

Refraction

A refraction is an important diagnostic procedure which allows ophthalmologists to determine the eye's focusing power – whether your child has nearsightedness, farsightedness or astigmatism. A child's eye power can be measured with an instrument called a retinoscope, with loose hand held lenses, or with a phoropter, which is an instrument placed in front of the face.

Although refractions are often performed to determine a child's eye glass prescription, they also allow the doctor to identify the presence of asymptomatic ocular disorders, which may cause vision loss or delay visual development, even if a prescription is not given at the time of visit.

Refractions allow us to identify which children are at risk and help determine follow-up frequency. Identifying and treating potential vision-threatening disorders will result in better visual outcomes.

Insurance companies have universally reduced medical coverage in all fields of medicine. Some companies have stopped covering the refractions. As ophthalmologic subspecialists, we are required to perform refractions to ascertain the overall health of your child's eyes. While this may mean some out-of-pocket expenses, please understand that this is a necessary part of your child's exam. Please contact our billing office with any questions.

Signature

Date