

Why do I have to pay for Refraction?

Dear Patient,

There is a provision in Medicare regulations that prohibits Medicare from paying for refraction. Refraction is one part of the eye examination that determines a patient's best possible vision with spectacle lenses. It is also important to perform this test for patients with medical eye problems such as glaucoma, diabetes and cataracts.

Although Medicare allows an eye doctor to bill a patient for this non-covered service, our office has usually not charged for this in the past. In the face of rising costs and declining Medicare reimbursements, we have decided that we can no longer absorb the cost of this non-covered service. We know of no other office in the greater Rochester area that does not charge an extra fee for refraction.

Our doctors feel refraction is an important part of their patients' eye evaluation. We will give our patients' a copy of their updated eyeglass prescription for their records.

Please do not hesitate to contact any administrative personnel or provider during your visit if you have any questions.

Thank you for choosing the Flaum Eye Institute.