



## First international training centre for continuing education dedicated to presbyopia and ageing eye.

### Why?

*In Europe alone, there are over 7 million new presbyopes every year, and it is predicted that between now and 2012 the condition will peak world-wide. It is vital that today's professionals be up to date and able to satisfy the growing numbers and needs of presbyopes.*

*Correction of presbyopia and ageing is one of the major health challenges in the 21st Century and continuing education is a top priority in order to master the many changes and technical advances that are required for a successful practice.*

### Who?

*Varilux University offers to the eye care professionals a 3 day session, with different topics, all related to the presbyopia and ageing eye.*

*Our sessions conducted by specialists, include theoretical and practical courses.*

*It is also the opportunity to share presbyopia information with attendees from other countries.*





Training Programme

# Sample Agenda

For 3-day course

**Please note, this agenda is an example only and may change:**

## **Day 1. Subjects covered**

- *Optics*  
(Prof. Mo Jalie)
- *Keys for better understanding progressive lenses*  
(Prof. Mo Jalie)
- *The enigma of the ageing eye*  
(Barbara Pierscionek)
- *Psychology*  
(Fiona Fylan)
- *Workshop*
- *Overview of groupwork and conclusion*

## **Day 2. Subjects covered**

- *Progressive lens adaptation in Europe*  
(Luigi Bilotto)
- *Problem solving*  
(David Jones)
- *Case studies*  
(Luigi Bilotto or David Jones)
- *The normal ageing eye*  
(Luigi Bilotto)

## **Day 3. Subjects covered**

- *Marketing for practice*  
(Nizar Hirji)
- *MCO's exam*  
(optional)



# Lecture Summary

## Optics

Today's spectacles are highly sophisticated in terms of their form and design, the materials from which they are made and any treatment which is applied to their surfaces. This course considers all these topics and advises on choice of lenses with particular reference to the correction of presbyopia.

## Keys for better understanding progressive lenses

Given the abundant supply of products that are promoted in very different ways, we will see how certain decoding tools can prove very useful for professionals. Here are a few keys to a better understanding of the world of progressive lenses.



## Lecturer: Professor Mo Jalie

Mo Jalie SMSA, FBDO (Hons), Hon FCGI, Hon FCOptom, MIMgt is visiting Professor in Optometry at the University of Ulster, Coleraine.

He taught ophthalmic lenses and dispensing in the department of Applied Optics, City & East London College for thirty years and was Head of Department from 1985 to 1995.

He is recognised as an international authority on the design of ophthalmic lenses and has written eight books. He holds patents for aspheric spectacle lenses and intra-ocular lenses.



# Lecture Summary

## The enigma of the ageing eye

Presbyopia is considered to be a reliable marker in the ageing process. Yet, when compared with other patterns of change in the body, it follows a different course.

This lecture will address the reasons why and will review the various changes seen in the lens and analyse the environmental factors that affect the development of presbyopia. A better understanding of these various factors may lead to a different approach to managing the loss of accommodation.



### Lecturer: Barbara Pierscionek

Barbara Pierscionek graduated as an optometrist from the University of Melbourne.

In 1988, she prepared her PhD on « The effects of development and ageing on the structure and function of the crystalline lens ».

She left Australia to become a senior lecturer at the University of Bradford. Her research interests include: ageing of the eye with particular emphasis on the lens; optics of the lens and cornea; structure/function relationships of the lens and cornea; primate cognition; molecular biology of the lens.



# Lecture Summary

## Psychology

The onset of presbyopia is a delicate psychological period. The vision professional 's ability to listen and promote understanding can play an important role in facilitating the acceptance and successful handling of presbyopia by his or her patients/customers.



### Lecturer: Fiona Fylan

Dr Fiona Fylan is a Chartered Health Psychologist who specialises in research and training in optical and healthcare environments.

She holds a degree in Psychology and Physics from the University of Leicester and a PhD from the Vision Sciences Department at Aston University.

She undertakes research in how psychology can be used to optimise the optical environment, for example to improve practitioner-patient communication, to understand individual reactions to changes such as the onset of presbyopia, and to predict patient decision-making processes.

She is a lecturer in Health Psychology at the University of York. She is also a Director of Solutions in Psychology, a company that works with organisations to improve the quality of the services they provide and the organisational environment in which they work.



## Progressive lens adaptation

A significant portion of progressive lens intolerance cases is due to errors of refraction and prescribing. The aim of this presentation is to outline some of the common refracting and prescribing errors that may be responsible for the intolerance of progressive prescriptions, examine their probable causes and provide possible solutions.

## The normal ageing eye

This presentation is required to provide an update on clinically normal ageing eye , a better understanding of the changes of visual function and thier impact on current eyecare practice with a view improving patient care.



### Lecturer: Luigi Bilotto

He obtained his doctor of Optometry from the University of Montreal School of Optometry in 1990.

After practising for 2 years, he got involved in academic research for 1 year in the areas of psychophysics of the glaucomatous and the elderly patient.

Between 1994 and 1999 he took on the task of establishing a new Clinic for the relatively young Optometry programme at the Hogeshole van Utrecht in the Netherlands.

Currently he consults internationally on a free-lance basis. He worked as a consultant, educator and lecturer in many countries around the globe.

## Problem solving

Easy adaptation to PPLs is facilitated by the use of quality lenses and a good refraction. Precise measurements and centring are equally important for complete success. This presentation allows participants to exchange and elaborate essential rules to be respected. With case studies, participants will examine consequences of centring errors.



## Lecturer: David Jones

David Jones is Technical Services Manager for Essilor UK providing support to Opticians and Laboratories on all Essilor products.

David's experience encompasses spectacle dispensing, particularly varifocals, all aspects of prescription lens work as well as optical lens manufacturing.

Joining Essilor UK in 1970 he was responsible for polymerised (moulding) lens production before assuming responsibility for the Quality Control department

He spent 4 years working in practice before returning to Essilor in 1988 as part of the Professional and Technical dept.

He co-ordinates the Varilux Hot Line, successfully resolving over 95% of presented problems  
Author of articles on the resolution of varifocal problems and other dispensing matters, he makes frequent presentations to the optical profession .



# Lecture Summary

## Marketing

Marketing is the key to success of the modern eyecare practice. This presentation will enable the opticians /optometrists to better understand the concepts of marketing and motivate them to think about these and other operational issues with respect to their own practices.

After this presentation, delegates will be able to:

- Appreciate basic concepts of Marketing;
- Understand the alternatives in promoting the eyecare practice;
- Understand the unique nature of service delivery systems.



## Lecturer: Nizar Hirji

Nizar Hirji, PhD, MBA, BSc, FCOptom, FAAO, FIMgt created HIRJI ASSOCIATES in 1996 - a consulting business in optometry based in UK - and is visiting professor at UMIST.

He is an optometrist and a consultant in the optometric industry with a unique blend of optometric, academic, business qualifications and experience gained in variety of senior optometric posts over 25 years in the industry.

