

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(23)30 & 31

AND

THOMAS DUPEYRAT (D-14229)

**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 take commence at **9:30am** on **Monday 27 November – Friday 1 December 2023** by way of video conference or telephone conference facilities.

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

Louise Hall
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

14 November 2023

ALLEGATION

It is alleged that you, Mr Thomas Dupeyrat (D-14229), a registered Dispensing Optician:

- 1) Between 7 November 2018 and 28 August 2021, whilst training to become a qualified Contact Lens Optician:
 - a) Undertook 29 contact lens assessments and/or aftercare clinics without the required supervision of your primary supervisor and/or secondary supervisor;
 - b) Your conduct at 1) a) above was inappropriate in that you knew or ought to have known about the requirement for supervision and your responsibility for ensuring that your clinical examinations were appropriately supervised;
- 2) You failed to maintain adequate patient records, namely:
 - a) In relation to some or all of the patients in Schedule A, you failed to record sufficiently or at all their visual acuity and/or over-refraction;
 - b) In relation to some or all of the patients in Schedule B, you failed to record their toric lens rotation;
 - c) In relation to some or all of the patients in Schedule C, who were presbyopic patients wearing contact lenses, you failed to record a near correction;
 - d) In relation to some or all of the patients in Schedule D, you failed to record their care and/or hygiene regimen;
 - e) In relation to some or all of the patients in Schedule E, you failed to adequately record the description of contact lens fitting characteristics;
 - f) In relation to some or all of the patients in Schedule F, you failed to record that emergency advice was given to patients who wore their contact lenses on a continuous-wear basis;
 - g) In relation to some or all of the patients in Schedule G, you did not adequately record your clinical investigation of their tear assessment and/or tear film assessment;
 - h) In relation to Patient 32, you did not adequately record details of whether their symptoms were improved with new contact lenses;
 - i) In relation to Patient 53, you did not adequately record details of their macropunctuate staining and/or contact lens peripheral ulcer;
 - j) In relation to Patient 148, you did not adequately record details of their corneal neovascularisation;

- k) In relation to some or all of the patients in Schedule H, your record keeping was inadequate as detailed in the supporting table;
- l) In relation to some or all of the patients in Schedule I:
 - i) a score of 0 was given for their Anterior Segment Grading; and
 - ii) Your recording was inaccurate as it's improbable that these patients would score 0 for all structures examined;
- 3) Around November 2021 you submitted inaccurate case records for the purposes of your Association of British Dispensing Opticians ("ABDO") accreditation, with some or all discrepancies as detailed in Schedule J;
- 4) Your conduct at 3) above was:
 - a) Misleading and/or
 - b) Dishonest in that you knew that the case records submitted for scrutiny contained inaccurate information;
- 5) You failed to maintain patient confidentiality, in that you did not adequately anonymise the case records that you submitted to ABDO

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

Committee Members: Pamela Ormerod (Chair)
Alice Robertson-Rickard (Lay)
Vivienne Geary (Lay)
Judith Stodel (Dispensing Optician)
Ian Taylor (Dispensing Optician)

Legal Adviser: Graeme Dalglish

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.