

JUVENILE COURT HEALTH SERVICES OPTOMETRY PROCEDURE

Subject: EYEGLOSS PRESCRIPTIONS	Original Issue Date: 12/31/07	Procedure # 006
	Supersedes: 5/31/11	Effective Date: 10/14/2021
Departments Consulted:	Approved By: (Signature on File) Optometrist (Signature on File) Medical Director	Approved by: (Signature on File) Health Services Administrator

PURPOSE

To ensure all youth who need eyeglasses receive them in a timely fashion.

PROCEDURE:

JCHS will provide youth with eyeglasses for those determined to have a refractive error, and who would benefit from using eyeglasses. Lenses prescribed to youth 17 years of age and under will be impact resistant material (trivex or polycarbonate) in accordance with California state law. The following guidelines will be used to determine qualifying prescriptions for coverage:

Prescription eyeglass lenses that conform to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) requirements will be provided by JCHS if the prescription is for any of the following:

- 1) Plus power (hyperopia) in at least one meridian of either lens of +0.75 diopter or more, with symptoms of blur or eyestrain
- 2) Minus power (myopia) in at least one meridian of either lens of 0.75 diopter or more
- 3) Equivalent sphere of 0.75 diopters or more in either lens
- 4) Astigmatic correction of either eye of 0.75 diopter or more
- 5) Total differential prismatic correction of 1.00 or more prism diopters in the vertical meridian
- 6) Total differential prismatic correction of 3.00 or more prism diopters in the horizontal meridian
- 7) Power in any meridian that differs from the corresponding meridian of the lens for the other eye by 1.00 diopters or more
- 8) Multifocal lenses with an add power of at least 1.00

Replacement eyeglasses will be provided that meet the above criteria or any one of the following:

- 1) The power is changed at least 0.50 diopters in any corresponding meridian
- 2) The cylinder axis is changed 20 degrees or greater for cylinder power of 0.50-0.62 diopters, 15 degrees or greater for cylinder power of 0.75-0.87 diopters, 10 degrees or greater for cylinder power of 1.00-1.87 diopters, or 5 degrees or greater for cylinder power of 2.00 diopters or greater.

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- 3) The prismatic differential correction is changed at least 0.75 prism diopters in the vertical meridian or at least 1.5 prism diopters in the horizontal meridian.

Processing of Prescriptions:

The Optometry Clinic is responsible for the procurement of eyeglasses. Should a pair of eyeglasses be prescribed at the time of the eye exam, the following procedures are followed:

1. A frame selection is made using stocked frames that are maintained at the clinic.
2. Clinic staff will fit the youth with a selected frame in the Optometry Clinic prior to sending the prescription invoice and frame to the optical lab. When returned from the optical laboratory, the clinic nurse will log in and verify orders.
3. The clinic nurse will coordinate the delivery of eyeglasses to the youth at all JCHS facilities in conjunction with the JCHS Pharmacy and/or the Probation Department. If the youth has been released from Probation custody, the spectacles will be returned along with the last known address to the optical laboratory for mailing.
4. Nurses at each facility will deliver the eyeglasses to the youth and document delivery in the PEMRS chart. In addition, a signed receipt is obtained from the youth and forwarded to the Medical Records Department for scanning into PEMRS. The Optometry Clinic will monitor the time from the appointment request to the receipt of eyeglasses to ensure that all juveniles needing eyeglasses receive them in a timely manner.

Spectacle Replacement and Repair:

JCHS will replace, as necessary, eyeglass lenses after the initial pair. Staff should refer to the following guidelines when requesting replacement spectacles:

Prior to submitting an order in PEMRS to be scheduled in the optometry clinic, the medical file may be reviewed to see if and when the minor was previously seen in the eye clinic. Many orders for eye exams are made for minors who have had a recent eye examination. Many times minors report blurred vision because they have lost their recently prescribed eyeglasses. If the patient was prescribed spectacles in the optometry clinic within the last ten months, a replacement pair may be requested.

Should there be complaints with the previous spectacles, or should new symptoms be present, these should be noted in PEMRS and a new appointment will be scheduled. The reason for the replacement request should be indicated.

- 1) After the delivery of an initial pair of spectacles, requests for replacement spectacles require the approval of the staff optometrist. The reason for the request will be reviewed. Requests made within 3 months from the delivery date of the previous spectacles will be denied.

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- 2) After three months, requests for replacement spectacles will be honored only if they meet the following criteria:
 - a. Power greater than 1.25 diopters in any one meridian of both lenses
 - b. Cylinder power greater than 1.25 diopters in both lenses
(Note: this criteria is higher than that for initial lenses.)

All other requests for replacement spectacles will be honored after 6 months. No more than two pairs of glasses will be provided within a 12 month period.

- 3) After 12 months, all minors are considered as new referrals to the optometry clinic, with criteria for initial spectacles in effect.
- 4) Minors whose glasses need repair can be sent to the optometry clinic at any time. Please attach all available parts of the broken spectacles to the request.
- 5) In situations where it appears the youth is intentionally damaging the eyeglasses, JCHS and Probation will collaborate with respect to the issuance of another pair of eyeglasses.

Broken frames and scratched lenses are repaired by clinic staff. The broken parts should be sent to the Eye Clinic where these repairs will be made.

REFERENCE

JCHS Policy # C-501, "Vision Services"

JCHS Policy # C-215, "Orthoses, Prosthesis And Other Aids to Impairment"