

## Important Information on the Coding and Billing of your Routine Comprehensive Eye Exam

Thank you for coming to Northwest Eye for your Routine Comprehensive Eye Exam today. The Eye Care/Medical Industry is under the regulation of numerous and often-changing laws dictating the coding and reporting of each visit. The purpose of these laws is to ensure visits are of high quality. While we pride ourselves in meeting all of these quality control measures, it also means that we have to be very specific with the nature of each visit and code that visit specifically and accurately.

Even though you have come in today for a Routine Eye Exam, if something medical is discovered and/or addressed in your routine eye exam, the exam may turn into a medical visit and thus be coded differently. Below is how a typical Routine Eye Exam works and is eventually coded:

Patient undergoes a Routine Eye Exam, which includes:

- A health, medication and vision history
- A refraction or visual acuity test
- An examination of the front of the eye which include, the sclera, cornea, pupil, iris, eyelid and conjunctiva
- A dilated examination of the back of the eye which allows the doctor to observe your retina and optic nerve and also a fluid exam, if necessary

Based on the results of the exam the doctor determines if the visual problems you currently have are normal or are disease-related changes. The doctor may order additional testing, refer you to another doctor or specialist, or advise other treatments as needed.

## **Routine Coding:**

If you have vision changes because of normal refractive error, including nearsightedness, farsightedness or astigmatism your exam will be coded as routine.

## **Medical Coding:**

If the doctor diagnoses a medical condition that is NOT refractive error caused by nearsightedness, farsightedness or astigmatism, your exam will be coded as a medical comprehensive eye exam.

Once the visit is coded, your insurance company will then use those codes to determine how the visit will be processed (with or without a copay, deductible, coinsurance etc).

Please sign below to confirm you understand your comprehensive eye exam today may be billed routine or medical determined by the results of the exam. By signing below you confirm you have reviewed both your medical and vision insurance and understand how each applies to your insurance plan benefits.

Name	_ Date	