

## Notice of Petition for Declaratory Order

On December 20, 2023, Mr. Matthew Ward filed a Petition for Declaratory Order pursuant to Iowa Code § 17A.9 and 645 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 8. The Petition requests a Declaratory Order from the Iowa Board of Optometry regarding cold atmospheric plasma treatments.

Notice is being provided to state licensing boards that may have an interest in cold atmospheric plasma treatments, the Iowa Board of Optometry, those licensed through Iowa as an optometrist, and the professional organizations that may have an interest in cold atmospheric plasma treatments.

**Petition for Intervention.** Any person who qualifies under any applicable provision of law as an intervenor and who files a petition for intervention shall be allowed to intervene in the proceeding. Petitions for Intervention may be filed by any interested party no later than January 15, 2024 at the Iowa Board of Optometry, Department of Inspections, Appeals, & Licensing, 6200 Park Avenue, Suite 100, Des Moines, IA 50321 or emailed to [jessica.o'brien@dia.iowa.gov](mailto:jessica.o'brien@dia.iowa.gov).

**Hearing.** A public hearing will be held at 9:00 a.m. on April 4, 2024, at the Iowa Board of Optometry, Department of Inspections, Appeals, & Licensing, 6200 Park Avenue, Suite 100, Des Moines, IA 50321.

### Petition for Declaratory Order

The Petition for Declaratory Order provides the following statements of facts:

My name is Matthew Ward, and I am an optometrist in West Des Moines. I had the pleasure of working with you back in early 2019, when I presented the opinion to allow optometrists in the state of Iowa to use Intense Pulsed Light (IPL) for treatment of dry eye. THANK YOU for your support in that, and in the time since than [sic] IPL has become FDA approved for the treatment of dry eye, and these units are now being used state-wide, as well as country-wide. Not only does this technology assist with dry eye, but also assists cosmetically and firming the collagen of the skin, reducing fine lines and wrinkles. I feel a sense of accomplishment in you and I being a part of bringing this service to our patients. I also feel strongly about aesthetics as another realm that optometry can serve.

I would like to once again bring before the board the opinion that another technology, the use of Cold Atmospheric Plasma (CAP) is another tool that can be utilized for skin improvement. CAP has been used in the aesthetics industry for years, in spas and salons, being utilized by people without a degree in medicine or optometry. I say this not to discount them, but just to say than [sic] that a doctor with an optometric or medical degree should be more than equipped and able to do these treatments. In a state where we are as optometrists can perform IPL, which has a MUCH higher degree of negative health effects if performed incorrectly, CAP should be a simple addition. Whereas IPL shoots wavelengths of intense light into the skin, effecting deep dermal lawyers, CAP simply

dances across the skin service, but does activate proliferation of stem cells, collagen resynthesis and wound healing.

I had the pleasure of traveling to Milwaukee this summer, to have my first CAP session with a licensed aesthetician there. It was simple, painless, and effective. I had five treatments over the course of a week with zero negative effects.

Once again, as a licensed optometrist, I feel that this is a service I should be able to offer.

Please see the next page for more information on CAP[.]

The specific question presented in the Petition for Declaratory Order are:

1. Is performing Cold Atmospheric Plasma Treatments within the scope of Optometric practice in Iowa?

A copy of the Petition for Declaratory Order will be posted on the Board's website with the meeting agenda for the public hearing (<https://dia.iowa.gov/calendar>) and is available for viewing and copying at the Board office of the Iowa Board of Optometry, Department of Inspections, Appeals, & Licensing, 6200 Park Avenue, Suite 100, Des Moines, IA 50321. A copy may also be obtained by contacting Jessica O'Brien at [jessica.o'brien@dia.iowa.gov](mailto:jessica.o'brien@dia.iowa.gov).

Sent via email to:

Iowa Board of Optometry members

Iowa licensed Optometrists

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