

**BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
PROPOSED LANGUAGE**

Repeal section 1569 of Division 15 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations as follows:

~~§ 1569. Scope of Practice.~~

~~(a) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the scope of practice of an optometrist as it existed prior to the effective date of this regulation. Optometrists certified to use Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents (TPA certified) may also diagnose and treat the human eye or eyes, or any of its appendages, for all of the following conditions, exclusively:~~

~~—(1) Through medical treatment, infections of the anterior segment and adnexa, excluding the lacrimal gland, the lacrimal drainage system and the sclera. Nothing in this section shall authorize any optometrist to treat a person with AIDS for ocular infections.~~

~~—(2) Ocular allergies of the anterior segment and adnexa.~~

~~—(3) Ocular inflammation, nonsurgical in cause, limited to inflammation resulting from traumatic iritis, peripheral corneal inflammatory keratitis, episcleritis, and unilateral nonrecurrent nongranulomatous idiopathic iritis in patients over the age of 18. Unilateral nongranulomatous idiopathic iritis recurring within one year of the initial occurrence shall be referred to an ophthalmologist. An optometrist shall consult with an ophthalmologist if a patient has a recurrent case of episcleritis within one year of the initial occurrence. An optometrist shall consult with an ophthalmologist if a patient has a recurrent case of peripheral corneal inflammatory keratitis within one year of the initial occurrence.~~

~~—(4) Traumatic or recurrent conjunctival or corneal abrasions and erosion.~~

~~—(5) Corneal surface disease and dry eyes.~~

~~—(6) Ocular pain, not related to surgery, associated with conditions optometrists are authorized to treat.~~

~~—(8) Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 3041, subdivision (f), primary open angle glaucoma in patients over the age of 18.~~

~~(b) A TPA certified optometrist may also perform all of the following:~~

~~—(1) Mechanical epilation~~

~~—(2) Ordering of smears, cultures, sensitivities, complete blood count, mycobacterial culture, acid fast stain, and urinalysis.~~

~~—(3) Punctal occlusion by plugs, excluding laser, cautery, diathermy, cryotherapy, or other means constituting surgery as defined in this chapter.~~

~~—(4) Prescription of therapeutic contact lenses.~~

~~—(5) Removal of superficial foreign bodies of the eyelid and conjunctiva.~~

~~—(6) Removal of foreign bodies of the cornea, eyelid, and conjunctiva. Corneal foreign bodies shall be nonperforating, be no deeper than the anterior stroma, and require no surgical repair upon removal. Within the central 3mm of the cornea, the use of sharp instruments is prohibited.~~

~~—(7) For patients over the age of 12 years, lacrimal irrigation and dilation, excluding probing of the nasal lacrimal tract. The State Board of Optometry shall certify an optometrist to perform this procedure after completing 10 of the procedures under the supervision of an ophthalmologist as confirmed by the ophthalmologist.~~

~~—(8) No injections other than the use of an auto-injector to counter anaphylaxis.~~

~~—(c) TPA certified optometrists are prohibited from treating children under one year of age with therapeutic pharmaceutical agents.~~

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 3025 and 3041.2, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 2266, 3027.5, 3041, 3041.1, 3108 and 3109, Business and Professions Code.