

PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

LCB File No. R045-15

June 29, 2015

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: NRS 636.125.

A REGULATION relating to optometry and the certification of optometrists to treat glaucoma and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Under existing law and regulations, an optometrist training with an ophthalmologist to receive a certificate for the treatment of glaucoma must conduct an optometric examination of the patients he or she is seeing at least once every four months for not less than one year. The amendment will allow the optometrist and the ophthalmologist to establish an appropriate frequency for visits with the optometrist as are deemed appropriate for the particular patient.

Section 1. NAC 636.290 is hereby amended to read as follows:

636.290 1. An optometrist who treats persons for glaucoma in consultation with an ophthalmologist pursuant to NRS 636.2891, 636.2893 and 636.2895 shall:

- (a) Conduct an optometric examination of the patient at ~~least once every 4 months~~ *at such times as set out in a plan of treatment for the patient established by the optometrist in consultation with an ophthalmologist* for not less than 1 year;
- (b) Provide written records of each examination of a patient and the treatment to the consulting ophthalmologist; and
- (c) Refer the patient to an ophthalmologist for further examination or treatment if the ophthalmologist determines, after reviewing the written records, that such a referral is necessary.

2. Within 30 days after a consulting ophthalmologist receives the records of an optometric examination and a course of treatment from an optometrist, the consulting ophthalmologist shall notify the optometrist in writing as to whether the consulting ophthalmologist agrees to the course of treatment outlined by the optometrist.

3. During the period before an optometrist is certified to treat persons diagnosed with glaucoma, the optometrist shall not treat any patient found to have any of the conditions or complications set forth in NRS 636.2891 which require referral of such patients to an ophthalmologist.

4. The records of each patient created as a result of treatment provided by an optometrist in accordance with the provisions of this section and NRS 636.2891:

(a) Must be retained by the optometrist for not less than 5 years as required by NRS 629.051; and

(b) Are subject to examination by the Board.