

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(24)41

AND

GERAINT GRIFFITHS (01-10586)

**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:

Remotely

The substantive hearing will commence at **9:30am** on **Monday 7 July – Friday 25 July 2025** by way of video conference or telephone conference facilities.

The 8, 15 and 22 July 2025 will be non-sitting days.

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

Euan Napier
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

12 March 2025

ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that you, Mr Geraint Griffiths (01-10586), a registered Optometrist:

1. *Misdiagnosed Patient 1 with divergence insufficiency and/or convergence excess and/or accommodation insufficiency on the following dates:*
 - a. *30 June 2020; and/or*
 - b. *19 January 2021; and/or*
 - c. *22 March 2022; and/or*
 - d. *25 November 2022*
2. *Prescribed Patient 1 spectacles with varifocal lenses and/or prisms when it was not clinically indicated to do on the following dates:*
 - b. *30 June 2020; and/or*
 - b. *19 January 2021; and/or*
 - c. *22 March 2022; and/or*
 - d. *25 November 2022*
3. *Failed to record, adequately or at all, the assessment of Patient 1's binocular vision on the following dates:*
 - a. *30 June 2020; and/or*
 - b. *19 January 2021; and/or*
 - c. *22 March 2022; and/or*
 - d. *25 November 2022*
4. *Misdiagnosed Patient 2 with divergence excess and/or convergence insufficiency on the following dates:*
 - a. *29 December 2012; and/or*
 - b. *27 April 2013; and/or*
 - c. *15 June 2013; and/or*
 - d. *17 August 2013; and/or*
 - e. *18 January 2014; and/or*
 - f. *7 June 2014; and/or*
 - g. *31 January 2015; and/or*
 - h. *1 June 2015; and/or*

- i. 6 June 2015; and/or*
 - j. 9 January 2016; and/or*
 - k. 14 October 2017; and/or*
 - l. 23 November 2018; and/or*
 - m. 10 July 2020; and/or*
 - n. 23 July 2022;*
- 5. Prescribed Patient 2 spectacles with varifocal lenses and/or prisms when it was not clinically indicated to do on the following dates:*
 - a. 29 December 2012; and/or*
 - b. 27 April 2013; and/or*
 - c. 15 June 2013; and/or*
 - d. 17 August 2013; and/or*
 - e. 18 January 2014; and/or*
 - f. 7 June 2014; and/or*
 - g. 31 January 2015; and/or*
 - h. 1 June 2015; and/or*
 - i. 6 June 2015; and/or*
 - j. 9 January 2016; and/or*
 - k. 14 October 2017; and/or*
 - l. 23 November 2018; and/or*
 - m. 10 July 2020; and/or*
- 6. Failed to record, adequately or at all, the assessment of Patient 2's binocular vision on the following dates:*
 - a. 29 December 2012; and/or*
 - b. 27 April 2013; and/or*
 - c. 15 June 2013; and/or*
 - d. 17 August 2013; and/or*
 - e. 18 January 2014; and/or*
 - f. 7 June 2014; and/or*
 - g. 31 January 2015; and/or*

- h. 1 June 2015; and/or*
 - i. 6 June 2015; and/or*
 - j. 9 January 2016; and/or*
 - k. 14 October 2017; and/or*
 - l. 23 November 2018; and/or*
 - m. 10 July 2020; and/or*
 - n. 23 July 2022;*
- 7. On or around 23 July 2022 misdiagnosed Patient 2's vision as less than 1/60 in the left eye and/or the right eye.*
- 8. On or around 23 July 2022 failed to refer Patient 2 on a same day basis and/or to seek advice on Patient 2's management.*
- 9. Misdiagnosed Patient 3 with divergence excess and/or convergence insufficiency and/or accommodation insufficiency on 17 September 2022*
- 10. Prescribed Patient 3 spectacles with varifocal lenses and/or prisms when it was not clinically indicated to do on 17 September 2022*
- 11. Failed to record, adequately or at all, the assessment of Patient 3 's binocular vision on the following dates:*
 - a. 28 July 2022; and/or*
 - b. 17 September 2022*
- 12. Misdiagnosed Patient 4 with divergence excess and/or convergence insufficiency and/or accommodation insufficiency on the following dates:*
 - a. 1 August 2018; and/or*
 - b. 17 November 2018; and/or*
 - c. 5 May 2019; and/or*
 - d. 17 August 2019; and/or*
 - e. 28 August 2019; and/or*
 - f. 18 February 2020*
- 13. Prescribed Patient 4 spectacles with varifocal lenses and/or prisms when it was not clinically indicated to do on the following dates:*
 - a. 1 August 2018; and/or*
 - b. 17 November 2018; and/or*
 - c. 5 May 2019; and/or*

d. 17 August 2019; and/or

e. 28 August 2019; and/or

f. 18 February 2020

14. Failed to record, adequately or at all, the assessment of Patient 4's binocular vision on the following dates:

a. 1 August 2018; and/or

b. 17 November 2018; and/or

c. 5 May 2019; and/or

d. 17 August 2019; and/or

e. 28 August 2019; and/or

f. 18 February 2020

15. Prior to prescribing spectacles failed to carry out an external and/or internal examination of Patient 1's eyes on the following dates:

a. 30 June 2020; and/or

b. 19 January 2021; and/or

c. 22 March 2022; and/or

d. 25 November 2022

16. In the alternative to 15. above you failed to record the external and/or internal examination of Patient 1's eyes:

a. 30 June 2020; and/or

b. 19 January 2021; and/or

c. 22 March 2022; and/or

d. 25 November 2022

17. Prior to prescribing spectacles failed to carry out an external and/or internal examination of Patient 2's eyes on the following dates:

a. 27 April 2013; and/or

b. 18 January 2014; and/or

c. 7 June 2014; and/or

d. 31 January 2015; and/or

e. 9 January 2016; and/or

f. 10 July 2020;

18. *In the alternative to 17. above you failed to record the external and/or internal examination of Patient 2's eyes:*

- a. *27 April 2013; and/or*
- b. *18 January 2014; and/or*
- c. *7 June 2014; and/or*
- d. *31 January 2015; and/or*
- e. *9 January 2016; and/or*
- f. *10 July 2020;*

19. *Prior to prescribing spectacles failed to carry out an external and/or internal examination of Patient 3's eyes on the following dates:*

- a. *28 July 2022; and/or*
- b. *17 September 2022*

20. *In the alternative to 19. above you failed to record the external and/or internal examination of Patient 3's eyes:*

- a. *28 July 2022; and/or*
- b. *17 September 2022*

21. *Prior to prescribing spectacles failed to carry out an external and/or internal examination of Patient 4's eyes on the following dates:*

- a. *1 August 2018; and/or*
- b. *17 November 2018; and/or*
- c. *5 May 2019; and/or*
- d. *17 August 2019; and/or*
- e. *28 August 2019; and/or*
- f. *18 February 2020*

22. *In the alternative to 21. above you failed to record the external and/or internal examination of Patient 4's eyes:*

- a. *1 August 2018; and/or*
- b. *17 November 2018; and/or*
- c. *5 May 2019; and/or*
- d. *17 August 2019; and/or*
- e. *28 August 2019; and/or*

f. 18 February 2020

23. *Between 4 February 2020 and 25 November 2022 did not obtain informed consent from Patient 1's parent/s in that you did not explain, adequately or at all, the evidential basis of the treatment.*
24. *In the alternative to 23. above failed to record any discussions held with Patient 1's parent/s in relation to the obtaining of informed consent.*
25. *Between 29 December 2012 and 23 July 2022 did not obtain informed consent from Patient 2's parent/s in that you did not explain, adequately or at all, the evidential basis of the treatment.*
26. *In the alternative to 25. above failed to record any discussions held with Patient 2's parent/s in relation to the obtaining of informed consent.*
27. *Between 28 July and 17 September 2022 did not obtain informed consent from Patient 3's parent/s in that you did not explain, adequately or at all, the evidential basis of the treatment.*
28. *In the alternative to 27. above failed to record any discussions held with Patient 3's parent/s in relation to the obtaining of informed consent.*
29. *Between 1 August 2018 and 18 February 2020 did not obtain informed consent from Patient 4's parent/s in that you did not explain, adequately or at all, the evidential basis of the treatment.*
30. *In the alternative to 29. above failed to record any discussions held with Patient 4's parent/s in relation to the obtaining of informed consent.*
31. *Acted outside the scope of your expertise in that:*
 - i. *On or around 1 August 2018 you advised Patient 4's mother that Patient 4 had and/or was predisposed to dyslexia;*
 - ii. *On or around 1 August 2018 you provided dietary advice in respect of Patient 4 to their mother in that you recommended a book named the Plant Paradox;*
 - iii. *On or around 1 August 2018 you provided dietary advice in respect of Patient 3 to their mother in that you recommended a book named the Plant Paradox.*

As a result of the matters set out above your fitness to practise is impaired by reason of your misconduct.

Committee Members:

Goan Hart (Chair)

Amanda Webster (Lay)

Ian Hanson (Lay)

Gemma O'Rourke (Optometrist)

Danielle Ellis (Optometrist)

Legal Adviser:

Jennifer Ferrario

Hearings Officer:

Terence Yates

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.