

Guidelines on Premises Suitable for Practice for Optometrists

Section 19(1) of the Allied Health Professions Ordinance (Cap. 359) stipulates that “*no person registered shall practise his profession in premises which are considered by the relevant Board to be unsuitable for such practice.*” Accordingly, the Optometrists Board has drawn up guidelines on premises suitable for practice for optometrists. Registered optometrists are required to note the following guidelines when they practise their profession –

- (a) The design and condition of the premises should be able to meet the purpose of delivering adequate standards of professional practice.
- (b) The physical design, size and layout of the premises are appropriate for the safe and effective delivery of optometric service.
- (c) Lighting, flooring, temperature, humidity, ventilation and noise level are appropriate to the facilities being used.
- (d) The premises are kept clean and hygienic for good infection control. Adequate sanitary facilities (e.g. hand-washing facilities) and first-aid kits are provided for patients, staff and visitors.
- (e) The interior of the premises are kept in a good state of repair.
- (f) There are facilities to provide for privacy of patients, where necessary (e.g. screens or partitions).
- (g) Optometrists providing out-reaching or on-field services should exercise their professional judgment on the appropriateness of the immediate environment and circumstances for the delivery of relevant optometric service.