

**BEFORE THE FITNESS TO PRACTISE COMMITTEE
OF THE GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL**

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(22)26

AND

Helen Lampka - (01-10388)

**NOTICE OF INQUIRY
SUBSTANTIVE HEARING**

Take notice that an inquiry will be conducted in the above matter by the Fitness to Practise Committee of the General Optical Council.

A substantive hearing will be proceeding:

The substantive hearing will take commence at 9:30am on **13 March 2023** by way of video conference or telephone conference facilities.

The substantive hearing will take place on:

Remotely – **13th – 21st March 2023, via MS TEAMS at 09.30**

The Inquiry will be based upon the allegation submitted by the Council (see below) and will determine whether the fitness to practise of **Helen Lampka** is impaired by virtue of the provisions contained in section 13D(2) of the Opticians Act 1989.

Vineeta Desai
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

9 December 2022

ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that you, Helen Lampka (01-10388), a registered Optometrist:

1. In respect of Patient A on or around 22 May 2018, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:
 - a) Corrected distance visual acuity achieved with the new spectacle prescription for distance;
 - b) The reason for visit and/or symptoms;
 - c) An adequate internal examination of the eye;
 - d) Advice given to Patient A;
2. In respect of Patient C on or around 28 May 2016, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:
 - a) The reason for visit and/or detailed investigation of symptoms;
 - b) An adequate internal examination of the eyes;
 - c) A retinal abnormality which may have been related to the retinal vessels;
 - d) Advice given to Patient C; and
 - e) You failed to refer patient C for a further examination in 24 months, which was inappropriate based on the symptoms Patient C presented and/or family history of glaucoma;
3. In respect of Patient D on or around 22 May 2018, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:
 - a) The reason for visit and/or symptoms;
 - b) An adequate internal examination of the eyes;
 - c) Advice given to Patient D;
4. In respect of Patient E on or around 28 July 2017, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:
 - a) An adequate internal examination of the eyes;
 - b) Previous ocular history;
 - c) The intraocular pressure;
 - d) Advice given to Patient E; and

5. In respect of Patient E on or around 28 July 2017, did not refer Patient E for further investigation:
 - a) To determine the cause of reduced vision;
 - b) To rehabilitation services; and/or
 - c) To a low vision clinic;
6. In respect of Patient F on or around 4 November 2017, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:
 - a) Corrected distance visual acuity achieved with the new spectacle prescription for distance;
 - b) An adequate internal examination of the eyes;
 - c) Advice given to Patient F;
7. In respect of Patient G on or around 6 September 2017, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:
 - a) The reason for visit and/or symptoms;
 - b) An adequate internal examination of the eyes;
 - c) Advice given to Patient G; and
 - e) did not fully investigate and/or refer Patient G for further investigation of reduced visual acuity of the right eye;
8. In respect of Patient H on or around 19 April 2016 and/or 28 April 2016 did not accurately record whether a dilated eye examination was performed.
9. In respect of Patient H on or around 19 April 2016 and/or 28 April 2016, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:
 - a) An adequate internal examination of the eyes;
 - b) Advice given to Patient H;
 - c) A repeat intraocular pressure;
10. In respect of Patient H on or around 19 April 2016 and/or 28 April 2016, did not refer Patient H and/or arrange further management in respect of;
 - a) Reduced vision in the right eye;
 - b) Raised intraocular pressure of the left eye;
11. In respect of Patient I on or around 18 February 2018, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:
 - a) The reason for visit and/or symptoms;
 - b) An adequate internal examination of the eyes;

- c) Advice given to Patient I; and
 - d) Did not refer Patient I and/or arrange further management in respect of reduced vision in the left eye and/or visual field defect in the right eye;
12. In respect of Patient J on or around 28 November 2017, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:
- a) The reason for visit and/or symptoms;
 - b) Corrected distance visual acuity achieved with the new spectacle prescription for distance;
 - c) An adequate internal examination of the eyes;
 - d) Advice given to Patient J; and
 - e) Did not refer Patient J and/or arrange further assessment and/or management in respect of potentially reduced vision in the left eye;
13. In respect of Patient L on or around 15 March 2017, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:
- a) The reason for visit and/or symptoms;
 - b) An external examination of the eyes;
 - c) An adequate internal examination of the eyes;
 - d) Advice given to Patient L; and
 - e) Did not refer Patient L and/or arrange further management in respect of visual field defect in the right eye;
14. In respect of Patient M on 14 December 2016, did not accurately record whether a dilated eye examination was performed;
15. In respect of Patient M on 4 January 2017, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of;
- a) The reason for visit and/or symptoms;
 - b) An adequate internal examination of the eyes;
 - c) Advice given to Patient M;
 - d) Corrected distance visual acuity of the left eye achieved with the new spectacle prescription for distance; and
 - e) Did not refer Patient M and/or arrange further management in respect of abnormalities in both eyes;
16. In respect of Patient N on or around 20 March 2018, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:
- a) Any, or any adequate, internal examination of the eyes;

- b) Retinal photographs;
- c) Advice given to Patient N;

17. In respect of Patient O:

- a) Did not date the records; and/or
- b) Did not check and/or record whether the patient had had an eye examination within the past two years as part of the contact lens fitting;

18. In respect of Patient P, on or around 15 March 2017, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:

- a) The reason for visit and/or symptoms;
- b) An adequate internal examination of the eyes;
- c) Advice given to Patient P; and
- d) Did not verify the intraocular pressure with contact tonometry; and/or
- e) Did not refer and/or maintain an adequate record of referral for further assessment of intraocular pressure;

19. In respect of Patient Q, on an unknown date, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:

- a) Any, or any adequate, examination of the eyes;
- b) The patient's vision with contact lenses and/or if the correct contact lens prescription was issued;
- c) Whether it was appropriate for the patient to continue with contact lenses;
- d) Advice given to Patient Q;

20. In respect of Patient Q, on or around 6 March 2017, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:

- a) Any, or any adequate examination of the eyes;
- b) The patient's vision with contact lenses and/or if the correct contact lens prescription was issued;
- c) Whether it was appropriate for the patient to continue with contact lenses; d) Advice given to Patient Q;

21. In respect of Patient Q, on or around 31 March 2018, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:

- a) Any, or any adequate examination of the eyes;
- b) The patient's vision with contact lenses and/or if the correct contact lens prescription was issued;

- c) Whether it was appropriate for the patient to continue with contact lenses; d) Advice given to Patient Q
22. In respect of Patient S, on or around 16 April 2016, did not assess and/or accurately record the details of:
- a) Intraocular pressure;
 - b) The timeframe for recall and/or further examination;
23. In respect of Patient U, on or around 14 March 2017, did not:
- a) Accurately record issuing Patient U with advice;
 - b) Undertake and/or refer Patient U for further management of the intraocular pressures;
24. In respect of Patient U, on or around 1 May 2018, did not assess and/or record details of:
- a) Issuing Patient U with advice;
 - b) Recommending further assessment of the intraocular pressure;
25. In respect of Patient V, on or around 14 October 2017, did not adequately assess and/or accurately record details of:
- a) Advice given to Patient V;
 - b) Ascertaining when the last and/or next review for glaucoma was scheduled;
 - c) The intraocular pressure on the left eye
26. In respect of Patient W, on or around 18 October 2017, did not assess and/or accurately record details of:
- a) Any, or any adequate assessment of Patient W's eyes;
 - b) Retinal vein occlusion in the left eye;
27. Did not refer Patient W for further assessment and/or management in respect of the retinal vein occlusion on or around 18 October 2017.

And by virtue of the facts set out above, your fitness to practise is impaired by reason of misconduct

Committee Members: Ms Julia Wortley (Lay)
Mr Kevin Connolly (Lay)
Mr Ben Summerskill (Lay)
Ms Caroline Clerk (Optometrist)
Mr Phillipa Shaw (Optometrist)

Legal Adviser: Ms Helen Gower

Hearings Officer: TBC

Transcribers: Marten Walsh Cherer Limited

If you require further information relating to this hearing, please contact the Council's Hearings Manager at hearings@optical.org.