

Virginia Board of Optometry Guidance on End of a Contact Lens Fitting

Applicable Regulation

Regulations of the Virginia Board of Optometry

18VAC105-20-45. Standards of practice.

C. Contact lens.

2. An optometrist shall provide a patient with a copy of the patient's contact lens prescription at the end of the contact lens fitting, even if the patient doesn't ask for it. An optometrist may first require all fees to be paid, but only if he requires immediate payment from patients whose eye examinations reveal no need for corrective eye products.

Guidance

The Board of Optometry voted that the "end" of a contact lens fitting is determined by the following three criteria as taken from The Contact Lens Rule of the Federal Trade Commission (16 C.F.R. §§ 315.1-315.11):

1. When the lens fitting is complete;
2. If follow-up examinations are needed to complete the lens fitting, all follow-up exams must be medically necessary; and
3. If the prescriber is prepared to sell the patient contact lenses then the fitting is complete.

Proof of valid insurance coverage counts as payment.

For further information regarding the Contact Lens Rule of the Federal Trade Commission go to <http://business.ftc.gov/documents/bus63-complying-contact-lens-rule> or <http://www.ftc.gov/os/2004/06/040629contactlensrulefrn.pdf>