Contact Lens Policy

**Examination and Follow‐Up:**

**Contact lens fitting requires extra testing to insure the patient is properly fitted for contact lenses. These extra tests include, but are not limited to: Corneal Integrity, Corneal Measurements, Pupil and Iris Measurements, Tear Film Evaluation, Evaluation of your eye's surface and contact lens fit.**

1. Patients wearing contact lenses will be charged for a contact lens (CL) evaluation each year. This fee covers the additional tests required to properly fit a patient for contact lenses, as well as a pair of trial lenses, and up to **three** follow‐up visits if necessary.

2. CL evaluation fees are non‐refundable, regardless of whether or not the patient decides to wear contact lenses. The CL evaluation fee may or may not be covered by the Patient’s insurance.

3. At the doctor’s discretion, a patient may be scheduled for a follow‐up CL visit or CL check appointment one to two weeks after the initial exam. If a patient is required to return for a CL check appointment, his or her prescription will not be finalized by the doctor until the patient returns for that appointment. If a prescription is not finalized, a patient will not be able to place an order for contacts.

4. It is imperative that the patient arrive on time for their CL check appointments with the **contact lenses in their eyes** or we may have to reschedule the appointment.

5. If a patient requires more than three CL check appointments, each subsequent visit will be subject to a $15.00 fee.

7. If the follow‐up period lapses (two months), but is within six months of the original exam, the patient will be charged $20 per visit. However, if the type of lens needs to be changed, the entire CL evaluation fee may be charged again. If more than six months has passed since the original exam, the entire evaluation fee will be charged again, as well as any additional charges for a routine eye exam.

8. If a patient returns for a CL check appointment with a medical problem (infection, keratitis, etc.), he or she will be charged a medical office visit fee.

**Contact Lens Prescriptions:**

1. CL prescriptions are valid for ONE year from the date of the exam.

2. Patients will be given a copy of their CL prescription once it has been finalized by the physician. All CL evaluation fees must be paid before the prescription is released.

**Do's and Don'ts of Contact Lens**

**Do:**

* **Always wash and thoroughly dry your hands** before handling contact lenses.
* **Carefully and regularly clean contact lenses** as directed by your optometrist. If recommended, rub the contact lenses with your fingers and rinse them thoroughly before soaking the lenses overnight in multipurpose solution that completely covers each lens.
* **Store lenses in the proper lens storage case,** and replace the case at least every three months. Clean the case after each use, and keep it open and dry between cleanings.
* **Use only fresh solution**to clean and store contact lenses. Never reuse old solution. Change your contact lens solution according to the manufacturer's recommendations, even if you don't use your lenses daily.
* **Always follow the recommended contact lens replacement schedule** prescribed by your optometrist.
* **Remove contact lenses** before swimming or entering a hot tub.
* **Avoid tap water** to wash or store contact lenses or lens cases.
* **See your optometrist** for your regularly scheduled contact lens and eye examination.

**Don't:**

* **Use cream soaps.** They can leave a film on your hands that can transfer to the lenses.
* **Use homemade saline solutions.** Improper use of homemade saline solutions has been linked with a potentially blinding condition among soft lens wearers.
* **Put contact lenses in your mouth** or moisten them with saliva, which is full of bacteria and a potential source of infection.
* **Use tap water** to wash or store contact lenses or lens cases.
* **Share lenses with others.**
* **Use products not recommended** by your optometrist to clean and disinfect your lenses. Saline solution and rewetting drops are not designed to disinfect lenses.
* **Sleep in contact lenses** after being exposed to pools, lakes, oceans, hot tubs or other sources of water that can contain bacteria.