



Dear Colleague:

On behalf of *Optometry – Journal of the American Optometric Association* and the sections of the AOA, we are pleased to announce a new department, “A Section by Sections,” a section in *Optometry* for submission of specific content manuscripts related to each section.

The decision to add this feature was to give section members an opportunity to educate not only section members concerning aspects of the section to which you belong, but also your colleagues at large. Because you are a recognized member of your section, we would like to encourage you to contribute to this exclusive new forum. It is believed that such a forum will add to the general appeal of the journal, increase its inherent value to AOA members and other readers and, as an added benefit, might grow the membership in each section.

Many of you have written or have thought about writing for your section’s newsletter. The criteria are different for a peer reviewed publication than a newsletter; that’s not good or bad, it’s just different. Please understand that all submissions are subject to peer review and approval prior to publication.

“A Section by Sections” will initially start out as a quarterly column in *Optometry* with the possibility of expanding the column’s frequency of publication dependent on the number of articles accepted and backlogged. The goal of each section is to have at least ten articles approved by the end of this year so we can start “A Section by Sections” in 2012 with a backlog of manuscripts. (The number of manuscripts per issue has yet to be determined so it is estimated that with this bank of articles, publication would initially be over a two year period.)

This is an exciting opportunity for the sections to provide education for members and non-members alike. We hope you share our enthusiasm for an opportunity to have each section’s articles published in *Optometry*. Attached are the criteria and the submission protocol.

Collegially,

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Editor-in-Chief,
Optometry/JAOA

Christine Sindt, O.D.
Chair, Contact Lens
and Cornea Section

Gary Etting, O.D.
Chair, Sports
Vision Section

Jerry P. Davidoff, O.D.
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Criteria and Submission protocol:

Submissions should consist of single cases or small case series (2-5 cases). Submissions must not exceed 1000 words. Authors are strongly encouraged to limit references to 9, and figures to 3, preferably depicting clinical images.

The protocol for submission for these manuscripts will be as follows: All manuscripts will be submitted to a member of the section who has been designated to act as the primary reviewer and liaison to *Optometry*. For our section the liaison, Maria Richman, O.D. (dr.richman@verizon.net), will provide initial feedback about the manuscript. Once the manuscript has been approved by the section liaison, it will be submitted to *Optometry* where it will undergo a slightly modified peer review process. Once the manuscript passes peer review scrutiny, the Editor-in-Chief will review it and, pending any editorial issues, the manuscript will be put in the queue to be published.