

# Pediatric Ophthalmology Associates, PA

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Pediatric Ophthalmology

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## Refraction

It is important for you to understand what a refraction is and why we perform it.

- Refraction is the part of the exam that determines whether or not correction is needed to improve the patient's eyesight or eye alignment.
- It is performed during every New Patient exam, and periodically as needed, usually once per year.
- It is required in order to write an eyeglass or contact lens prescription. Note that in some cases the refraction shows that corrective lenses are not needed, or that the current lenses do not need to be changed.
- Regarding the quality of care, a refraction is a critical portion of the eye exam. Without doing a refraction the doctor will be unable to determine whether problems such as eye misalignment, double vision, headaches, blurry vision, eyestrain, or failed vision screening can be helped with corrective lenses, or with a change in current corrective lenses.

Refraction is **not** a covered service by most insurance plans (including Medicare). These plans consider refraction a "vision" service and not a "medical" service. **Our fee for refraction is \$35.00 and unless your plan automatically covers the refraction** (for example, North Carolina Health Choice) **this fee is collected at the time of service in addition to any co-payment required by your plan.** If your plan should cover the refraction, we will reimburse you.

**I have read the above information and understand that my insurance plan may not cover the cost of a refraction. I agree to pay the refraction fee of \$35, along with any required co-pay, deductible, or co-insurance required by my plan, at the time of service.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient DOB

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Patient Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Chart # \_\_\_\_\_

effective 1/1/11