

WELCOME TO OUR PRACTICE

We look forward to meeting you and caring for your eyes. Below you will find a list of items that we require for your next visit:

- 1) Bring your **Medical and Vision Insurance** cards-we cannot bill your insurance company without them.
- 2) Bring your **driver's license** or some form of picture ID (if you do not have a driver's license).
- 3) Make certain a referral **has been generated** if you have an HMO (or a Point of Service that requires one).
- 4) Bring your **eyeglasses**.
- 5) Wear your **contact lenses** (if applicable) if you would like us to renew your current prescription. Please bring any information that you might have on your current contacts.

Co-payments, refraction and contact lens fittings/evaluation fees: are due on the date of service.

Contact Lens Services: Please notify us in advance if you currently wear contact lenses *or* wish to be fitted for them. We need to allow the proper amount of time for this kind of appointment. There is an additional charge for contact lens fittings and evaluations.

Medical Exams: If your visit is for a known or suspected eye disease or injury, we will bill your medical insurance.

Routine Exams: If your visit is routine, (new glasses), we will bill your vision Plan.

Optical: If you are interested in eyewear, we have a large selection at very competitive prices. Come in and browse our optical during your visit. Our optical participates with many vision insurance plans, including Blue Cross Vision, Han Vision, DMC Heritage Optical, MEBS, MECA, Vision Advantage, VSP, Vision Care Plan, Vista Vision, and some Cole Managed Vision plans.

Just a note: We do our best to understand the many insurance benefits that our patients carry. Of course the expert about *your* own plan should be you! Please become familiar with your insurance so that you understand referrals (if required), co-pay and benefit levels. Your knowledge assists us in submitting a claim on your behalf. We promise to do our best to make your visit in our office as pleasant and convenient as possible.

Please complete the enclosed pre-registration forms and return them in our self-addressed stamped envelope.

Sincerely,

Carl F. Clavenna, M.D.
Gregory B Fitzgerald, M.D.
And Staff

Vision Insurance VS Medical Insurance

What is the difference? We hope we can clarify this question for you.

Your vision insurance is a "rider" that either you or your employer purchases to receive coverage for a routine eye exam and glasses or contact lenses. Medical insurance is intended to cover services when a medical condition exists.

One of the reasons that you choose to see an ophthalmologist rather than an optometrist is because an Ophthalmologist is a medical doctor and can offer you a higher level of care. Dr. Clavenna and Dr. Fitzgerald are ethically obligated to give you the highest level of care, which means that they must evaluate any and all medical conditions that exist.

How do I know if my visit is medical or vision?

Your vision insurance would apply for a routine eye examination if you:

- Have no known problems with your eyes except for needing new glasses.

AND

- Were not referred by another physician.

AND

- Your previous eye examinations by Dr. Clavenna or Dr. Fitzgerald did not show any medical conditions.

If the above does not apply then we need to address the medical condition and use your medical insurance.

Examples of medical conditions: Cataracts, glaucoma or suspicion of glaucoma, macular degeneration, implants, red eyes, tearing, irritation, pain, etc.