4. In Table A2 it states that "Assessment questions need to be included with the application for accreditation." For some CPD events it is not practical or possible to include the assessment questions with the application for accreditation when it is applied for very early in the process of organising a conference, e.g. once speakers have been confirmed, so that a flyer containing the number of CPD points applied for can be displayed. At this stage of the process most speakers have not prepared their talks and therefore have not supplied any of the assessment questions. Perhaps the assessment questions can be submitted for accreditation sometime after the main application?

5. Do you have any other comments?

1. Can the need to track some types of non-accredited CPD activity (e.g. independent learning, academic, and non-clinical) be removed in order to simplify the CPD system?
2. Do the proposed new criteria mean that organisations such as Optometry Australia will have to apply for approved provider status?

**Proposed revised guidelines on the prescription of optical appliances**

*Please provide your responses to any or all questions in the blank boxes below*

6. Are they clear and easy to understand?

Yes

7. Is there any content that needs to be changed or deleted?

No

8. Is there anything missing that needs to be added?

No

9. Do you have any other comments?

No