

Ophthalmology & Oculoplastic Surgery, Inc.

Routine Eye Exams, Medical Eye Exams, and Refractions Please Read Before Your Eye Examination

Regular eye examinations are important to maintain your vision for your lifetime. It is important that you be aware of your insurance benefits and how they apply to your visit. Ultimately, it is your responsibility to know what your own medical or vision plan covers. We hope this information will help you to understand how your visit is submitted to your insurance.

Your symptoms and eye examination will determine how your visit is coded and billed to your insurance.

Routine Eye Examinations

A “routine eye exam” takes place when you come for an eye examination **without any medical eye problem, and there are no symptoms** except for vision changes that can be corrected by eyeglasses or contact lenses.

Medical Eye Examinations

Your visit will be coded as a “medical eye examination” whenever you are being evaluated or treated for a medical condition or symptom that you bring up, eye problems you tell our staff about, or a condition that the doctor finds during the examination. Examples that will necessitate your visit being submitted to your medical insurance include headache, diabetes, eye irritation, dry eyes, allergies, floaters, glaucoma, cataracts, macular degeneration and others.

Vision Plans (VSP, Eyemed)

These plans only cover routine eye examinations. If you report symptoms during your visit or your doctor determines that your problem falls under the category of a “medical eye examination”, your visit will be billed to your medical insurance instead of your vision care insurance.

Refractions

During your visit with us, it may be necessary to perform an additional test called a refraction. This is the measurement that your doctor or technician takes to determine changes in your eyeglass prescription or, if you do not wear glasses, to see if they may now be required. This test is performed on your first visit with us, your annual visit, and anytime your vision changes significantly. Even though it is a vital test to the care of your eyes, the refraction is a non-covered service through Medicare, Tricare, and many other insurance plans. The fee for this service is \$35 and will be billed to insurance first for possible payment depending on your individual plan coverage.

I understand the difference between routine and medical eye examinations and the potential implications of these differences on which type of insurance gets billed and the potential for fees that may include co-pays, deductibles, and/or co-insurance fees. I understand that I am responsible for all fees that my insurance does not cover. I further understand that a refraction is an important test that I may need, and if so, that I will be responsible for paying for this test.

Patient Signature: _____ Date: _____