

# My split worlds of optometry

I've worked in the optometry-school-clinic for a couple of years before opening my own practice twelve years ago. I've always wanted to be the best optometrist I can but never felt good enough.

Optometry is an interesting field in which on one hand you are a clinician and need to be good with your knowledge on ocular diseases and other eye conditions, on the other hand it is important to have good business and fashion sense to give advices on frame-styles suitable for different clients.

I believe a person is born with or without an artist's eye and there is nothing much you can do about it, but I've never stopped studying to brush up my clinical knowledge and skills. Last year there was a chance to upgrade my Australian board registration with a certificate course on the use of therapeutic drugs. I've finished the first half of the course with lectures and exams, however I have trouble fulfilling the requirement of clinical placement of the course. Not only do I have problem finding friendly eye doctor who can offer me to work and sit-in their clinics, I would also have to leave my own practice behind for a few weeks at least.

I've pretty much decided to give up on it but there are conflicting advices from families and friends: Some say that I've finished the more difficult part with all the studying, why not finish it up; Others suggest that I've worked too hard, why not take it easy as I've always said that I wanted to retire in few years' time to start drawing or do other artistic stuff.

What a dilemma. What should I do?