



## Vision Eye Exams vs. Medical Eye Exams

***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. We have prepared this sheet to help you understand how your visit is submitted to your health insurance or vision insurance for today's visit. Benefits may vary based upon the reason for your visit.***

**Routine Eye Examinations** A "routine eye exam" takes place when you come for an eye examination without any underlying medical condition which affects the eye. The doctor screens the eyes for disease and will check your vision. Examples that will necessitate your visit being submitted as a vision exam include:

- Comprehensive eye exam
- Glasses / Contact Lenses

**Medical Eye Examinations** Exams for medical care which are for evaluation of a medical-related complaint or follow up of an existing condition are examples of an eye examination that would be billed to your medical insurance. Any additional testing done to document your medical condition would be billed to your medical insurance. Examples that will necessitate your visit being submitted as a medical exam include but may not be limited to:

- Diabetes mellitus
- Dry or redness of eyes
- Allergies
- Floaters and/or flashing lights
- Glaucoma
- High risk medications (auto immune, systemic illness treatment)
- Cataracts
- Macular degeneration
- Vitreous degeneration

*The purpose of your visit will determine which insurance benefit will be used. If your doctor determines that your problem falls under the category of a "medical eye examination", your visit may be billed as a medical exam instead of a routine vision exam, which will be subject to co-pays and deductibles according to your medical insurance plan.*