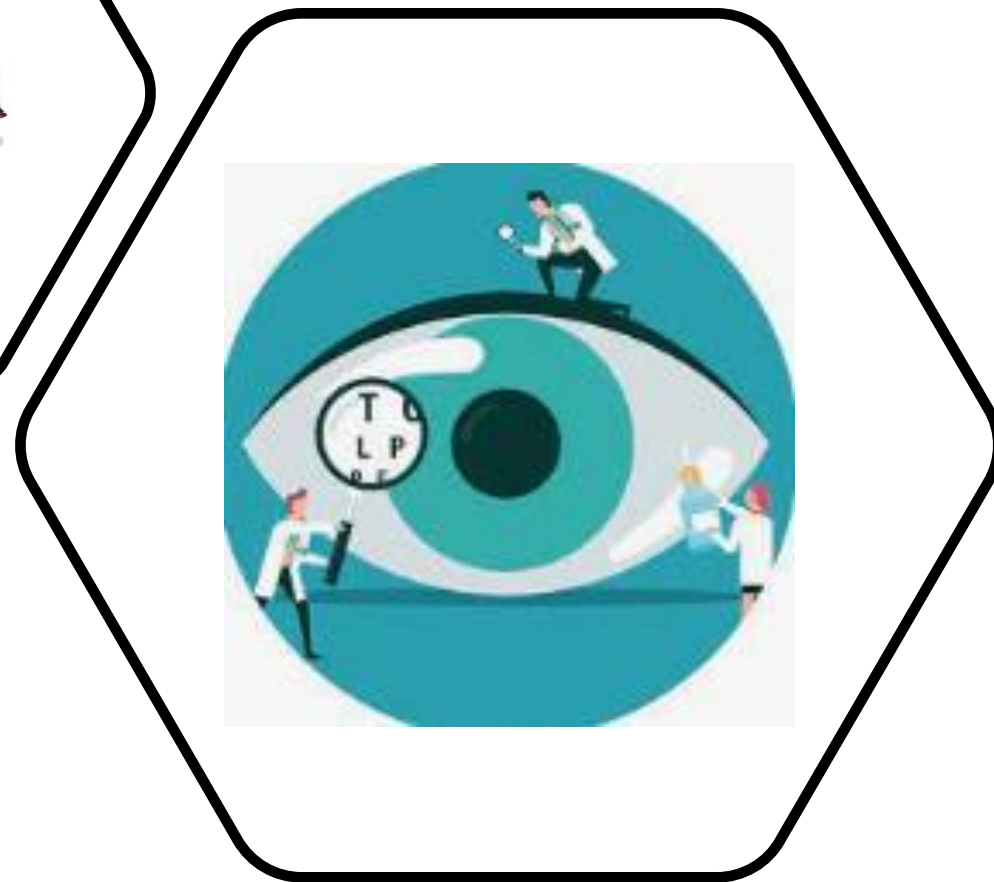
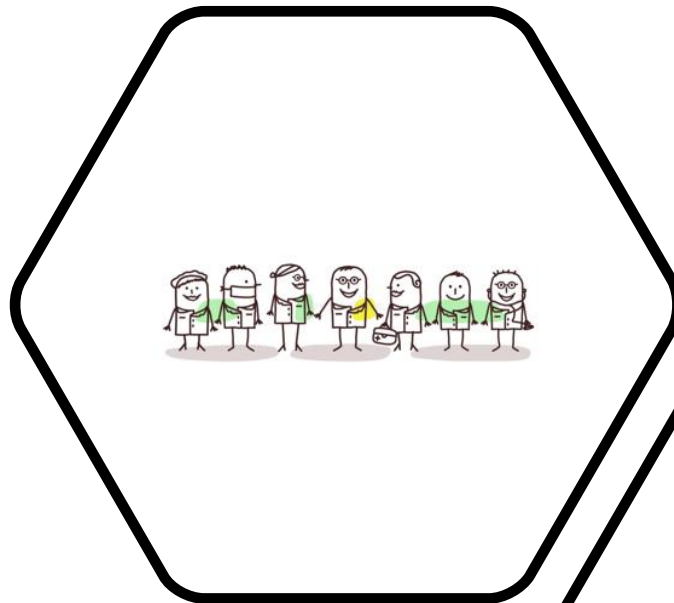
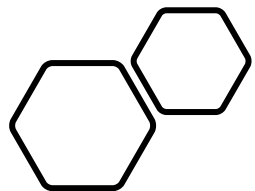


# Optometry in Lithuania

Chief optometrist N. Martinkienė



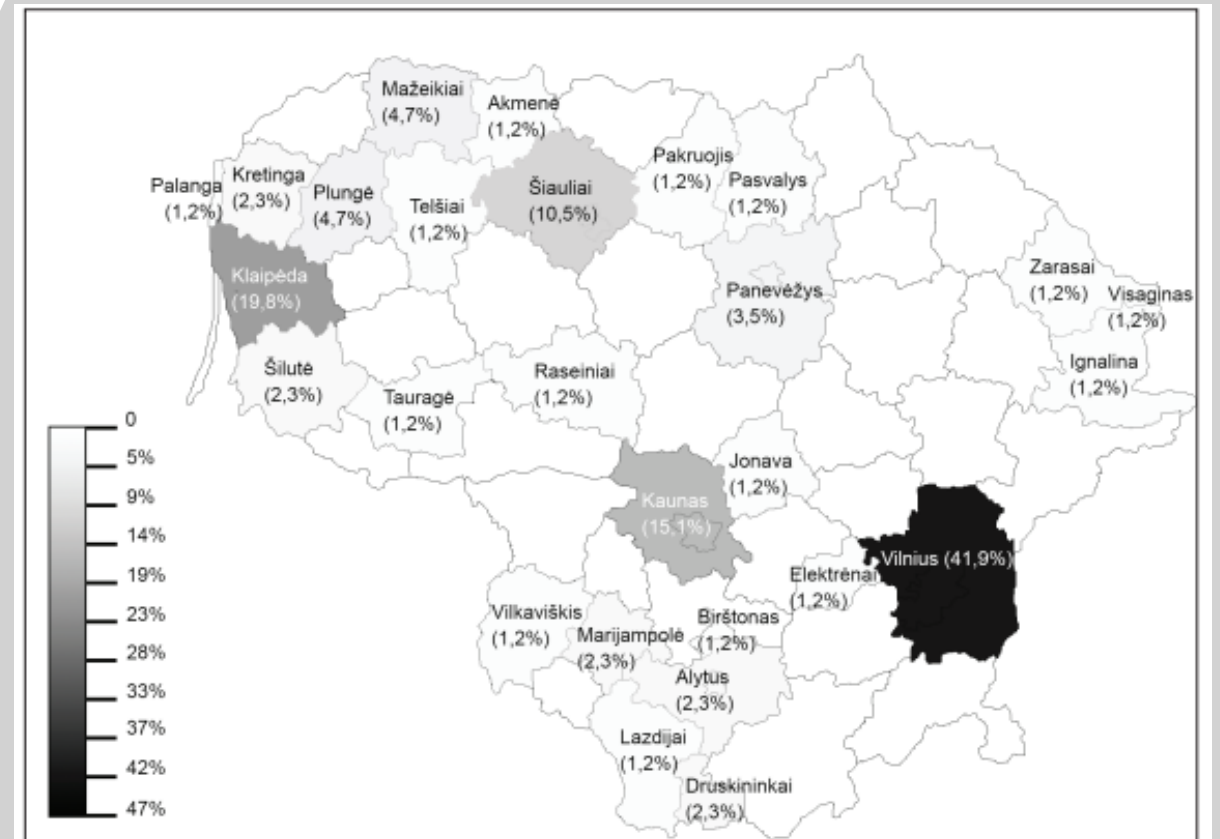


## Topicality

Data from the World Health Organization suggests there are at least 2.2 billion people around the world who have a vision impairment, of whom at least 1 billion have a vision impairment that could have been prevented or treated.

# Topicality

The need for ophthalmologists and optometrists is also growing in Lithuania, with about 300 optometrists per 2,8 million of inhabitants.



Distribution of the provision of optometric maintenance services in Lithuanian municipalities.  
[https://sm-hs.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/SM-HS\\_295\\_68-73.pdf](https://sm-hs.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/SM-HS_295_68-73.pdf)

# History Optometry in Lithuania



ŠIAULIŲ  
UNIVERSITETAS

Šiauliai University since 2003. Until 2018 has trained about 300 optometrists

2003

2018

Only in 2018, by order of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania, was approved Lithuanian medical standard MN 166:2018 which officially confirmed the status of an optometrist as a medical professional



In 2020, an improved program "Optometry" was opened at the Faculty of Medicine of Vilnius University. Program developed in accordance with the recommendations of the European Council on Optics and Optometry (ECOO).

2020

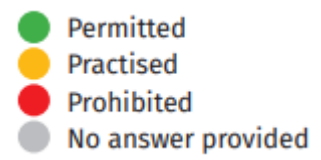
# Scope of practice across Europe

Activity/Country	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MK	MT	NL	NO	PO	RO	RS	SE	SI	TR	
01. Objective refraction	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
02. Subjective refraction	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
03. Dispensing prescription spectacles	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
04. Selling optical appliances	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
05. Writing prescriptions for spectacles	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
06. Fitting contact lenses	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
07. Supply of contact lenses	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
08. Writing prescriptions for contact lenses	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
09. Examining the anterior eye	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
10. Examining the posterior eye	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
11. Ophthalmoscopy	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
12. Detecting ocular pathology	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
13. Using diagnostic drugs	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
14. Using therapeutic drugs	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
15. Referring to an ophthalmologists	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
16. Referring directly to eye hospital	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
17. Informing medical doctors of patients pathology	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

● Permitted  
● Practised  
● Prohibited  
● No answer provided

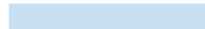









# Scope of practice across Europe

Activity/Country	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MK	MT	NL	NO	PO	RO	RS	SE	SI	TR
18. Non-contact tonometry	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
19. Contact tonometry	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
20. Checking binocular vision	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
21. Orthoptics	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
22. Perimetry	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
23. Myopia management	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
24. Testing drivers sight	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
25. Testing VDU (Visual Display Units) users	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
26. Fitting optical appliances for VDU (Visual Display Units) users	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
27. Testing sight of low vision patients	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
28. Prescribing low vision aids for the partially sighted	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
29. Testing the vision of and prescribing spectacles to children under the age of 6 years	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
30. Testing the vision of and prescribing spectacles to children under the age of 12 years	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
31. Fitting and supplying spectacles to children (0-18 years)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



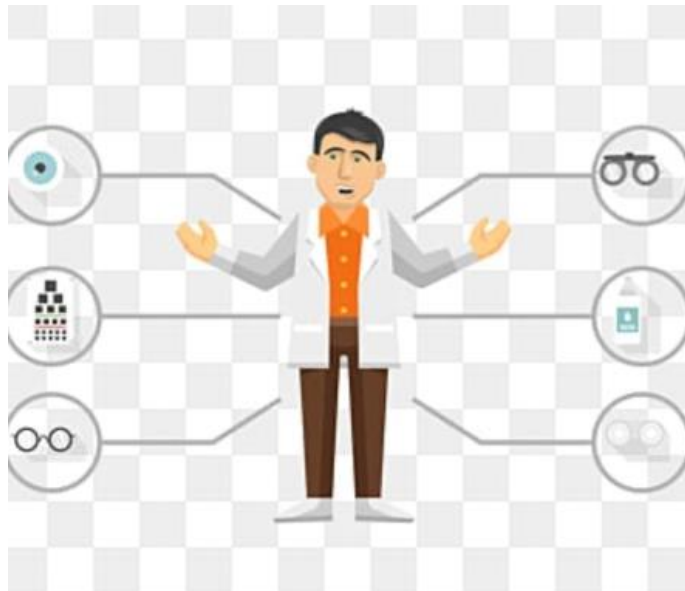
## CATEGORY 3 IN DETAIL

*Ocular Diagnostic Services: Optical Technology Services plus Visual Function Services, plus investigation, examination and evaluation of the eye and adnexa, and associated systemic factors, to detect, diagnose and manage disease*

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES		
The profession is regulated by law	without diagnostic drugs	6 (85,7%) 	
	with diagnostic drugs	8 (100%) 	
The professional title is protected	without diagnostic drugs	6 (85,7%) 	
	with diagnostic drugs	6 (75%) 	
The profession is deregulated	0		
Activities are reserved to the holder of a specific professional	without diagnostic drugs	5 (71,4%) 	

# THE PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPE IN EUROPE

[https://www.ecoo.info/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/ECOO-BlueBook-2020\\_website.pdf](https://www.ecoo.info/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/ECOO-BlueBook-2020_website.pdf)



# Optometrist capabilities

The optometrist has a wide range of knowledge:

- can recognize the signs of diseases that affect visual acuity (diabetes mellitus, hypertension, renal pathology), the processes of age-related dystrophy of the tissues of the eye apparatus;
- do more research;
- suggest eye care products;
- choose means for vision correction;
- refer person to an ophthalmologist if serious diseases are detected.



# Cooperation with ophthalmologists



The work of an optometrist is a real help to patients in the prevention of eye diseases in collaboration with ophthalmologists, this reduces delayed diseases and increases the number of early diagnoses of eye diseases, which makes treatment more effective.



Optician → Optometrist → Ophthalmologist → 1 day



Polyclinic → Therapist → Ophthalmologist 2-3 months





# Eye vision prevention

Optometrist is a health profession.

Preventive education for all ages is gaining importance as a result of changing social habits.





Thank you  
for making  
the world  
brighter