

Spring 2010 Newsletter

Ohio State Board of Optometry
77 South High Street, 16th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215-6108
Phone: (614)466-5115 Fax: (614)644-3937 Toll Free: 1-888-565-3044
E-Mail: optometry.board@exchange.state.oh.us Website: www.optometry.ohio.gov

Board Members

The Board welcomed our newest member, Dr. Stanley Warn, who was appointed by Governor Strickland for a five year term that expires September 24, 2014. Dr. Warn is a graduate of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry and is currently in practice at Pearle Vision in the Cleveland area. We look forward to working with Dr. Warn and utilizing his experience and expertise to the benefit of everyone in the optometric community.

Our current Board members are:

Larry Barger, O.D., Board President
Dennis Roark, O.D., Board Secretary
Karen Riccio, O.D.
Rhonda Riles, O.D.
Patricia Scharf
Stanley Warn, O.D.

Board Certification

The Board has continued to receive inquiries regarding the issue of continued competency, board certification of continued competency and the relation of such statements to the license renewal process in Ohio. There is currently no effort and no expressed interest by this Board to legislate the use of such terminology by independent organizations or agencies as a requirement for license renewal. In fact, board certification and maintenance of certification is independent of established license and regulatory boards and does not confer legal qualification, privilege or license to practice optometry.

Latisse Reminder

“Latisse,” manufactured by Allergan, has received FDA approval to be used as a product to promote eyelash growth. Since Ohio optometrists who are therapeutically certified are permitted to treat abnormal conditions of the visual system, the Board has determined the use of Latisse would be appropriate for the treatment of hypotrichosis. This diagnosis must be documented in the patient’s record. However, it would not be appropriate for an optometrist to prescribe Latisse for a purely cosmetic purpose as this would not be within their scope of practice.

Continuing Education

The Board daily receives continuing education inquiries. Listed below is important information to remember when scheduling your C.E. courses. This information is also posted on our website for future reference.

The Board automatically accepts courses approved by The Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE). COPE divides the courses they approve into four specific categories. These categories are broken down further and utilize identifiers consisting of two alpha characters. The following should assist you in determining which COPE courses will be accepted by the Board as pharmacology.

Optometric only credit for these courses:

CLINICAL OPTOMETRY

Contact Lenses (CL)
Functional Vision/Pediatrics (FV)
General Optometry (GO)
Low Vision (LV)

Pharmacology credit for these courses:

OCULAR DISEASE

Glaucoma (GL)
Peri-Operative Management of Ophthalmic Surgery (PO)
Refractive Surgery Management (RS)
Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease; Anterior Segment (AS)
Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease; Posterior Segment (PS)

RELATED SYSTEMIC DISEASE

Neuro-Optometry (NO)
Oral Pharmaceutical (OP)
Pharmacology (PH)
Principles of Diagnosis (PD)
System/Ocular Disease (SD)

NO CREDIT, general or pharmacology, will be granted for any COPE course with these alpha identifiers:

Practice Management (PM)
Ethics/Jurisprudence (EJ)

Please keep the following in mind when completing and submitting your annual continuing education requirements:

- Total of 25 hours which must include 10 hours of pharmacology for ALL optometrists.
- Maximum of 10 hours of media type courses i.e. internet, correspondence, audio.
- Observation is acceptable for 4 hours a day, no more than 8 hours per C.E. period. Must observe with a provider on the Board's approved C.E. list.
- October 1 through September 30 – time period for completion of C.E. Failure to complete required C.E. within the specified time frame results in a \$75.00 late fee.
- October 20 – must have filed proof of C.E. with the Board as a prerequisite for license renewal. Failure to submit C.E. on or before this date will result in a \$75.00 late fee.