

OPTOMETRISTS REGISTRATION BOARD OF TASMANIA

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OB:LETTERS 2008: Submission Accreditation

17 December 2008

Ms Bronwyn Nardi
Chair
Practitioner Regulation Subcommittee
Health Workforce Principal Committee

ACCREDITATION ARRANGEMENTS SUBMISSION

The Optometrists Registration Board of Tasmania makes the following submissions in relation to the consultation paper on accreditation arrangements for the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme:

- The Optometry Board of Australia (the Board) should maintain responsibility for the accreditation function and any contract should be between the accrediting body and the Board. Accreditation standards should be developed by the accrediting body and approved by the Board.
- In relation to specialties, approval of any new specialties or specialty area of practice should be the responsibility of the National Board and not the Ministerial Council. (3.4.3)
- The governing body of external accrediting authorities should be appointed on a skills basis including specialist education skills which may be outside of the particular professional area. (3.5)
- An internal merit review process should be provided by the accrediting body (eg. another site visit by a different team) with any external review being available for process only. Independence of accreditation could be compromised by introducing another alternate accreditation process through external appeal. (3.7.1)

The Board has no specific comments in relation to other matters raised in the paper.

Yours sincerely

JAYNE WILSON
Registrar