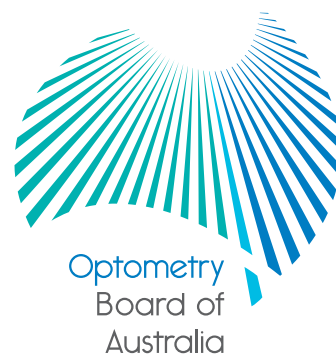


Guideline on professional indemnity insurance



As of 1 July 2010, a registered optometrist must not practise unless insured or indemnified against civil liabilities that might be incurred by the optometrist in connection with his / her practice.

Level of cover

The policy must provide, as a minimum, cover for claims including legal defence costs and claimant's legal costs that the optometrist has been ordered to pay for an amount of no less than \$10 million for any one and for all claims in the aggregate insurance policy period (i.e. \$10 million in total for all claims made against the optometrists).

Retroactivity

The policy should contain retroactive cover that will cover all claims arising from past practice that is not otherwise indemnified.

Run-off Cover

Optometrists must maintain run-off cover for seven years from retirement or cessation of practice or non-renewal of their professional indemnity insurance policies for other reasons.

Run-off cover should be maintained for 7 years.

Optometrists indemnified by employers may be provided with run-off cover. Alternatively, it may be purchased on an annual basis or in a block covering a longer period.

Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) Insurer

The policy held should be with a licensed Australian Insurer subject to regulation by APRA.

Industry Standard

The cover described in these guidelines is regarded as the prevailing industry standard and reflects the nature of cover required when optometrists practise in a range of practice settings.

The insurance must otherwise conform to the requirements laid out in the professional indemnity insurance registration standard for optometrists.