What is included in your Comprehensive Eye Examination?

We listen.
One of our highly trained technicians will document any current concerns and past eye problems. We will also go over your health history to include medications. This is a necessary step to insure all your concerns are noted and so that a health record will be available for future visits.

We look at the overall health of the eye.**
The technician will check your pupils for symmetry and reaction to light as well as document their size and any abnormalities. Eye muscle function tests and a visual field test (peripheral vision) are also given. Depth perception and color tests are given to children under 12. **cursory or less comprehensive when “vision” exam.

We look closely at the surface.
Your lids and lashes are evaluated by viewing with a strong magnifier and any bumps, lumps, or abnormalities are documented for the doctor’s further examination. Your tear film, cornea and iris are also examined and documented. Sometimes, additional tear production tests are indicated based on your concerns or what we see.

We check your eye pressure.
Intraocular pressure is taken as a screening for glaucoma and any elevated readings are reassessed and further evaluated by the doctor. Sometimes, if indicated by findings or history, an additional test to measure your corneal thickness is done.

We give you the best glasses prescription possible.
Visual acuity with your current glasses is taken. The prescription of your current glasses is measured to compare with any new findings from today’s examination. This portion of your eye exam is your “refraction”. Typically medical insurance plans do not pay for the refraction portion of your exam. Eye refractions are necessary not only for prescribing glasses and contact lenses but also for determining whether you have eye disease. Even if you do not wish or need glasses, the refraction is an essential part of your complete eye examination. If you wear contact lens they are evaluated under magnification to be sure they fit well and are in good condition (contact lens fittings and re-fittings are separate services).

We provide optical expertise.
An optician will evaluate the fit, functionality, & appropriateness of your current eyewear. Pupil measurements and the correct position of your reading power are also taken. Based on these findings as well as any problems you may need addressed, lens material, style and coatings will be recommended for optimal vision and comfort. Assistance will also be given to help you select a frame that best suits your specific needs. Because dilating drops blur your near vision, the optician will place dilating drops in your eyes after you have been given the opportunity to look at frames... {We will provide costs and insurance estimates but you are under no obligation to purchase your eyewear from us—these measurements and recommendations are a service to you.}

We look inside.**
To obtain a clear look at your retina and lens, the doctor will examine and assess your eye health after your eyes have been dilated. The doctor will also review and verify the findings of the tests performed and documented by the technician and optician. Any problems are addressed and explained as well as any required medications, tests or procedures. Further tests are scheduled as needed. You are encouraged to ask the doctor any questions you may have and you will be given a glasses prescription if one is needed. **dilated exam not necessarily part of a “vision” exam

We bill your medical insurance.
Usually, if you are over 50 or have a family history of certain eye problems, have conditions such as diabetes or use certain medications, your eye exam is medical in nature (not vision) even though we will provide you with an updated glasses prescription. Except in those cases where your eyes are completely healthy (no complaints by you and no findings by the doctor), we will bill your medical insurance plan and then coordinate with your vision plan to help you maximize any benefits for which you are eligible.

We follow up.
Annual comprehensive eye exams are advised for patients over 65 or under 20, and for those with diabetes or glaucoma. Patients who wear contact lens and patients with unstable glasses prescriptions should also be seen on an annual basis. All other patients would benefit from an eye examination every two years. We send you reminder letters as recommended by the doctors.