/436717/2024



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICASSAM HENGRABARI, GUWAHATI – 36.

No. HSE/Ophthalmic/E-444799/6

Dated at Guwahati, the 06/02/2024

From:

Director of Health Services, Assam

Hengrabari, Guwahati-36.

To,

The Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Health & Family Welfare Department

Dispur, Guwahati-06.

Sub:

Independent practice Rights of Optometrist in Assam.

Ref No.

1. Association's letter No. 003/0AA/10/2023, dated 12/10/2023.

2. Director, RIO's letter No.RIO/MC/2024/5945, dated 01/02/2024.

Sir/ Madam.

With reference to subject and letters under reference, I have the honour to forward herewith the letter received from the Optometry Association of Assam regarding the clarification on independent practice rights of Optometrist in Assam. After received of letter from the Association, this Directorate has collected the valuable view & comments of the Director & HOD, Regional Institute of Ophthalmology, Gauhati Medical College & Hospital, Guwahati-22 in this regard, which is enclosed herewith for ready reference.

This is for your information & further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Signed by Kareng Rongpipi

Datector of -102 H202 ides,1 Assand: 21

Hengrabari, Guwahati-36.

Memo No. HSE/Ophthalmic/E-444799/6

Dated at Guwahati, the 06/02/2024

- Copy for information to:
 - 1. The Director & HOD, Regional Institute of Ophthalmology, Gauhati Medical College & Hospital, Guwahati-32.
 - 2. President/ Secretary, Optometry Association of Assam. Email: optometryaassam@gmail.com.

e-singed Director of Health Services, Assam Hengrabari, Guwahati-36.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR & H.O.D

REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY: GAUHATI MEDICAL COLLEGE
& HOSPITAL,
GUWAHATI-32

NO/RIO/MC/2024/ 5995

Dated: 01/02/2024

To,

The Director of Health Services, Assam Hengrabari, Guwahati – 36

Sub: Regarding Independent Practice Rights of Optometrists

Ref No. HSE/Ophthalmic/25/2023/12670, dated 22/12/2023

Sir.

With reference to the subject I hereby submit my views and comments regarding the clarification on independent practice rights of Optometrists in Assam. The profession of Optometry is a part of modern Medical Science and Optometrists with a minimum Bachelor degree (B.Optm) are trained professionals who can work independently or in connection with other eye/health care professionals. They play a leading role in eye care provision at the Primary/Secondary and Tertiary levels and other Healthcare providers towards the unified goal of combating Blindness in the region.

Duties & Responsibilities of Optometrists are as follows:

- 1. To test Visual Acuity (Distant vision, Near Vision, Color Vision)
- 2. To test field of Vision (Peripheral field of Vision & Central field of Vision)
- 3. Comprehensive Eye examination (i.e. Cataract, Glaucoma, Corneal Ulcer/Opacity, Retinopathy, ARMD, Trachoma, Uveitis, Squint/Strabismus, Amblyopia etc)
- 4. Prescribe Eye glasses to correct refractive error (Myopia, Hypermetropia, Presbyopia and Astigmatism)
- 5. Prescribe Contact Lenses to correct Refractive error and other Eye condition
- 6. Prescribe Prism to correct Squint/Strabismus
- 7. Prescribe Low Visual Aid to the partially sighted person
- 8. Binocular Vision Therapy
- 9. Geriatric Vision Therapy & Pediatric Vision Therapy
- 10. Sports Vision therapy & Occupational Vision Therapy
- 11. Vision Screening for School going children for early detection of Refractive Error, Squint, Amblyopia and other pediatric eye conditions.
- 12. Medical intervention for few mild ocular disorders

- a) Conjunctivitis, b) Trachoma, c) Eye Allergies, d) Dry Eye, e) Eyelid Problem (Stye, Chalazion, Blepharitis) f) Lacrimal System disorder, g) Superficial corneal foreign body, h) Vit - A deficiency
- 13. Uses Of Medication
 - a) Basic antibiotic drop, b) Myotics, c) Mydriatics & Cycloplegics d) Vitamins & Minerals, e) Topical anesthetics, f) Pain killer, anti-histamine, antiallergic
- 14. Minor surgical procedure
 - a) Superficial foreign body removal, b) Epilation for Trichiasis.
- 15. Enucleation of Eyeball for Corneal transplantation.
- 16. Eye health Education at primary level for peripheral staff.
- 17. Referral of patients to other Healthcare Professional.

This is for your kind information and necessary action

Dr. (Prof.) Shubhra Dasjuhati Medical

Regional Institute of Ophthalmology Gauhati Medical College Hospital

Guwahati-32

Dated: 01/02/2024

Memo NO/RIO/MC/2024/

Copy forward to:

1. The Principal cum Chief Superintendent, GMCH, Guwahati for information.

2.Office file

Dr. (Prof.) Shubhra Das)

Director & HOD

Regional Institute of Ophthalmology Gauhati Medical College Hospital

Guwahati-32