

## **What To Expect At Your Exam (Even if you think you know already)**

**Time-** A Comprehensive exam includes dilation especially if you are a new patient. On average you will be in the office for a comprehensive exam for about one and a half hours. If you require any special testing (visual field, nerve analyzer, retinal photographs) it may be slightly longer.

**Refraction-** A Comprehensive exam includes a refraction. A refraction is the testing we do in order to determine what your best vision could be with eyeglasses. Refractions are covered by some medical plans but not all. If your plan is one that doesn't cover a refraction our **fee** for this test is \$40. Our fee is lower than almost every other ophthalmology practice in Monmouth and Ocean counties.

**Dilation-** The majority of patients can drive after they are dilated. Some people (about 25%) feel uncomfortable driving after dilation. If you are not sure of how comfortable you would be driving after dilation you need to bring a driver. If you are having a comprehensive exam you will be dilated.

**Glasses-** Bring your most recent glasses. Even if you don't like them or think you can't see out of them. We can't be sure how much better a new prescription is going to be if we don't know what the old one is. If you wear contacts bring in the packages/box so we know exactly what you are using.

**Contact Lenses-** Our Ophthalmologists do not fit contact lenses. All contact lens exams are done with Dr Gerard. If you are a contact lens wearer and you want your exam done by one of our ophthalmologists you will have to return to see Dr Gerard for contact lens updates. Otherwise you can schedule your comprehensive exam and contact update with Dr Gerard. If you are coming in for a contact lens evaluation with Dr Gerard Please wear your contacts in to the exam and bring your glasses.

**Vision Plans-** Many people have both medical insurance and a separate vision care insurance (VSP, NVA, EyeMed, Davis Vision, Avesis). If you are planning on using your vision care insurance for a routine exam (you do not have any medical or surgical problem) your appointment will be made with our optometrist.

**Insurance-** Please bring your insurance cards to every visit. If you don't have your card you will need to pay for the visit in full at check out. We need to see the card every time you come to be sure it has not changed. If your insurance requires a referral it is up to you to make sure you have a valid one.

**Appointment Times-** We follow our appointment times not your arrival time in taking patient in for their exams.

**Fees-** All co-pays, deductibles & refraction charges are to be paid at time of visit. There will be an added fee if we have to bill you for them. This practice has a fee of \$25 for missed appointments. If you don't cancel your appointment at least 24 hours in advance and do not show up for your appointment or come in more than 30 minutes late you will be charged \$25.

**Forms-** Please download and complete our new patient form before your visit. If not, you need to arrive 20 minutes prior to your visit to fill out the paperwork.

**Please Mute Your Cellphone When You Are In The Exam Room**