

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(20)22

AND

MR NATHAN SMITH (01-32598)

**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 commence at **09:30 hrs** on **Monday 09 November 2020 – Wednesday 11 November 2020**.

In line with Government advice to minimise the spread of COVID-19, the GOC office remains closed to visitors and hearings are being conducted remotely via videoconference facilities.

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

David Reeder
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

17 June 2020

ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that in relation to you, Mr Nathan Smith (01-32598), a registered optometrist:

1. On or around 29 June 2012, you conducted a refractive consultation on Patient B to determine their suitability for a Refractive Laser Eye surgery, and you:
 - a. Failed to ensure that all appropriate clinical examinations were recorded;
 - b. Recommended that Patient B met the suitability criteria for Wavefront Intralase LASIK surgery on the basis of an inadequate record;
2. On or around 12 January 2013, you conducted a refractive consultation on Patient A to determine his suitability for a Refractive Lens Exchange surgery, and you:
 - a. Failed to perform ophthalmoscopy;
 - b. Incorrectly told Patient A that all necessary tests had been done;
 - c. Incorrectly recorded in Patient A's records that you had conducted one of more of the following examinations and/or assessments on Patient A, when you had not done so:
 - i. Ophthalmoscopy; and/or
 - ii. Cycloplegic refraction;
 - d. Recommended that Patient A met the suitability criteria for Refractive Lens Exchange Multi-focal when you had not performed ophthalmoscopy;
3. Between around January 2013 and 14 March 2017, you failed to declare to the GOC that you had been subject to a disciplinary investigation by [REDACTED] in or around January 2013;
4. Your conduct as set out at 2.b and/or 2.c.i and/ or 2.c.ii above was dishonest in that you knew that you had not performed ophthalmoscopy and/or cycloplegic refraction;

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

Committee Members: TBC (Lay)
TBC(Lay)
TBC (Lay)
TBC(Optometrlist)
TBC(Optometrlist)

Legal Adviser: TBC

Hearings Officer: TBC

Transcribers: Marten Walsh Cherer Limited

If you have any objections concerning any member of the Committee, you should contact the Hearings Manager at the earliest opportunity.