



Optometry Council of
Australia and New Zealand

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Education Provider: Queensland University of Technology
Program: Graduate Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics
Date: June 2015
Outcome: Accredited until 30 June 2023

INTRODUCTION

The Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand (OCANZ) was established in 1996. Its function includes assessment, for the purposes of accreditation, programs designed to produce graduates suitable for registration as optometrists in Australia or New Zealand.

THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS

The overall aim of the accreditation process is to evaluate the extent to which the program complies with the eight OCANZ Standards set out in *Accreditation Manual for Postgraduate Programs of Study in Ocular Therapeutics Part 2 –Standards August 2013* (www.ocanz.org).

OCANZ may grant accreditation if it is satisfied that a program of study, and the education provider that provides it, meets an approved accreditation standard. OCANZ may also grant accreditation with conditions on the program's approval, if it is satisfied the program will meet the standard within a reasonable time. OCANZ's recommendation informs registration decisions made under national law in Australia and New Zealand.

BACKGROUND

In 2014, the OCANZ Board appointed a three member assessment team to undertake reaccreditation of Queensland University of Technology's postgraduate ocular therapeutics program.

The assessment team reviewed the accreditation submission, prepared their report and made a recommendation on accreditation. The OCANZ Board adopted the accreditation report and recommendation.

The OCANZ Board reported its accreditation decision to the OBA and the ODOB to enable them to make a decision on the approval of the program of study in ocular therapeutics at Queensland University of Technology for endorsement for the use of scheduled medicines.

KEY FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS OF THE ASSESSMENT TEAM

Overall, the assessment team is satisfied that the graduates of Queensland University of Technology Graduate Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics program will have the knowledge, skills and attributes for ocular therapeutic practice.

The submission prepared by the School was comprehensive and the assessment team appreciated the positive, thorough and thoughtful approach taken by the staff to their participation in the accreditation process.

The following table lists the key findings of the assessment team.

1. Context of the program	Overall the standard is MET
<u>Areas of strength:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Well established governance structureStrong academic teamResearch-led teachingOngoing, frequent review of the programExcellent administrative support	<u>Action required:</u> None
2. Organisational purpose and program outcomes	Overall the standard is MET
<u>Areas of strength:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Clear alignment with OCANZ Standards and AQF requirements	<u>Action required:</u> None
3. The education and training program	Overall the standard is MET
<u>Areas of strength:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Well-designed and implemented curriculum	<u>Action required:</u> None
4. Teaching and learning	Overall the standard is MET
<u>Areas of strength:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Diverse teaching and learning methods including case-based, multidisciplinary and interactive presentations. <u>Areas requiring further reporting:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Suggestion to establish a system of quality assurance for clinical placements	<u>Action required:</u> None
5. Assessment of learning	Overall the standard is MET
<u>Areas of strength:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Good range of assessment methodsClearly defined assessment approachWell-established feedback mechanisms	<u>Action required:</u> None
6. Monitoring and evaluation	Overall the standard is MET
<u>Areas of strength:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Well-established monitoring and evaluation systems <u>Areas requiring further reporting:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Suggestion to improve response rate is to implement an informal, paper-based evaluations given during block courses or similar contact times.	<u>Action required:</u> None

7. Program students	Overall the standard is MET
<u>Areas of strength:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearly defined admissions policy Clearly defined dispute resolution processes 	<u>Action required:</u> None
8. Educational resources	Overall the standard is MET
<u>Areas of strength:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High quality learning environment 	<u>Action required:</u> None

OUTCOME

OCANZ is satisfied that Graduate Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics conducted by Queensland University of Technology meets the eight OCANZ Standards of ocular therapeutics practice.

The OCANZ Board has agreed to accredit the program for a period of eight years, until 30 June 2023, provided there are no major changes to the program during this period. This is a general requirement of all accredited programs and not a condition specific to this program.