

Contact lenses are medical devices that can cause serious consequences, such as infection, inflammation, permanent damage and loss of vision if not fit and maintained properly. Examining a contact lens patient takes additional time and expertise. For that reason, there are separate, additional charges for contact lens examinations or re-fits that patients without contact lenses do not pay.

#### Contact Lens Fitting

In addition to your regular eye examination, there is a fitting fee associated with trying new contact lenses. There are hundreds of types of lenses, and the doctor will need to take special measurements and determine which lens type will work for you. Your initial design fee will cover ocular surface evaluation, diagnostic lenses, lab or shipping fees, fitting analysis and any follow-up visits necessary to obtain a satisfactory fit. If you have never worn contact lenses before, your fitting will include instruction on the insertion and removal of the lenses, and proper care and cleaning techniques. The fee depends on what type of lenses you wear, for example; bifocal lenses are more difficult to fit and take longer to adjust and fine-tune than standard contact lenses. The fit is finalized after you and the doctor agree the fit has been successful, or if either of you determines contact lenses are not an acceptable option for your eyes. Your initial fee includes up to 90 days of follow-up; any additional visits required to finalize your fit may be subject to a per visit fee. Once finalized, any future lens changes in brand or type will be considered a re-fit and may be subject to new fees.

#### Contact Lens Supply

After you have been fit with an appropriate lens, you will have the option of buying a supply of lenses that will last up to one full year. You will have to replace your lenses as directed, which can range anywhere from daily, two weeks, monthly or yearly depending on the kind of lens worn. Buying a year's supply of contact lenses at one time is beneficial because discounts or rebates may be available, and because you will have the convenience of having new lenses on hand when you need to replace them so that you are not forced to wear old, dirty, or damaged lenses.

#### Annual Contact Lens Evaluation and Prescriptions

Once finalized, your contact lens prescription will be valid for up to one year. After 12 months, the prescription expires. If you want to continue to wear contact lenses, you must return for both a comprehensive eye examination and contact lens evaluation. The doctor will verify that your eyes are responding well to contact lenses, check the ocular surface for any damage and make sure the lenses are still fitting properly and are the correct prescription for your eyes. **The cost for this evaluation is \$65.** This type of examination is necessary if you wish to continue wearing contact lenses. The doctor will not renew expired prescriptions without first making sure your eyes are healthy enough to wear lenses. To avoid any inconvenience, make sure your annual eye examination is scheduled on time so that you do not run out of lenses before you are seen. **If you wear contact lenses, this examination must be done annually, even if your insurance only allows for a two year examination interval.**

If for some reason you require additional time or visits because there has been a change in the type of lenses you wear, there will be additional refitting fees. These fees cover extra trials, examination time and follow-up appointments that may be necessary to finalize a re-fit into another type of contact lens.