



The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists

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POSITION STATEMENT

“OFF LABEL” USE OF THERAPEUTIC GOODS

RANZCO recommends the use of TGA approved therapeutic goods wherever possible.

Under certain circumstances, specifically designed and manufactured ophthalmic preparations of particular therapeutic goods may not be available. If there is no approved therapy for a condition, or approved therapies have failed or are not appropriate, it may be reasonable for ophthalmologists to consider "off label" use of therapeutic goods.

This is a well established international practice. RANZCO expects that Fellows will base any "off label" use on sound knowledge of the therapeutic device/medication, and any available scientific and medical evidence for its use; and will explain the potential benefits and risks clearly to patients. It is recommended that specific consent for the "off-label" use be obtained [from the patient](#), and records of the "off-label" use and its effects be kept.

At all times ophthalmologists must act to ensure that the well-being of the patient is paramount.