## **WELCOME TO EYECARE SPECIALTIES!**

Thank you for choosing Eyecare Specialties for your eyecare needs. Our Doctors are board certified optometrists. We are here to provide you with the most advanced VISION and EYE HEALTH care. We truly care about our patients and the preservation of their vision.

Eyecare Specialties proudly serves Northwest Colorado with a tradition of experience, quality service and a friendly staff. With offices in both Craig and Steamboat Springs, we have long been recognized as the local leader in state of the art patient care.

Eyecare Specialties has been locally owned for nearly 50 years, supports countless local organizations and we appreciate our patient's support that has allowed us to continue providing the absolute best in vision care. It is our pleasure to continue serving your eye health needs. Call our office today to speak to a staff member with any questions.

There has been some misinformation about Eyecare Specialties no longer accepting medical insurances, including Medicare. This is incorrect. We provide extensive medical eyecare and bill appropriately to medical insurance. For our patients with medical eye conditions or other health problems that can affect your eyes, nothing has changed from prior years. Copays, co-insurance, deductibles, and payment for

non-covered services are due at the time of service.



We will continue to provide the highest level of eye care, and your exam will require specific diagnostic tests that may not be covered by your insurance. If you have any concerns, please contact our office prior to your exam for a good faith estimate of out of pocket costs. We are in- network providers for Anthem (medical), United HealthCare-UMR (medical), Medicare and Colorado Medicaid (Health First). Check with our office if your medical insurance plan is not listed.

We are out of network with all pre-pay vision plans, including VSP

(Vision Service Plan).

## What does this mean for you?

Moving away from network controlled vision plans and optical labs allows us the freedom and flexibility to treat and prescribe with the most advanced services and materials without restrictions.

These changes have allowed us the opportunity to provide you with lenses that have the best optical quality available, and in many cases may be more cost effective than purchasing eyewear with your VSP material benefits. This means savings that will be directly passed along to all of our patients.

Please know that as an out-of-network provider, we can continue to provide comprehensive eye examinations, and medical care for you and your family.

You can continue to receive your glasses and contact lenses at our office! We will continue to provide patients with all of the necessary paperwork to seamlessly submit an out-of-network claim to any vision plan and have any available vision plan benefits paid directly to you. Convenient financing options are available, some with zero interest, if you qualify.

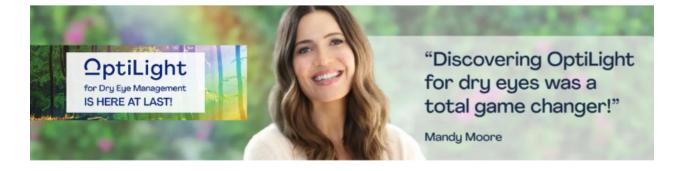
We look forward to seeing you.

# **Cutting Edge Services**

Did you know? Eyecare Specialties is proud to be one of only 7 Colorado providers to now offer Neurolens, a revolutionary new spectacle lens design that corrects eye misalignment and has helped thousands of patients alleviate symptoms such as eye fatigue, headaches, computer discomfort, neck and shoulder pain, and even dry eye.







Eyecare Specialties is the only eye care practice on the Western Slope to utilize the Lumenis Optilight. Optilight, is the first FDA approved IPL treatment for dry eyes. Dr. Eckroth uses Intense Pulsed Light (IPL) treatments, treating the root cause of dry eye disease.



Eyecare Specialties also offers many treatment options to slow the progression of myopia (difficulty seeing distance objects) in children and young adults. As more research shows myopia becoming more prevalent, evidence-based treatment options can help your child's vision now and reduce their lifetime risk of serious eye diseases. Dr. Vides will put together a customized treatment plan that fits many children's unique needs.

# Medical eye exams

Eye exams may be billed to **MEDICAL** insurance, depending on the presenting symptoms, existing conditions or findings of the eye exam.

#### MEDICAL Insurance:

- Covers unlimited examinations with symptoms like **burning**, **itching**, **redness**, **allergies**, **headaches**, **blurred vision**, **watering**, **light sensitivity**, **pink eye**, **etc**.
- Covers visits for more serious eye conditions like **Dry Eyes**, **Cataracts**, **glaucoma**, **diabetes**, **macular degeneration and eye surgery**.
- Covers high-tech diagnostic instrument testing (e.g., retina scans, visual field, glaucoma testing).
- **Does NOT cover checking for glasses prescriptions**/"refractive" conditions (near-sightedness/myopia, astigmatism, etc)
- May not cover all necessary procedures as determined by individual plans.
- Your copay/co-insurance/deductible may apply to each visit (defined by your MEDICAL insurance)

**MEDICAL** insurance may be filed based upon details of the eye exam, the symptoms which were presented during the eye exam, the diagnosis made during the eye exam, high-tech diagnostic instrument testing, and/or if a prescription for medication is needed.

### **DIABETES:**

Chronic conditions such as Diabetes, dry eye, glaucoma or macular degeneration are **NOT "routine"** since they can have long-term vision consequences. This requires a more complex evaluation along with more extensive coordination of care with your primary care physician. These visits will be filed to your **MEDICAL** insurance.

**SELF-PAY** if it's not advantageous for you to bill your medical insurance (ex. High Deductible) you may choose to not bill your visit to medical. You would be eligible for a pay in full, same day discount.

Many diagnoses we identify and treat may require tests that are not included in your comprehensive eye exam charge. We will review any additional charges with you prior to performing them.

## **MEDICARE Patients:**

Medicare allows for unlimited visits for the diagnosis/treatment of **medical eye problems** or **chronic medical conditions which can affect the eye** (dry eye, eye allergies, diabetes, cataracts, glaucoma, age related macular degeneration etc.) Medicare does <u>not</u> pay for checking your prescription. Copay/deductible may apply.

#### **REFRACTIONS:**

A refraction is the part of an office visit that determines your eyeglass prescription. It typically involves questions like, "which is clearer - one or two". **MEDICAL insurance** (including Medicare) considers checking for a glasses prescription as "routine" and so typically **does not** cover the cost of the refraction, which is \$55.00 and is due at the time of service. Many medical eye conditions can impact your vision. Although medical insurance considers refractions "routine", it is important that your prescription is checked regularly to assure you are seeing your best.

Thank you!