



Optometry Council of
Australia and New Zealand

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Education Provider: University of New South Wales
Program: Graduate Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics
Date: February 2016
Outcome: Accredited until 31 December 2024

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 2015, the OCANZ Board appointed a three member assessment team to undertake reaccreditation of University of New South Wales 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 University of New South Wales 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 University of New South Wales Graduate Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics program will have the knowledge, skills and attributes for ocular therapeutic practice.

The submission prepared by the University of New South Wales was comprehensive and the assessment team appreciated the positive approach taken by the staff in participation in the accreditation process.

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

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| 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 teachingGood interaction with relevant sector interestsOngoing, regular review of the program | <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">Well-defined program objectives and learning outcomesProgram objectives and learning outcomes to be aligned with most recent published competencies | <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">Good range of teaching and learning methods <u>Areas requiring further reporting:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Suggestion of modification to logbooks to include comments for all 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">Diverse assessment methods | <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 implement a feedback system once graduates are back in the workplace | <u>Action required:</u> None |
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| 7. Program students | Overall the standard is MET |
| <u>Areas of strength:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly defined admission and entry requirements • Clearly defined appeals policy | <u>Action required:</u> None |
| 8. Educational Resources | Overall the standard is MET |
| <u>Areas of strength:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of the art physical facilities <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 |

OUTCOME

OCANZ is satisfied that Graduate Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics conducted by University of New South Wales 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 31 December 2024, 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.