



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
STATE BOARD FOR OPTOMETRY
89 Washington Avenue
2nd Floor, West Wing
Albany, New York 12234-1000
Phone: 518-474-3817 Ext. 550,190
Fax: 518-473-0567
E-mail: OPTOMBD@NYSED.GOV

To:

From: Dolores Cottrell, DDS, MSHA, Executive Secretary

Date: August 3, 2023

Re: Change in Privilege Designations for New York State Optometrists.

Starting October 25, 2023 optometrists licensed in New York State will be able to obtain certification to administer oral therapeutic pharmaceutical agents. This new privilege will be represented on an optometrist's registration certificate using the letter O. In preparation for this new privilege the Department has decided to combine an optometrist's topical therapeutic pharmaceutical agents privilege, formerly phase one therapeutic pharmaceutical agents, (U-privilege) and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents for the treatment of glaucoma and ocular hypertension, formerly phase two therapeutic pharmaceutical agents, (V-privilege) certifications into a single privilege represented by the letter R.

This is solely a change in the letters used to represent these privileges and does not in any way affect an optometrist's use of these certifications in their practice of optometry in New York State.

An optometrist that has obtained topical therapeutic pharmaceutical agents certification, but not therapeutic pharmaceutical agents for the treatment of glaucoma and ocular hypertension certification will still have this privilege represented on their registration certificate with a U.

The list below explains the following privilege combinations which will now be used on an optometrist's registration certificate:

- T- diagnostic pharmaceutical agents
- UT-topical therapeutic pharmaceutical agents and diagnostic pharmaceutical agents
- RT-(formerly TUV)-therapeutic pharmaceutical agents for the treatment of glaucoma and ocular hypertension, topical therapeutic pharmaceutical agents, and diagnostic pharmaceutical agents
- ORT- oral therapeutic pharmaceutical agents, therapeutic pharmaceutical agents for the treatment of glaucoma and ocular hypertension, topical therapeutic pharmaceutical agents, and diagnostic pharmaceutical agents

Please contact the Board office with any questions or concerns at optombd@nysed.gov or 518-474-3817 ext. 190