

**Contact Lens Practitioners Act
(CHAPTER 53A)**

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CONTACT LENS PRACTITIONERS ACT

(CHAPTER 53A)

(Original Enactment: Act 25 of 1995)

REVISED EDITION 2002

(31st December 2002)

An Act to provide for the registration of contact lens practitioners and for purposes connected therewith.

[1st February 1996]

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Contact Lens Practitioners Act.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“annual licence” means an annual licence granted under section 9;

“Authority” means the Health Sciences Authority established under the Health Sciences Authority Act (Cap. 122C);

“Board” means the Contact Lens Practitioners Board established under section 3;

“contact lens practitioner” means a person engaged in the testing of sight and the prescription or the fitting of contact lenses;

“institution” means an institution of higher learning and includes a university, college or polytechnic;

“licence” means an annual licence or a provisional licence granted under this Act;

“provisional licence” means a provisional licence granted under section 10;

“register” means the register of contact lens practitioners maintained under section 6;

“registered contact lens practitioner” means a contact lens practitioner whose name is registered in the register;

“registered medical practitioner” has the same meaning as in the Medical Registration Act (Cap. 174);

“Registrar” means the Registrar of the Board appointed under section 5(1);

“testing of sight” means the examination of the eyes and the measurement of their functions and powers with the object of —

(a) determining whether there is any abnormality or defect of sight and, if so, the nature and degree of such abnormality; and

(b) correcting, remedying or relieving any abnormality or defect of sight.

[4/2001]

Establishment of Contact Lens Practitioners Board

3.—(1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the Contact Lens Practitioners Board which shall consist of the following members, all of whom shall be appointed by the Authority:

- (a) a registered medical practitioner with specialist qualification in ophthalmology, who shall be the chairman;
- (b) 2 members who are registered contact lens practitioners;
- (c) 2 members who are registered medical practitioners with specialist qualifications in ophthalmology; and
- (d) 2 members of the academic staff of any institution in Singapore which conducts a course of instruction in optometry or contact lens practice.

[4/2001]

(2) The Authority may give to the Board such directions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as to the exercise and performance by the Board of its functions and powers, and the Board shall give effect to any such direction.

[4/2001]

(3) The Schedule shall apply to the Board, its members and proceedings.

Functions of Board

4. It shall be the functions of the Board to —

- (a) maintain a register of contact lens practitioners;
- (b) determine the requirements for the training, education and examination of persons for the purposes of registration under this Act;
- (c) determine the syllabuses and the contents of courses of instruction and the examinations leading to the qualifications required for registration under this Act;
- (d) provide continuing education for contact lens practitioners; and
- (e) regulate, determine and improve the standards of practice, professional conduct and discipline of contact lens practitioners.

Appointment and duties of Registrar

5.—(1) The Authority shall appoint a Registrar of the Board.

[4/2001]

(2) The Registrar shall be under the general direction of the Board and shall —

- (a) maintain the register of contact lens practitioners in accordance with this Act;
- (b) sign all certificates of registration and licences granted by the Board; and
- (c) record all entries of registration, cancellations and reinstatements in the register.

(3) The Registrar shall attend all meetings of the Board and record the proceedings thereof, and shall conduct the correspondence and deal with such matters as may be assigned to him by the Board.

(4) The Registrar shall —

- (a) as soon as may be convenient after 1st February 1996, prepare and publish in the *Gazette* a list containing the names, qualifications and addresses of all contact lens practitioners whose names appear in the register and thereafter shall publish a revised list at least once in 3 years; and
- (b) from time to time publish in the *Gazette* the names, qualifications and addresses of all contact lens practitioners added to or removed from the register.

(5) In any proceedings, a list published under subsection (4) shall be prima facie evidence that any person whose name appears therein is registered as a contact lens practitioner.

(6) The Authority may appoint such person as it considers fit to act as Registrar during the absence from Singapore or incapacity from illness or otherwise of the Registrar.

[4/2001]

Register

6.—(1) The register of contact lens practitioners shall be maintained in such form as the Board may determine and shall contain —

- (a) the names of all persons registered under this Act;
- (b) the qualifications by virtue of which they are so registered; and
- (c) such other particulars as may from time to time be determined by the Board.

(2) Any person may, on payment of the prescribed fee, inspect the register at any time during the office hours of the Board.

(3) A copy of any entry in the register purporting to be certified by the Registrar as a