STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES, AND HOUSING AGENCY • GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR

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Order Waiving In-Person Patient Evaluation Requirement for Optometrists Participating In The Grand Rounds Program

On March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the impacts of COVID-19 to make additional resources available, formalize emergency actions already underway across multiple state agencies and departments, and help the state prepare to respond to an increasing number of individuals requiring medical care and hospitalization as a result of a broader spread of COVID-19.

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-39-20, during the State of Emergency, the Director of the California Department of Consumer Affairs may waive any statutory or regulatory professional licensing requirements pertaining to individuals licensed pursuant to Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, including optometrists.

Accordingly, the Director waives California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1571, subdivision (a)(4)(B) to the extent it requires patients to be evaluated "in person," subject to the condition that such evaluation must be performed via appropriate electronic means.

This order is effective immediately but may be amended as circumstances require.

This order terminates 60 days from the date of the order, unless further extended.

Dated: September 24, 2020

Signature on File

Kimberly Kirchmeyer
Director