Evaluations of Exit Competencies of Optometrists in Mozambique

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Introduction
The Mozambique Eye care Project (MEP) is developing the country’s first indigenously trained optometrists using a competency-based education curriculum.

Aims
- To evaluate the exit clinical competencies of the first optometry graduates in Mozambique
- To use the competency evaluations to inform the evolution of the competency curriculum
- To establish entry-level competency standards for emerging optometry graduates in Mozambique

Methods

Figures and tables are not included in the provided text. The text provided is a summary of the main points discussed in the document.

Conclusions
Two main lessons have been learnt in Unilurio about starting up a competency based education system for health professionals in a developing country context:

- a) Need for early review due to the lack of ideal starting conditions (lecturers with different backgrounds, course materials not arriving, etc.).
- b) Complex health and social contexts have significant impact upon the required performance of optometrists. An analysis of local context is necessary before designing a curriculum based on competencies. As a result of these evaluations the final year students underwent a one-week intensive course in subjective testing and binocular balancing successfully before graduation.

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For further information
Please contact kajshah@aol.co.uk. More information on this and related projects can be obtained at www.mozeye.org.