

O'Byrne Eye Clinic, L.L.C.

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CONTACT LENS PATIENT AGREEMENT

A routine eye exam is **NOT** the same as a contact lens exam. For contact lens wearers, a contact lens exam is necessary to ensure the lenses are fitting both eyes properly and that the health of the eyes is not harmed by the contact lenses.

Before we take a closer look at what happens during a contact lens exam, let's talk about normal eye exams.

What is a Comprehensive Eye Exam?

A comprehensive eye exam is an important part of caring for your overall health whether you need vision correction or not. By looking into your eyes, your doctor can check for signs of serious health conditions like hypertension and diabetes.

During a comprehensive eye exam, your doctor will look for signs of glaucoma, perform tests to check your vision sharpness, determine your prescription strength, examine how your eyes work together, and check the fluid pressure in your eyes. She may also dilate your eyes to see if you have any eye conditions or signs of other serious health conditions.

What is a refraction fee?

A refraction is the test that is performed to determine your eyeglass prescription. A refraction may be performed by either the doctor or a technician, and typically involves questioning along the lines of, "Is 1 better than 2?" Medicare and many other insurance plans consider a refraction to be routine medical care not covered under their medical coverage, so this amount is charged separately and is paid directly by the patient. Medicare secondary insurance plans will also not pay the charge since it is not a Medicare-covered service, so the **\$25.00 fee** is to be paid by the patient.

What is a Contact Lens Exam?

If you wear or want contacts, you need a contact lens exam in addition to a comprehensive eye exam. Your eye doctor will perform special tests during a contact lens exam to evaluate your vision with contacts. The first test will measure your eye surface to determine what size and type of contacts are best for you. Your doctor may also do a tear film evaluation (\$25.00) to make sure you have enough tears to comfortably wear contacts. One

important test is corneal topography, a procedure that maps out all the different aspects of your cornea. Corneal topography displays results like the topography of mountains. Hotter (reddish) colors display steeper areas of the cornea and cooler colors (bluish) represent flatter areas. Because a contact lens rests on the cornea when inserted into your eye, corneal curvature must be measured precisely to ensure an optimal and healthy fit.

With the results of those tests, your eye doctor can provide a contact lens prescription that is the right fit for your eyes. An eyeglass prescription is no substitute for a contact lens exam because the two are very different. An eyeglass prescription measures for lenses that are positioned approximately 12 millimeters from your eyes, whereas a contact lens prescription measures for lenses that sit directly on the surface the eye. An improper fitting or prescription of contacts can damage the health of the eyes.

Once you have the correct fit and prescription for contacts, you'll need to decide whether you want disposable contacts or extended wear, and if you want your contacts to be colored.

Your doctor will fit you with a trial pair of contacts and have you worn them for a few days. In about a week, you'll need a follow-up exam to make sure you have adjusted to your new lenses.

Whether you wear glasses or contacts, it's a good idea to get a yearly eye exam to see if you have new or existing vision problems, and if you need vision correction.

A contact lens is a medical device in contact with the tissues of your eye; therefore, it must fit appropriately to maintain the health of your eyes. A contact lens prescription can only be determined by the careful observation of the lens on the eye and the eye's response to the lens on follow-up visits. Since follow-up care is essential, it is your responsibility to keep all appointments and follow all lens care instructions.

THE COMPREHENSIVE EYE EXAM

Before a person can be fit with contact lenses, a complete medical and refractive eye examination is necessary. This exam is critical to assure the good health of your eyes and to rule out the possibility of any unsuspected, underlying condition that may prevent contact lens use.

CONTACT LENS FITTING

The goal of contact lens fitting is to find the most appropriate contact lens for each patient's optimal vision and comfort. An enormous variety of types, materials, sizes and colors are offered. We are committed to taking the time and effort to fit your contact lenses properly. Although many people will need only one fitting session, sometimes this process requires several appointments. Everyone being fit into contacts must go through the fitting process. We will not finalize the contact lens prescription until both the individual being fit for contacts lenses and the doctor are satisfied with the fit and visual acuity of the contact lens. We will provide one set of trial lenses. Dispensing of trial contact lenses may only be at the time of the original examination and scheduled follow-up visits when a change is required. A contact lens trial will not be dispensed at other times. Any patient who is changing lens brands must have a new fitting and there may be an additional fitting charge. Please order your supply of contacts at least one week prior to running out of your contact lenses.

CONTACT LENS TRAINING SESSION (First time contact lens wearer \$100.00)

The patient will be provided with personalized instruction concerning the safe care and usage of contact lenses. If additional time is needed, it will be necessary to schedule a second 30-minute training session at a different time. Upon completion of successful insertion and removal, the patient may begin wearing the contact lenses and we will schedule the first follow-up appointment within two weeks.

The \$100.00 fee is to be paid by the patient at the time of the service. **

FOLLOW-UP APPOINTMENTS

Follow-up appointments are necessary to assure:

1. The contact lenses are fitting and moving well
2. The prescription is providing the best possible vision
3. The eyes are remaining healthy
4. There are no problems with insertion or removal
5. The patient understands and complies with the recommended wearing schedule
6. Prescriptions will ***NOT*** be written for patients who do not keep follow up appointments.

There is no charge for follow-up visits during the first 60 days or first three follow up visits, whichever comes first.

ANNUAL CONTACT LENS EXAM (\$60.00 Yearly charge)

By law, a contact lens prescription is valid for only one year. All patients are required to come in for an annual contact lens exam. This is necessary to assure that the patient's eyes are healthy, and the contact lenses are still fitting well.

Contact lens prescriptions cannot be renewed without an annual exam. Contact lens exams have a separate charge that is NOT included in your medical exam. The **\$60.00 fee** is to be paid by the patient at the time of the service.

Refunds

There will be no refund on custom lenses, opened boxes of lenses, or colored lenses. There will be NO refund of the exam, fitting, or annual contact lens examination fee. Only one pair of sample lenses will be given, additional lenses will be **\$5.00 each**.

Fees that may apply to your visit depending on Insurance coverage, may be as follows:

- *Refraction 25.00 (yearly)*
- *Contact Lens Exam 60.00 (yearly)*
- *Contact Lens Instruction 100.00 (one-time charge)*
- *Contact Lenses (depends on brand and type)*

Your receptionist/counselor/technician will give you the amounts due at the time of your visit.

By signing below, I agree to the terms of the O'Byrne Eye Clinic Contact Lens Agreement and have received a copy of this agreement.

Patient/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Counselor/ Technician Signature: _____

Date: _____