

**BEFORE THE FITNESS TO PRACTISE COMMITTEE  
OF THE GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL**

**GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL**

**F(24)19**

**AND**

**LATEEF IQBAL (01-23160)**

---

**NOTICE OF INQUIRY  
SUBSTANTIVE HEARING**

---

Take notice that an inquiry will be conducted in the above matter by the Fitness to Practise Committee of the General Optical Council.

A substantive hearing will be proceeding:

**Blended hearing**

this means part of the hearing will be held physically in person and part of the hearing will be held remotely via video conference facilities.

The substantive hearing will take place on:

Physically – at **09:30 on Monday 17 November 2025 – Monday 01 December 2025** at the GOC offices: **Level 29, One Canada Square, London, E14 5AA.**

Remotely – on **Tuesday 02 December – Tuesday 09 December 2025** via **Microsoft Teams.**

The Inquiry will be based upon the allegation submitted by the Council (see below) and will determine whether the fitness to practise of **Lateef Iqbal** is impaired by virtue of the provisions contained in section 13D(2) of the Opticians Act 1989.

---

Euan Napier  
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

30 September 2025

## **ALLEGATION (as amended)**

The Council alleges that you, Lateef Iqbal (01-23160), a registered optometrist whilst employed at Specsavers Opticians [redacted]:

1. On or around 7 May 2021, you prescribed Patient A with a reading addition of +1.00 in their right and left eye and;
  - a. Did not measure and/or record their near function without a reading addition;
  - b. Did not measure and/or record their binocular status;
  - c. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;
  - d. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;
2. On or around 7 May 2021, you prescribed Patient B with a reading addition of +1.00 in their right and left eye and;
  - a. Did not measure and/or record their near visual function without a reading addition;
  - b. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;
  - c. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;
3. On or around 23 April 2021 you prescribed Patient C with a reading addition of +0.75 in their right and left eye and;
  - a. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;
  - b. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;
4. On or around 23 April 2021, you prescribed Patient D with a reading addition of +0.50 and;
  - a. Did not measure and/or record their near visual function without a reading addition;
  - b. Did not measure and/or record their binocular status;
  - c. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;

- d. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;
- 5. On or around 23 April 2021, you prescribed Patient E with a reading addition of +0.50 and;
  - a. Did not measure and/or record their binocular status;
  - b. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;
  - c. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;
- 6. On or around 7 May 2021, you prescribed Patient F with a reading addition of +0.50 in their right and left eye and;
  - a. Did not measure and/or record their near visual function without a reading addition;
  - b. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;
  - c. Did not measure and/or record their near vision ocular motor balance;
  - d. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;
- 7. On or around 7 May 2021, you prescribed Patient G with a reading addition of +0.75 in their right and left eye and;
  - a. Did not measure and/or record their near visual function with the distance correction;
  - b. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;
  - c. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;
- 8. On or around 7 May 2021, you prescribed Patient H with a reading addition of +0.50 in their right and left eye and;
  - a. Did not measure and/or not record their near visual acuity without a reading addition;
  - b. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;

- c. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;
- 9. On or around 7 May 2021, you prescribed Patient I with a reading addition of +0.50 in their right and left eye and;
  - a. Did not measure and/or record their near visual function without a reading addition;
  - b. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;
  - c. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;
- 10. On or around 21 March 2021, you prescribed Patient K with a reading addition of +0.75 in their right and left eye and;
  - a. Did not measure and/or record their near visual function without a reading addition;
  - b. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;
  - c. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;
- 11. On or around 19 February 2021, you prescribed Patient L with a reading addition of +0.75 in their right and left eye and;
  - a. Did not measure and/or not record their near visual acuity without a reading addition;
  - b. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;
  - c. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;
- 12. On or around 19 February 2021, you prescribed Patient M with a reading addition of +0.50 in their right and left eye and;
  - a. Did not measure and/or not record their near visual acuity without a reading addition;
  - b. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;
  - c. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;

13. On or around 8 July 2021, you prescribed Patient N with a reading addition of +1.00 in their right and left eye and;

- a. Did not measure and/or not record their near visual acuity without a reading addition;
- b. Did not measure and/or record their convergence facility;
- c. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;

14. On or around 31 March 2021, you prescribed Patient O with a reading addition of +0.75 in their right and left eye and;

- a. Did not measure and/or not record their near visual acuity without a reading addition;
- b. Did not measure and/or record their accommodative and/or convergence facility;
- c. Did not appropriately investigate symptoms and/or provide clinical justification for prescribing;

15. Between October 2020 and May 2021, you removed and/or arranged for the removal of end dates from patient contact lens specifications.

16. Whilst carrying out your duties as a pre-registrant supervisor at [redacted], you failed to ensure that supervision was undertaken appropriately in that:

- a. you were not in a position to adequately supervise when you were in your office as this office is located on a different floor from the pre-registration optometrist and you would have to go downstairs, out onto the street and in the store from the office to where the pre-registration optometrist was serving patients;
- b. you would arrive at the practice when a trainee's clinic had already started, having made no arrangements for alternative supervision.
- c. you were not always on the premises during business hours and you would often leave the premises to visit Specsavers Opticians [redacted] or local shops whilst trainees performed sight tests and other staff would also pre-test without a clinician in the building;
- d. Pre-registrants and their supervisors were given inadequate time or the same testing time as qualified optometrists for supervision meaning that they were unable to be adequately supervised;
- e. you failed to provide adequate assistance to pre-registrant optometrists leading to pre-registrant optometrists consulting each other if they had any doubts or concerns;

17. Between January to July 2021, you failed to maintain adequate records for the patients set out in Schedule A, in that when completing their clinical records, you provided inadequate information and/or no information at all.
18. Your actions as set out in 1 – 14 were dishonest in that you prescribed reading additions for several patients without any appropriate clinical justification and for financial gain;
19. Your actions as set out in 15 lacked integrity in that by removing the end dates from patient contact lens specifications, patients could continue to be charged for contact lenses beyond their end dates and/or without further examinations/check-ups.

And by virtue of the facts set out above, your fitness to practise is impaired by reason of misconduct.

---

**Committee Members:**

Julia Wortley (Chair)  
Carolyn Tetlow (Lay)  
Miriam Karp (Lay)  
Amit Jinabhai (Optometrist)  
Gemma O'Rourke (Optometrist)

**Legal Adviser:**

John Boumphrey

**Hearings Officer:**

Arjeta Shabani

**Transcribers:**

Marten Walsh Cherer Limited

If you require further information relating to this hearing, please contact the Council's Hearings Manager at [hearings@optical.org](mailto:hearings@optical.org).