



Orthoptics

Orthoptics is a discipline in eye healthcare specialising in the assessment, diagnosis and non-surgical management of eye disorders and is essential in promoting better quality of life in both adults and children with vision problems.

What does an Orthoptist do?

Orthoptists are eye health professionals who care for patients with eye disorders. Orthoptists were traditionally involved in the management of patients with eye movement disorders and specifically with strabismus (squint), double vision and amblyopia (lazy eye). Over the last several decades orthoptists have expanded their role and not only specialise in eye movement disorders but are also involved in the care of patients with eye disease such as cataracts, glaucoma, diabetic eye disease, age related macular degeneration, systemic or neurological vision disorders and low vision.

Through a unique set of skills, orthoptists play a crucial role in the detection, diagnosis and management of eye diseases in both adults and children.

Orthoptists specialise in a variety of areas including –

- Children's vision / Paediatrics
- Eye movement disorders
- Low vision care / Rehabilitation
- General eye disease
- Cataract care
- Retinal disorders
- Neurological vision disorders
- Laser eye surgery and corneal conditions
- Driver vision
- Sports vision
- Clinical Research
- Education

Where do Orthoptists work?

Orthoptists work in a range of settings, including hospitals, private practices, low vision and rehabilitation settings, community health areas, clinical research centres, universities and within the ophthalmic sales industry. Orthoptists may work independently, in conjunction with ophthalmologists or in a variety of multidisciplinary teams.

The University of Technology Sydney delivers the Masters of Orthoptics course (previously delivered at the University of Sydney).

There is a strong demand for orthoptists in Australia and overseas. To learn more about orthoptic training programs in Australia visit the website below.

<http://www.orthoptics.org.au/about-orthoptics/what-is-orthoptics>