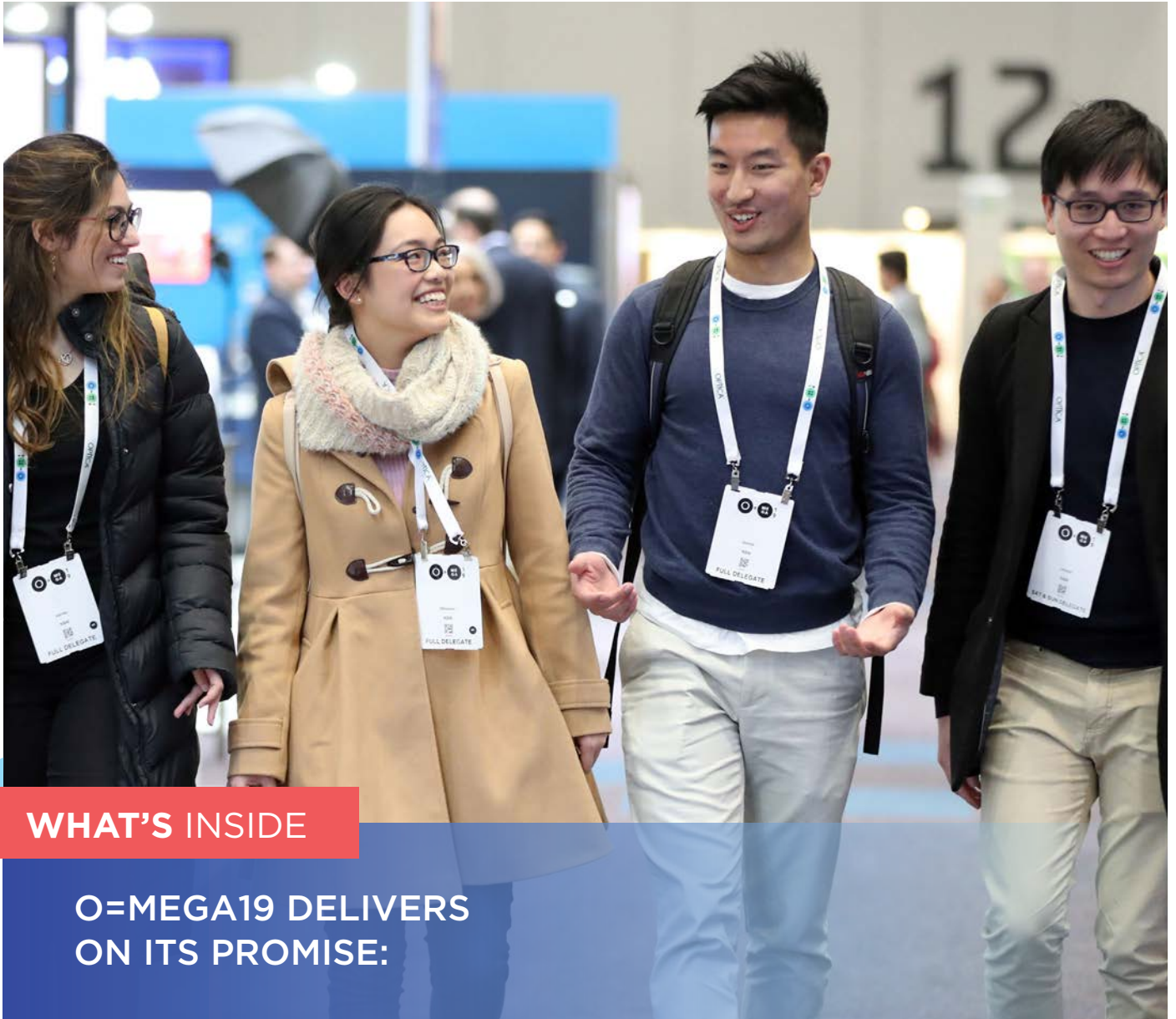


# scope

MAGAZINE OF OPTOMETRY VICTORIA SOUTH AUSTRALIA

AUGUST | 2019



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**Optometry**  
VICTORIA  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

### EDITORIAL



The first couple months of operation of our newly amalgamated Optometry Victoria South Australia (OV/SA) have been busy, and very exciting. We updated all our signage featuring the new logo in the building, and ninety-nine per cent of all the required transition updates are now in place.

We partnered with ODMA to deliver O=MEGA19 in July, which was the biggest ever optometry clinical conference and trade fair in Australia. Thank you to everyone who supported the event, from our partner ODMA, through to sponsors and exhibitors, and the individual delegates who took time out of busy practices and lives to attend. The profession really embraced this new event and we look forward to doing it all again in 2021.

Membership renewal has been tracking very well, and we are delighted that members have responded so positively to the changes. The association is nothing without the strong and continued support of members, and we thank each and every member for renewing their membership or joining the organisation for the first time, or even the first time in a while.

From now until the end of 2019 we have an ambitious events calendar to deliver across both states, with our regional seminar series, ECO specific seminars, and metropolitan events both large and small. I urge you to keep an eye on the website as updates and new events are announced.

Finally I'm very much looking forward to working with the new OV/SA President Elise Pocknee-Clem and the Board of Directors as we deliver on our updated strategic plan over the next two years.

Yours sincerely

Pete Haydon  
Chief Executive Officer

## SOS FOR TIMELY PATIENT CARE AT VICTORIAN EYE AND EAR CATARACT CLINIC



The Surgical Ophthalmology Service (SOS) at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital led by Dr Anton van Heerden, provides comprehensive cataract surgery care for patients with a dedicated team of ophthalmologists, orthoptists and ophthalmic nurses. As a public hospital service, the care provided by the clinic is free of charge.

Following the achievement of service improvement goals at the Eye and Ear, waiting lists for patients to be assessed for cataract surgery have been significantly reduced. The SOS clinic is now able to offer a specialist clinic appointment within six months of receiving a referral, and if cataract surgery is indicated, an operation

usually within three months of the initial visit.

This service is designed to address the needs of the significant number of Victorians requiring surgical management for cataract. All general practitioner referrals for patients with cataract to the Eye and Ear Hospital require an Optometric Report. The Optometry Report provides triage staff with the diagnosis, ocular clinical signs and symptoms as well as refractive status, which is crucial to triage patients to the most appropriate sub-specialty clinic within a clinically appropriate time frame.

All referrals to the Eye and Ear Hospital are also triaged and managed according to key threshold criteria. The ophthalmology referral guidelines can be found at [www.eyear.org.au/page/Health\\_Professionals/Referring\\_to\\_the\\_Eye\\_and\\_Ear/Referrals/](http://www.eyear.org.au/page/Health_Professionals/Referring_to_the_Eye_and_Ear/Referrals/)

The Eye and Ear Hospital values its relationship with community optometrists and hopes to continue to foster this relationship through a shared approach to patient care.



## THERAPEUTICS IN FOCUS FOR OV/SA'S REGIONAL SEMINAR SERIES 2019-20



Optometry Victoria South Australia's (OV/SA) regional CPD seminar series for 2019-20 will focus on therapeutics. The selection of topic has been driven by strong feedback from members throughout our 2018-19 CPD seminars, where therapeutics was consistently identified as a topic for future events.

Nine seminars will be held across Victoria and South Australia, with locations in the second half of this year ranging from Traralgon in Victoria's east and Warrnambool in the west of Victoria through to Port Lincoln in South Australia. Additional locations for the first half of 2020 will be shared with members in the coming months.

OV/SA is delighted to announce that guest speaker for the seminar series is Richard Lenne (pictured). Richard completed undergraduate training in 1992 and a Masters degree in 1994. He worked in Swan Hill and North Queensland before returning to Victoria in 2000 to commence work at Horsfalls optometrists in Echuca.

Richard completed his Postgraduate Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics in 2006. His clinical interests include all aspects of primary eye care. Richard has presented cases at SRC and O=MEGA19, and enjoys teaching students on rotation from the University of Melbourne. He is often asked to present eye care information to community groups in Echuca-Moama, Kyabram and Rochester.

Traralgon will be the first location for the series, with the seminar to be held on Wednesday 20 November, followed by Warrnambool on Wednesday 27 November and Port Lincoln on Thursday 28 November.

All seminars will include a three-course meal and refreshments, with 6T CPD points (with assessment) available for participants.

Seminar registrations will open in early October. Email notifications will be sent to local members when registrations open, with further information available on the website.

### Traralgon

<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 20 November
<b>Time:</b>	6:00pm – 8:30pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Century Inn, 5 Airfield Road, Traralgon
<b>Cost:</b>	Free to OV/SA members
<b>CPD points:</b>	6T (with assessment)

### Warrnambool

<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 27 November
<b>Time:</b>	6:00pm – 8:30pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Lady Bay Resort, 2 Pertobe Road, Warrnambool
<b>Cost:</b>	Free to OV/SA members
<b>CPD points:</b>	6T (with assessment)

### Port Lincoln

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 28 November
<b>Time:</b>	6:00pm – 8:30pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Port Lincoln Hotel, 1 Lincoln Highway, Port Lincoln
<b>Cost:</b>	Free to OV/SA members
<b>CPD points:</b>	6T (with assessment)



An aerial view of Port Lincoln, South Australia

# IMMEDIATE GRADUATE MEMBERS, DINNER'S ON US IN MELBOURNE!



Immediate Graduate members are invited to a relaxed and fun dinner in the heart of Melbourne. The dinner is a great opportunity to catch up with your graduating class over a delicious three course meal plus drinks.

Optometry Victoria South Australia's senior staff, a Board Director and an Early Career Optometrists Victoria South Australia (ECOV/SA) committee member will also be there to chat with

members and talk about issues of interest.

Or just relax and enjoy a fun night out, on us!

Registration is essential. Register through the website [www.optometry.org.au/cpd-publications-events/](http://www.optometry.org.au/cpd-publications-events/) or contact Optometry Victoria South Australia directly on [office.vicsa@optometry.org.au](mailto:office.vicsa@optometry.org.au) or call (03) 9652 9100.

Melbourne	
Date:	Monday 21 October
Time:	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Venue:	Berth Restaurant, 45 New Quay Promenade, Docklands
Cost:	Free to Optometry Victoria South Australia members

# ECOV/SA PRESENTS: BACK TO BASICS GLAUCOMA – ADELAIDE



Following the success of the ECO Back to Basics Glaucoma seminar held in Melbourne in May, the seminar will now be delivered for early career optometrists in Adelaide on 28 August.

The seminar will provide participants with the latest updates in glaucoma management and will include key clinical pearls to early detection and management.



An interactive team-based learning session will be included as part of the seminar.

Guest speakers are early career optometrist Jacquie Warren and ophthalmologist Dr Paul Athanasiov (both pictured above).

Participants will receive 6T CPD points (with assessment).

Registration for the seminar is essential. To register online visit [www.optometry.org.au/cpd-publications-events/cpd-event-calendar/cpd-events/ecov-sa-back-to-basics-glaucoma-seminar-adelaide/](http://www.optometry.org.au/cpd-publications-events/cpd-event-calendar/cpd-events/ecov-sa-back-to-basics-glaucoma-seminar-adelaide/) or contact Optometry Victoria South Australia on [office.vicsa@optometry.org.au](mailto:office.vicsa@optometry.org.au) or call (03) 9652 9100.

Adelaide	
Date:	Wednesday 28 August
Time:	6:00pm – 8:30pm
Venue:	Seminar Room, Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (SA), Suite 7/102 Greenhill Road, Unley
Cost:	Free to Optometry Victoria South Australia members
CPD Points:	6T (with assessment)



## VICROADS CLARIFIES ACCEPTANCE OF MEDMONT REPORTS FROM VICTORIAN OPTOMETRISTS

After strong and sustained representations from Optometry Victoria South Australia (OV/SA), the Victorian Road Traffic Authority, VicRoads, have confirmed that they will accept Medmont binocular fields tests as equivalent to an Esterman test, if the Medmont results are provided in a particular format. Specific details are highlighted below.

**Victorian optometrists should present their Medmont binocular fields tests as follows:**

- under the 'Display' tab, the 'Level' map type is selected, as well as 'numeric' data view; and
- the 'Numeric Tick Marks' and 'Annotations' boxes have been checked.

**When these parameters are specified, the 'seen points' attribute will be displayed, as preferred by VicRoads. Note that results printed in grayscale format are not ordinarily accepted by VicRoads.**

To coincide with this development OV/SA have developed a concise, chair-side member resource detailing the specifics required when assessing a patient's fitness to drive. The guideline outlines both the visual acuity and visual fields standards as required by AustRoads as well as updates on how to assess rideshare and food delivery drivers and riders.

Specific instructions on how to present Medmont binocular field results in a format acceptable to VicRoads are also highlighted in our resource.

**The OV/SA resource will be available for members in September. An email notification will be sent to members when the resource is finalised.**

VicRoads have also released new Victorian-specific consumer and health professional resources aimed at increasing understanding of the VicRoads Medical Review process, and to support health professionals and consumers' engagement with

the review process. OV/SA provided feedback on the draft resource with a view to ensuring it would meet member's needs.

Development of the VicRoads resources has been prompted in-part by recent Victorian coronial reports on road deaths in Victoria which have highlighted the importance of the licensing authority-led Medical Review process for ensuring road safety.

One death involved a driver with significant visual impairment associated with macular degeneration who turned into the path of an oncoming car. (1) Despite conversations with family, and advice to cease driving from his treating eyecare professional, the person continued to drive and did not report to VicRoads. The treating ophthalmologist acknowledged the patient's denial about his impaired vision but also did not report directly to VicRoads.

In this and several other cases involving medically unfit drivers, the coroner recommended that mandatory reporting by Victorian health professionals replace the current self/community reporting model, however this recommendation has not been implemented. Mandatory reporting is in place however, in South Australia and the Northern Territory.

To support conversations and improve driver and health professional engagement with the Medical Review process, VicRoads has consulted widely in Victoria in developing the consumer and health professional information. (2)

The resource for health professionals highlights the importance of routine empathetic discussion about driving and personal mobility options, particularly when managing progressive conditions such as macular degeneration. Transition to non-driving may be managed via conditional licensing, regular review and practical driver assessments; interventions facilitated through the VicRoads Medical Review system.

The VicRoads health professional and consumer resources can be downloaded from their website at [www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/licences/health-and-driving/information-for-health-professionals](http://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/licences/health-and-driving/information-for-health-professionals)

In a further development, VicRoads have developed a downloadable copy of the Eyesight Report, which is accessible on their website. An interactive online Eyesight Report will be available later this year.

### References:

1. Coroners Court of Victoria. Finding into death without inquest - Stanislaw Edward Czubryj (File No. COR 2017 1790). Retrieved from [https://www.coronerscourt.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-12/stanislawwardczubryj\\_179017.pdf](https://www.coronerscourt.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-12/stanislawwardczubryj_179017.pdf)
2. Landgren F, Di Stefano M, Zandegu S. Report to the Coroners Court Medical Fitness to Drive. Available November 2019: [https://www.coronerscourt.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-01/Further%20response%20from%20VicRoads\\_1.pdf](https://www.coronerscourt.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-01/Further%20response%20from%20VicRoads_1.pdf)



### PETER NIXON: FROM THE WIDEST VIEW TO A SHARPER FOCUS



Peter graduated from optometry at the University of Melbourne after having previously completed a Bachelor of Science and an Honours research year with Professor Algis Vingrys working on the electroretinogram (ERG), which is a measurement of retinal signals. After graduating Peter worked at Graham Hill and Associates in Shepparton in regional Victoria before returning to Melbourne to work for Richard Lindsay with a particular focus on contact lenses. Peter then moved to the Australian College of Optometry where he became Lead Optometrist of Paediatric Services for five years.

"In my role at the ACO I not only dealt with many interesting cases but also led a research project looking at the barriers to paediatric eye care and the prevalence of eye issues in a number of whole school populations. It was this work that led me to join what is now Pezzimenti Nixon Optometrists, where I'm the owner," Peter said.

"In my own practice we provide eye care for all age groups, however over half of our patients are children. A lot of our work involves dealing with strabismus, amblyopia and binocular dysfunction issues as well as broad spectrum optometric cases. We are also very active in myopia progression treatment," he said.

"MOST CHILDREN WHO ARE REFERRED TO US HAVE BEEN FLAGGED AS HAVING TROUBLE LEARNING TO READ BY THEIR TEACHER OR A PSYCHOLOGIST. A VISION INFORMATION PROCESSING EXAMINATION TOGETHER WITH A PAEDIATRIC EYE EXAMINATION GIVES US A CLEAR PICTURE OF WHAT IS HAPPENING. WE SUPPORT THE PATIENT WITH VISUAL AIDS OR TRAINING IF NEEDED, AND WE WORK CLOSELY WITH A RANGE OF PROFESSIONS TO ENSURE WE CAN REFER PATIENTS TO APPROPRIATE SERVICES IF REQUIRED," PETER SAID.

"The focus on paediatric optometry comes from Anne Pezzimenti who started the practice with her husband Orlando. Anne completed a Masters of Special Education and was able to utilise this knowledge to help people with vision related learning difficulties," he said.

We asked Peter what he enjoys most about his work as an optometrist.

"HELPING PEOPLE ACHIEVE BETTER VISION, STRAIGHT EYES AND CLEAR AND COMFORTABLE VISION IS VERY REWARDING. I ALSO REALLY LIKE THE VIBE OF OUR PRACTICE. IT'S FUN. I'M VERY LUCKY TO WORK WITH AN AMAZING TEAM WHO ARE ALL DEDICATED TO PROVIDING A HIGH LEVEL OF CARE AND SUPPORT FOR PATIENTS," PETER SAID.

"I also really enjoy teaching optometry students, and we still have students in our practice. I deliver lectures at Flinders University and talks to the community about the importance of eye exams," he said.

We also asked Peter what he finds most challenging about his work.

"Trying to keep people keen when undergoing vision training is challenging. We use in office training to show and practice techniques and home training to help patients refine

these skills, and we try to use the most fun activities possible, but knowing that the techniques must be repetitive in order to build and strengthen appropriate neural circuitry," he said.

"WORKING WITH FAMILIES WITH HEAVY COMMITMENTS TO ACHIEVE VISION TRAINING GOALS IS CHALLENGING, ALTHOUGH I FIND THAT PATIENTS WHO KNOW WHY THEY ARE DOING THE TRAINING ARE MORE DEDICATED TO THE PROGRAM AND STRIVE TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS," PETER SAID.

We asked Peter what inspired him to become an optometrist, and what keeps him going now.

"I got into optometry as I liked helping people and eyes fascinated me. Being able to help someone achieve not only better vision but creating a more comfortable visual environment for them to read, play and potentially learn drives me to keep furthering my knowledge. The more I know, the more I can educate others," he said.

We also asked Peter if he had any advice for early career optometrists.

"I WOULD SUGGEST GETTING OUT AND EXPERIENCING OPTOMETRY AT ITS MOST VARIED. I RECOMMEND GOING RURAL TO GAIN THIS EXPERIENCE WITH A DEDICATED TEAM. TIME AND EXPERIENCE WILL HELP YOU FIGURE OUT WHAT AREAS INTEREST YOU. CONTINUE TO LEARN AND IF YOU WANT, START PRACTICING IN THOSE CHOSEN AREAS. PEOPLE WILL SEEK YOU FOR YOUR EXPERTISE," PETER SAID.

"Also owning a practice is very rewarding. It takes dedication, good communication and teamwork. It is great to be able to develop your own team to deliver the standard of care that will make you proud," he said.

## MEMBER PROFILE

CASSANDRA HAINES:  
DRIVING CHANGE

Cassandra Haines graduated from Deakin University and has worked for an independent practice group in suburban Adelaide since that time. She grew up in Geelong and moved to Adelaide to study another degree, before deciding that optometry was her calling, and relocating back to Geelong to take on an optometry degree. On graduation she accepted the role in Adelaide and moved back there.

"I enjoyed living in Adelaide and having previously studied there knew the community well, and liked the practice group, so it all made really good sense," Cassie said.

"I work across two practices, both of which are full scope practices located in suburban shopping strips. I particularly enjoy seeing paediatric patients and try to have a focus on preventative eye care," she said.

Cassie is a Board Director of Optometry Victoria South Australia and a member of the Early Career Optometrists Victoria South Australia (ECOV/SA) committee. We asked her why she's so passionate about the association and what she hopes to achieve through her involvement.

"When I first moved to Adelaide I didn't know any other optometrists apart from those I was working with, so getting involved with the association initially was a way to meet other practitioners," Cassie said.

"I QUICKLY LEARNED THAT THE ADVOCACY UNDERTAKEN BY THE ASSOCIATION WAS WHAT HAD PROGRESSED AND DEVELOPED THE PROFESSION, AND I WANTED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THAT. I COULD ALSO SEE HOW ADVOCACY WORKED TO KEEP THE PROFESSION CONNECTED WITH OTHER HEALTH AND MEDICAL PROFESSIONS, AND I THOUGHT THAT WAS REALLY IMPORTANT AND WANTED TO SUPPORT THAT WORK IN SOME WAY TOO," SHE SAID.

"I became involved with the Early Career Optometrists (ECO) committee because I felt that getting ECOs together was really valuable not only for the sense of community, but the ongoing sense of support, and I really wanted to see that continue," Cassie said.

"I'M CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OUR PROFESSION. IT'S A RAPIDLY CHANGING FIELD, WITH NEW TECHNOLOGY, A CHANGING WORKFORCE AND A CHANGING LANDSCAPE FOR THE PROFESSION, WHICH MEANS THAT BEING AN OPTOMETRIST WILL LOOK VERY DIFFERENT AT THE END OF MY CAREER, COMPARED TO WHAT IT IS NOW. SO THAT'S WHY I'M INVOLVED BECAUSE I WANT TO BE AN ACTIVE PART OF THE CHANGE," SHE SAID.

Cassie also has a short term, part-time role working for Optometry Australia, and we asked how she's finding it.

"I'm working with the Policy and Advocacy team, focusing on reviewing and updating existing clinical guidelines and identifying and working on developing new guidelines. I really like the opportunity to get back into the research, as well as the challenge of seeking out and identifying best practice," she said.

We asked Cassie what she enjoys most about her work as an optometrist.

"I enjoy being a primary care practitioner, spending one-on-one time with patients and seeing the direct change that I can make on their

eye health and wellbeing. It's really satisfying being able to follow up with my own patients, and seeing patients return. Balancing this whilst being involved with the association allows me to look at the patient journey from all aspects" Cassie said.

We also asked Cassie what she finds most challenging about working as an optometrist.

"For me patient misinformation is the most challenging thing. Dr Google is a great source of health care information which can be very empowering for patients, but it can also lead to patients being misinformed about their eye health, particularly in the area of contact lenses," she said. "I've had a few instances recently of patients coming in to see me saying 'It's ok, I'm sure my eyes are fine, because I read about it online'."

We asked Cassie what inspired her to become an optometrist and what keeps her motivated now.

"I wanted to be a primary health care practitioner, but I wanted to have good consulting times where I could properly build relationships with patients," Cassie said. "Some professions just don't allow that time, and I knew that wouldn't work for me."

"In terms of what keeps me motivated, it's the opportunity to add on additional new skills. I find talking to other members about interesting cases and interesting patients is always eye opening and informative, and I really like that everyone is willing to share their experiences," she said. "Everyone I talk to always has an interesting case, and something new for me to learn."



# O=MEGA19 DELIVERS ON ITS PROMISE

Thanks to all of our members who came to O=MEGA19, the inaugural conference in the new Optometry Victoria South Australia events program.

The conference, alongside the trade show, was the largest ever gathering of the profession and the industry in Australia. Over 1,100 clinical conference delegates were joined by trade show visitors, masterclass attendees and industry representatives. Overall, we looked after almost 3,500 people across the three days.

Special thanks to ODMA, our business partners for this ambitious project, and all of the sponsors and exhibitors who supported O=MEGA19 so strongly. Without their buy in we could not have brought everyone together so successfully.

It was great to see so many members come together to take in excellent clinical lectures; enjoy the fun and vibrant networking opportunities, and take the chance to see, and buy, some of the latest products.

We need to acknowledge and unfortunately again apologise for the underperformance of the EduPro

system on the Friday and Saturday morning. We're continuing to work with all attendees to guarantee everybody's CPD points.

That one disappointment aside, we're very pleased with O=MEGA19. The feedback we've received from the people that were there has been

overwhelmingly supportive of our desire to respond to member needs and make it happen, and the way it came together.

O=MEGA21 will be bigger and better, and we're looking forward to the future of Optometry Victoria South Australia conferences.



*"This was the best conference and trade show I have been to in my 27 years of optometry,"*  
O=MEGA19 delegate feedback.









# SAVE THE DATE! ADELAIDE SINGLE DAY MINI CONFERENCE



Optometry Victoria South Australia is hosting Blue Sky presents: One Day in November. The single day mini conference will be held on Sunday 17 November at the Pullman Hotel in Adelaide.

The theme for the conference is anterior eye. Guest speakers will be announced shortly.

A boutique trade display will compliment this event, with companies involved in anterior eye related products onsite.

Up to 18 CPD points, including therapeutic points, will be available for delegates attending the full day (if completing assessment).

A breakfast CPR workshop will be an optional extra for those needing to update their CPR certificate. An additional fee for the CPR workshop will be payable, with breakfast provided as part of the session.

Adelaide	
Date:	Sunday 17 November, 2019
Time:	Full-day mini conference (program times TBA)
Venue:	Pullman Hotel Adelaide, 16 Hindmarsh Square, Adelaide SA 5000
Cost:	TBC, with competitive member-only rates available

Further information will be available as program details, sponsors and exhibitors are finalised at: [www.optometry.org.au](http://www.optometry.org.au)

# MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT OUTSTANDING AT THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA

Optometry Victoria South Australia is delighted by the rate of membership renewals during the 2019-20 membership renewal campaign.

Members across both Victoria and South Australia have responded enthusiastically to this new era for the association, actively supporting the amalgamation.

The reduction in membership fees has been well received by members. We are putting the finishing touches on the member events calendar, which will see single day mini conferences in both Adelaide and Melbourne as well as evening CPD seminars, the regional seminar series delivering CPD to regional and rural members in both states, and CPD seminars tailored

to the unique needs of early career practitioners.

Individual support for members on clinical and practice issues and employment contract reviews, as well as state-based policy and advocacy work, cross-profession networking and promotion of optometry and other key projects will continue and expand over the coming months.





## NATIONAL NEWS

## FAIR WORK CHANGES FOR OPTOMETRY

Earlier this year the Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) advised that the Health Professionals and Support Services Award 2010 (HPSS Award) covers optometrists, optical dispensers and other support staff. However, they have also advised that the extent of coverage is currently the subject of proceedings in the Fair Work Commission (FWC).

The outcome of these proceedings may impact on the FWO's advice on coverage for professionals such as optometrists. As at June 2019, the FWC is requesting submissions on whether the list of common health professionals contained in schedule C of the HPSS Award should be indicative or exhaustive. If it is determined that the list is exhaustive, it could reasonably be argued that optometrists are not covered by the Award as they are not expressly included in the list.

Optometry Australia have released updated staff pay scale information for both the General Retail Award and the HPSS Award. Until there is any definitive ruling to the contrary, practice owners and managers can take a risk minimisation approach of benchmarking their optometrists against the HPSS Award and their support staff against the HPSS Award and General Retail Award to determine whether they are better off overall.

Members can also find an FAQ and other supporting information at [www.optometry.org.au/practice-professional-support/your-advantage/human-resources-workplace-relations/](http://www.optometry.org.au/practice-professional-support/your-advantage/human-resources-workplace-relations/)

Pay scales have also been recently updated to reflect advice from our latest submission to FWO on what would constitute 'ordinary hours' for an optometry practice under the HPSS Award.

Members can access assistance with this process through Industry Legal Group's (ILG) Optometry Australia Member Assist (OAMA). The OAMA team can outline practical strategies for members to minimise risk of an underpayment claim by benchmarking and undertaking a 'no harm test', along with incorporation of set-off clauses against Award entitlements in employment contracts.

With FWO activity receiving recent media attention the OAMA team recommend that this is a good opportunity to review current staff arrangements and contracts of employment to ensure compliance with all Fair Work and Award provisions.

**The ILG team can be contacted on [oa@industrylegalgroup.com.au](mailto:oa@industrylegalgroup.com.au) or 1300 101 391. An initial consultation with ILG is complimentary as part of Optometry Victoria South Australia membership.**

## OBA ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO CPD REQUIREMENTS FOR OPTOMETRISTS

In early August the Optometry Board of Australia (OBA) announced that the continuing professional development (CPD) requirements for registered optometrists will change from 1 December 2020.

The changes will mean an increase in the time many optometrists are required to dedicate to CPD. However from 1 December 2020 there will no longer be a requirement that a proportion of CPD includes assessment, and only five of the 20 hours of CPD needs to be undertaken in an 'interactive setting.'

This means clinically-relevant case-study discussions with a small group of peers, online workshops, CPD conferences, online reading or interactive courses, webcasts or videos, may all be part of the CPD undertaken by an optometrist to meet registration requirements.

Until these changes come into effect next year practicing optometrists will be expected to meet current CPD requirements.

Optometry Australia did not fully support these changes when the OBA consulted on them in 2018 and advocated for reconsideration of some elements. However we recognised that change was likely.

In response we have developed the Optometry Australia Institute of

Excellence which includes our comprehensive online CPD calendar to search for CPD that meets your needs, as well as a comprehensive array of member-only, online CPD offerings.

To view the Optometry Australia Institute of Excellence visit [www.optometry.org.au/cpd-publications-events/](http://www.optometry.org.au/cpd-publications-events/)

### The OBA changes to CPD for optometrists include:

- CPD requirements measured in hours not points, and annually rather than a rolling two-year period;
- all registered practising optometrists to **complete at least 20 hours of evidence-based CPD** annually;
- therapeutically endorsed optometrists to complete an **additional 10 hours of CPD each year** related to therapeutic practice;
- optometrists to complete a minimum of **five of their 20 hours of CPD 'in an interactive setting** with other practitioners';
- up to five of the 20 hours of CPD undertaken may be non-scientific/non-clinical education relevant to optometry practice, and
- maintenance of a CPD portfolio which includes learning goals linked to planned CPD activities.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Back row (L-R):** From L-R: Rowan Prendergast, Murray Smith (National Director), Allison McKendrick, Anne Weymouth (Vice-President), Timothy Lo (Treasurer), Elise Pocknee-Clem (President), Cassandra Haines, Kurt Larsen, Jason Tan (Associate Director).

The Optometry Victoria South Australia Board welcomes discussion and input from our members.

If you have an issue or point of discussion you would like to raise with the Board, please feel free to contact President Elise Pocknee-Clem directly at [e.pockneeclem@optometry.org.au](mailto:e.pockneeclem@optometry.org.au)

Alternatively you can reach individual Board members via the Optometry Victoria South Australia office on (03) 9652 9100 or email [office.vicsa@optometry.org.au](mailto:office.vicsa@optometry.org.au)



DIARY  
DATES

## ECOV/SA'S BACK TO BASICS: GLAUCOMA - ADELAIDE

Through this seminar guest presenters Jacqui Warren and Paul Athanasiov will provide participants with updates in glaucoma management, key clinical pearls to early detection and management as well as collaborative care. Differences in equipment and impact on clinical findings, what to do with glaucoma suspects, when to refer and when to hold on to will all be discussed.

**Venue:** Seminar Room, Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (SA), Suite 7/102 Greenhill Road, Unley  
**Date:** Wednesday 28 August, 2019  
**Time:** 6:00pm-8.30pm (dinner provided)  
**Cost:** Free to OV/SA members. Registration is essential.

## IMMEDIATE GRADUATES DINNER

Immediate Graduate members are invited to join us for a relaxed and fun three-course dinner and drinks in the heart of Melbourne.

**Venue:** Berth Restaurant, 45 New Quay Promenade, Docklands  
**Date:** Monday 21 October, 2019  
**Time:** 7:00pm-9:00pm  
**Cost:** Free to OV/SA members. Registration is essential.

## OV/SA'S REGIONAL SEMINAR: CAN I TREAT THIS PATIENT? - TRARALGON

Through this seminar guest presenter Richard Lenne will deliver a case-based presentation providing members with an update on the range of therapeutic treatments available to optometrists, and when to use them.

**Venue:** Century Inn, 5 Airfield Road, Traralgon  
**Date:** Wednesday 20 November, 2019  
**Time:** 6:00pm-8.30pm (dinner provided)  
**Cost:** Free to OV/SA members. Registration is essential.

## OV/SA'S REGIONAL SEMINAR: CAN I TREAT THIS PATIENT? - WARRNAMBOOL

Through this seminar guest presenter Richard Lenne will deliver a case-based presentation providing members with an update on the range of therapeutic treatments available to optometrists, and when to use them.

**Venue:** Lady Bay Resort, 2 Pertobe Road, Warrnambool  
**Date:** Wednesday 27 November, 2019  
**Time:** 6:00pm-8.30pm (dinner provided)  
**Cost:** Free to OV/SA members. Registration is essential.

## OV/SA'S REGIONAL SEMINAR: CAN I TREAT THIS PATIENT? - PORT LINCOLN

Through this seminar guest presenter Richard Lenne will deliver a case-based presentation providing members with an update on the range of therapeutic treatments available to optometrists, and when to use them.

**Venue:** Port Lincoln Hotel, 1 Lincoln Highway, Port Lincoln  
**Date:** Thursday 28 November, 2019  
**Time:** 6:00pm-8.30pm (dinner provided)  
**Cost:** Free to OV/SA members. Registration is essential.

**For more information on any of the above events or to register online visit:**  
[www.optometry.org.au/cpd-publications-events/](http://www.optometry.org.au/cpd-publications-events/)