

Table 3 Availability of optometry professional bodies and practice regulations

Professional body/practice regulation	Yes (%)
Presence of national legislative body	80.4
Presence of regulatory professional board	71.1
Necessity to register with the legislative body	79.8
Disciplinary code of conduct for optometrists	80.9
Presence of national professional optometry associations	78.0
Holds membership in professional associations	63.6
Permission to prescribe spectacles	97.9
Permission to dispense contact lenses	94.3
License to use diagnostic pharmaceutical agents	63.3
License to use ocular therapeutic drugs	29.2
License to prescribe eye medications	29.7
Certify vision standards for driving	79.6
Certify vision standards for occupation	77.0
Continued professional development required to renew license	65.9