

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(22)37

AND

MANISH PATEL - (01-21846)

**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:

Remotely

The substantive hearing will commence at **9:30am** on **Tuesday 16 May 2023** by way of video conference or telephone conference facilities.

The substantive hearing will take place on:

Remotely

- **16 May –17 May 2023**
- **19 May 2023**
- **22 May - 26 May 2023**
- **30 May – 2 June 2023**

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

Vineeta Desai
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

30 March 2023

ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that you, Manish Patel (01-21846), a registered optometrist:

1. On or around 14 April 2020, you conducted a sight test on Patient A and you:
 - a. failed to conduct an appropriate assessment of Patient's eyes in that you;
 - i. failed to detect signs of a choroidal melanoma with associated retinal detachment in the Patient A's right eye;
 - ii. incorrectly detected a posterior vitreous detachment in Patient A's right eye, failed to carry out an adequate sight test on Patient A's right ocular fundus despite this being clinically indicated.
 - b. failed to carry out an adequate sight test on Patient A's eyes in that you;
 - i. did not undertake an adequate examination of Patient A's right ocular fundus despite this being clinically indicated;
 - ii. did not detect and/or did not document the presence of a pigmented lesion in the right eye;
 - iii. failed to urgently refer Patient A to the hospital eye service for further investigation of the signs of a choroidal melanoma with associated retinal detachment;

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

Committee Members: Mr Graham White (Chair)
Mr Kevin Connolly (Lay)
Mr John Vaughan (Lay)
Mr Christian Dutton (Optometrist)
Ms Gemma O'Rourke (Optometrist)

Legal Adviser: Mr Austin Stoton

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.