

# REFRACTION POLICY

## 1. What is a refraction?

Refraction is the process of determining the eye's refractive error, or need for corrective glasses and/or contact lenses.

## 2. Why is it necessary?

Refraction is sometimes necessary depending on the patient's diagnosis and/or complaints presented that day. For example, if a patient is experiencing blurred vision or a decrease in visual acuity on the eye chart a refraction would be needed to see if this is due to a need for glasses or due to a medical problem. The refraction is an essential part of an eye exam, however, Medicare and most insurances **DO NOT** cover it. These plans consider refraction a "vision" service, not a "medical" service. These plans allow that we charge separately for that portion of the examination since it is not a covered service.

## 3. What if I do not want the refraction?

You may decline this part of the exam. Please notify the technician **PRIOR** to the beginning of the exam that you want this step skipped. **IMPORTANT:** If you decline we may not be able to determine the cause of your decrease in vision.

## 4. How much is it?

The charge is **\$35.00** for this service. This is in addition to the office visit copay and /or deductible which is set by your insurance carrier. The refraction is due at the time services are rendered. We will bill your insurance according to the individual contracted fee schedules. However, if your insurance pays the fee we will gladly refund you this prepaid \$35.00 amount upon receiving notice from your insurance.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read the above information and understand that the refraction is a non-covered service. I accept full financial responsibility for the cost of this service. The copay and deductible are separate from, and not included in the refraction fee. I understand that I am responsible for this fee if I fail to decline this service before it is performed.

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Patient Signature (Parent for minor)

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Date