

"Refraction" What is it?

What is Refraction?

Refraction is a testing procedure that measures how much optical (focusing) error an eye has. Certain eye measurements are taken using a variety of instruments. Based on these measurements, a series of trial lenses are placed in front of your eyes and you are asked to compare one lens with another to determine which lens combination offers you better vision. This leads to a determination of how well you see and can be used to write a prescription for eyeglasses. Contact lens prescriptions require a more extensive and separate service.

Why Doesn't Insurance Pay for Refraction?

Most health insurance plans were not designed to pay for routine vision procedures. Medicare, Medicaid and most private policies will not pay for refraction because it is considered routine.

Who Decided That Refraction is NOT Covered?

It is our government (for Medicare and Medicaid) and your insurance company that determines exactly which services are covered, NOT your individual physician.

What is Our Policy?

In order to provide the very best eye care, refraction will be performed for all new patients, those presenting with decreased vision and on a yearly basis thereafter. Private insurance plans will be billed \$45.00 for refraction but you will be responsible for the fee if no vision coverage is available. Medicare patients will be responsible for paying the \$45.00 at the time of your visit in addition to any co-payments or deductible due.

I understand that refraction is a **non-covered** service. I accept full financial responsibility for the cost of the service in addition to any co-payments or deductible.

Patient Signature or Signature of Patient's Guardian

Date

Name _____

Print Patient's Name

Explanation of Contact Lens Prescription and Fitting Fees

The comprehensive eye exam includes a glaucoma test, dilation and overall eye health evaluation: **it does not include the evaluation of contact lens.** Most insurance companies do not cover the contact lens portion of the eye exam.

A patient currently wearing contact lenses, in which the doctor recommends the same prescription and type of lens is required to have a contact lens evaluation annually in order to maintain a valid prescription. The cost for the contact lens evaluation ranges from \$45 to \$60, depending on the type of contacts, plus the addition of a \$45.00 refraction (eyeglasses prescription) if the doctor finds it necessary to perform.

If you do not wear contacts currently and are interested in wearing them or the doctor recommends a different type of lens or you wear RGP or have other custom specialty lens a contact lens fitting is required.

There are different levels of contact fittings, depending on the type of lens needed and the complexity of the fit. Fitting fees range in price and the contact lens technician will explain the fitting charges as they apply.

Contact lens exams and fitting fees are non-refundable.

PLEASE CHECK BELOW

_____ **YES...I would like a contact lens evaluation today in order to update my contact lens prescription and have the ability to purchase contacts for the next 12 months. I understand that the fitting must be paid at the time of service.**

_____ **NO...I do not want a contact lens evaluation today and I understand that I will not be able to purchase contacts without an updated contact lens prescription.**

_____ **YES...I would like a prescription for glasses.**