

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(23)14

AND

RISHI PATEL (01-20021)

**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:

Blended hearing

This means part of the hearing will be held physically in person and part of the hearing will be held remotely via video conference facilities.

The substantive hearing will take place on:

Physically – **Monday 13 November – Friday 17 November 2023** at **10 Old Bailey London, EC4M 7NG** at **09:30 AM**.

Remotely – **Monday 20 November – Friday 24 November 2023** at **09:30 AM** via **MS Teams**.

The Inquiry will be based upon the allegation submitted by the Council (see below) and will determine whether the fitness to practise of **Rishi 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
27 July 2023

ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that you, Rishi Patel (01-20021), a registered Optometrist:

1. *On 30 May 2019 you examined Patient A and you:*
 - a. *Failed to document the appointment adequately in Patient A's medical records in that:*
 - i. *You failed to record any details of any discussions you had with Patient A including his mention of the then slow growing lump on their lower right eyelid;*
 - ii. *You failed to record whether Patient A was currently undergoing any medication*

2. *On or around 18 January 2021 you accessed Patient A's electronic records for the appointment on 30 May 2019 and amended them by adding the words;*
 - a. *"lid irritation and flaking in the mornings";*
and/or
 - b. *"OCT normal"; and/or*
 - c. *"advised to come back or see GP if lid hygiene and hot compress doesn't [sic] resolve it"*

3. *Your actions set out at 2 were;*
 - a. *Dishonest;*
and/or
 - b. *Misleading*

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

Committee Members: James Kellock (Chair)
Diane Roskilly (Lay)
Paul Curtis (Lay)
Gemma O'Rourke (Optometrist)
Ewen MacMillan (Optometrist)

Legal Adviser: TBC

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.