



THE COLLEGE OF  
OPTOMETRISTS

## Independent Prescribing Panel Terms of Reference

### **Purpose**

To set the standard for and to oversee the performance of the Therapeutics Common Final Assessment in Independent Prescribing and of the individual items.

### **Objectives**

To:

- Undertake standard setting of TCFA questions using a modified Angoff method.
- Make recommendations to the Education and Standards Committee about the examination as appropriate.
- Monitor the performance of the examination and individual questions, including those raised through candidate queries.
- Recommend changes to questions and refer such changes to back the editing group as appropriate.
- Review the performance of pilot questions and either recommend their use as live questions or refer them to the editing group as appropriate.

### **Scope**

The Panel will concentrate on Independent Prescribing. The approval of the logbook will be outside its remit.

### **Frequency of meetings and lifespan of Panel**

The Independent Prescribing Panel will meet after every sitting of the examination. Appointments will be for three years renewable for a further three years.

### **Authority**

The Independent Prescribing Panel has authority delegated from the Education and Standards Committee. It will report to the Education and Standards Committee.

### **Membership**

Voting members:

- Up to 12 optometrists and ophthalmologists with appropriate qualifications and expertise, including those responsible for the courses leading to the TCFA in Independent Prescribing.

### **Ex-officio members:**

- Chair of the Education and Standards Committee
- The optometrist External Examiner.

Other members of the College staff will attend as appropriate.

One member of the panel shall be appointed as Chair. This appointment will be made in consultation with the relevant panel members and approved by the Education and Standards Committee.

Members who attend less than 50% of yearly meetings shall be considered to have resigned from the panel.

The quorum will be five members, including the External Examiner (ex-officio) and at least two IP-qualified optometrists.

In attendance:

- Director of Education
- Head of Assessment
- Examinations Manager
- Examinations Development Coordinator.