

OPTOMETRISTS BOARD
視 光 師 管 理 委 員 會

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30 December 2013

To: All registered optometrists

Dear Registrants,

Publication of the Optometrists Board's Decisions at Disciplinary Inquiries

This letter informs you of the new arrangement on publication of the Optometrists ("OP") Board's decisions made at disciplinary inquiries on the OP Board's website.

The Supplementary Medical Professions Council ('the Council') agreed, at its 11 December 2013 meeting, to adopt the following arrangement on the publication of the OP Board's decisions –

- (a) For inquiries conducted after 11 December 2013 where the registered optometrists are found guilty of professional misconduct, the full judgment will be published on the OP Board's website;
- (b) Identity of the respondent(s) will be published in the full judgment for guilty cases where the orders are to be published in the Gazette. For guilty cases where the orders are not to be published in the Gazette, the name(s) of the respondent(s) will be edited out;
- (c) Identity of other parties such as patients, complainants, expert witnesses will be edited out;
- (d) The judgment will be published after the expiry of the one-month appeal period or the final conclusion of any appeal; and
- (e) The judgment will be published on the OP Board's website for a fixed period of 5 years.

The information is intended to enhance transparency of the disciplinary proceedings and to educate members of the profession as to what constitutes professional misconduct. It also provides a ready source of reference for the public in making an informed choice of optometrists.

Opportunity is also taken to remind you that all optometrists should conduct their professional duties in accordance with the Supplementary Medical Professions Ordinance (Cap. 359, Laws of Hong Kong), the Optometrists (Registration and Disciplinary Procedure) Regulation, and the Code of Practice for registered optometrists; a breach of which may lead to criminal convictions and/or disciplinary actions by the OP Board.

Please visit the OP Board's website regularly for updated information. For enquiries, please contact the Secretariat by phone: (852) 2527 8363 or by e-mail: smpb@dh.gov.hk.

Yours faithfully,

(C S KOO)
Secretary, Optometrists Board