

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT PROPOSED AMENDMENTS  
TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY  
BOARD RULE CHAPTER 430-5 TREATMENT PLANS; PRESCRIPTION  
REQUIREMENTS, RULE 430-5-.01 TREATMENT PLANS, EYE EXAMINATIONS,  
AND PATIENT RECORDS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia Board of Optometry (hereinafter "Board") proposes an amendment to Board Rule Chapter 430-5, Treatment Plans; Prescription Requirements, Rule 430-5-.01 Treatment Plans, Eye Examinations, and Patient Records (hereinafter "proposed rule amendment").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed rule amendment and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a distribution list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule amendment, and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. These documents will also be available for review on the Board website at [www.sos.state.ga.us/plb/optometry](http://www.sos.state.ga.us/plb/optometry) or by contacting the Board office at 478-207-2440.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at **10:45 a.m., Wednesday, January 11, 2017**, in the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule amendment.

At the public hearing anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to five (5) minutes per person. Written comments are welcomed. Such written comments must be legible and signed, should contain contact information from the maker (address, telephone number and/or facsimile number, etc.) and be actually received in the office prior to the close of business (5:00 p.m. EDT) on **Wednesday, January 4, 2017**. Written comments should be addressed to Lisa W. Durden, Director, Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, Georgia Board of Optometry, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217; Fax (866) 888-7127.

The Board will consider the proposed rule amendment for adoption at its meeting scheduled to begin at **10:45 a.m., Wednesday, January 11, 2017** at the Georgia Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Board has the authority to adopt the proposed rule amendments to 430-5-.01 pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. § 43-30-5.

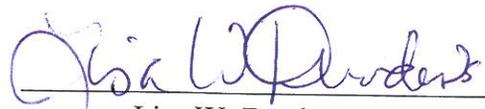
At its meeting Wednesday, July 13, 2016, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. § 43-30-5.

Additionally, at its meeting Wednesday, July 13, 2016, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. § 43-30-5 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Optometry.

For further information, contact the Board office at (478) 207-2440.

This notice is given in compliance with Section 4(a)(1) of the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act (O.C.G.A. §50-13-4).

This 27 day of October, 2016



Lisa W. Durden

Director

Professional Licensing Boards

Posted: 27 OCT 16

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY  
BOARD RULE CHAPTER 430-5 TREATMENT PLANS; PRESCRIPTION  
REQUIREMENTS, RULE 430-5-.01 TREATMENT PLANS, EYE EXAMINATIONS,  
AND PATIENT RECORDS**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this rule amendment is to update the rule language to include electronic patient records.

**Main Features:** The amended rule adds the language "...and/or electronic..." to the rule in reference to patient records now being maintained electronically by many providers.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED  
AMENDMENTS TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY BOARD RULE  
CHAPTER 430-5 TREATMENT PLANS; PRESCRIPTION REQUIREMENTS, RULE  
430-5-.01 TREATMENT PLANS, EYE EXAMINATIONS, AND PATIENT RECORDS**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

**Rule 430-5-.01. Treatment Plans, Eye Examinations, and Patient Records**

- (1) Before diagnosing or prescribing a treatment plan for any patient, including prescriptions for glasses, contact lenses or other optical devices, the following must be met and determined: (a) case history as related by patient; and  
  
(b) any pathological conditions of the eyes, both external and internal with diagnosis recorded; and  
  
(c) the need for any necessary optometric tests to ascertain the final treatment plan.
- (2) A comprehensive eye examination includes an assessment of a patient's history, any general medical observations, an external and ophthalmoscopic examination, an assessment of gross visual field, visual acuity, ocular alignment and motility, refraction, and, binocular vision and accommodation, a diagnosis, if applicable, and a plan of treatment.
- (3) The written and/or electronic record of the above determination of each patient examined shall be maintained by the licensed doctor of optometry for seven (7) years from initiation and be made available to the Board or its authorized agents for inspection at any reasonable time.

**Authority: O.C.G.A. § 43-30-5**

**Rule 430-5-.01. Treatment Plans, Eye Examinations, and Patient Records**

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(b) any pathological conditions of the eyes, both external and internal with diagnosis recorded; and

(c) the need for any necessary optometric tests to ascertain the final treatment plan.

(2) A comprehensive eye examination includes an assessment of a patient's history, any general medical observations, an external and ophthalmoscopic examination, an assessment of gross visual field, visual acuity, ocular alignment and motility, refraction, and, binocular vision and accommodation, a diagnosis, if applicable, and a plan of treatment.

(3) The written and/or electronic record of the above determination of each patient examined shall be maintained by the licensed doctor of optometry for seven (7) years from initiation and be made available to the Board or its authorized agents for inspection at any reasonable time.

**Authority: O.C.G.A. § 43-30-5**