STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1974 No. 1329

OPTICIANS

The General Optical Council (Rules on the Testing of Sight by Persons Training as Ophthalmic Opticians) Order of Council 1974

Made - - - 1*st August* 1974

Coming into Operation 1*st August* 1974

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 1st day of August 1974

By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council

Whereas in pursuance of section 20(3) of the Opticians Act 1958(a) the General Optical Council have made rules entitled "The Rules on the Testing of Sight by Persons Training as Ophthalmic Opticians 1974":

Now, therefore, Their Lordships, having taken the said rules into consideration, are hereby pleased, in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by section 20(4) of the said Act and all other powers Them enabling, to approve the same as set out in the Schedule to this Order.

This Order may be cited as the General Optical Council (Rules on the Testing of Sight by Persons Training as Ophthalmic Opticians) Order of Council 1974.

N. E. Leigh

SCHEDULE

THE RULES ON THE TESTING OF SIGHT BY PERSONS TRAINING AS OPHTHALMIC OPTICIANS 1974

The General Optical Council in exercise of their powers under section 20(3) of the Opticians Act 1958 hereby make the following rules:—

1. These rules may be cited as the Rules on the Testing of Sight by Persons Training as Ophthalmic Opticians 1974.

2. (*a*) In these rules "the Act" means the Opticians Act 1958; "the Council" means the General Optical Council established under the Act; and the phrases "ophthalmic optician" and "registered ophthalmic optician" have the meaning given them by section 30 of the Act.

(a) 1958 c. 32.

(*b*) The Interpretation Act 1889(a) shall apply for the interpretation of these rules as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3. A person training as an ophthalmic optician who falls within either of the classes prescribed by Rule 4 of these rules may in the course of obtaining practical experience test the sight of another person if he does so:—

(*a*) under the continuous personal supervision of a registered ophthalmic optician, or

(*b*) in an ophthalmic hospital or department of a hospital under the continuous personal supervision of a registered medical practitioner on the staff of the hospital or department.

4. The classes of persons training as ophthalmic opticians prescribed for purposes of these rules are the following:—

(1) Persons who have passed all the necessary examinations for a qualification recognised by the Council on or before 1st June 1961 as a qualification as an ophthalmic optician under section 3(2) of the Act, or recognised by the Council for the time being as a qualification as an ophthalmic optician under section 3(4) of the Act, or approved by the Council for the time being as a qualification suitable to be granted to an ophthalmic optician under section 5 of the Act.

(2) Persons who have been accepted by a body granting a qualification approved by the Council for the time being under section 5 of the Act as suitable to be granted to an ophthalmic optician, to sit without further full-time study Part II of the examinations for the qualification so approved, by virtue of:—

(*a*) passing, or having been exempted from, Part I of the examinations for the qualification and completing a course of instruction at a training institution approved by the Council under section 5 of the Act, or

(*b*) a qualification as an ophthalmic optician granted outside the United Kingdom.

5. These rules shall come into operation on 1st January 1975 and the Rules on the Testing of Sight by Persons Training as Ophthalmic Opticians 1961 (scheduled to the General Optical Council (Rules on the Testing of Sight by Persons Training as Ophthalmic Opticians) Order of Council 1961(b)) and the Rules on the Testing of Sight by Persons Training as Opthalmic Opticians (Amendment) Rules 1967 (scheduled to the General Optical Council (Rules on the Testing of Sight by Persons Training as Ophthalmic Opticians) (Amendment) Order of Council 1967(c)) shall cease to have effect on that date.

Sealed on the 27th day of June 1974.

Attested by:

J. ERIC RICHARDSON,
Member of Council.

(L.S.)

BRIAN HARCOURT,
Member of Council.

J. DANIEL DEVLIN,
Registrar.

(a) 1889 c. 63.

(b) S.I. 1961/943 (1961 II, p. 1838).

(c) S.I. 1967/987 (1967 II, p. 3006).

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order.)

The rules approved by this Order consolidate, with an amendment, the rules exempting certain classes of persons training as ophthalmic opticians from the provision in section 20(1) of the Opticians Act 1958 that a person who is not a registered medical practitioner or registered ophthalmic optician shall not test the sight of another person.

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