



DRS. MILLER AND MILLER NEWSLETTER ISSUE 2

School Vision Screenings

+Appr. 25% have vision problems but the pass rate in screenings is 75-80%

most parents assume this is addressed at school screening

+Research demonstrates that only 10% of children thru age 15 years old whom need eyeglasses actually have eyeglasses

+School screening screen primarily for distance visual acuity BUT most school vision demands are for near vision (reading, writing and computer work)

+Even when children are identified with a vision problem in the screening, only 40% actually receive the recommended eye doctor examination

So, of 25 kids with vision problems- only 4-5 of them are identified AND- of these only 1-2 actually see eye doctor.

+USA spends \$5.8 billion on employee learning and development of basic skills such as remedial reading, writing and math

+ estimates show that a 1% increase in literacy scores translates into a 2.5% relative rise in labor productivity and a 1.5% increase in the gross domestic product per person!

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Special points of interest:

- Astigmatism
- School screening
- reliability.
- Wellness eyecare

ASTIGMATISM (ah-STIG-ma-tis-um)

85-90% of all eyeglass prescriptions contain some correction for astigmatism. The eye, like a camera, has an outer curved lens, the cornea, to focus light. Most commonly, astigmatism occurs when this front surface has more than one curvature, rather than a perfect round shape. With astigmatism, the shape of the cornea is asymmetrical, or "egg" shaped, rather than uniformly round. As a result, an astigmatic eye requires a special two-power lens to focus light evenly.

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Uncorrected astigmatism may cause blurred and distorted vision. Astigmatism causes annoying symptoms of eyestrain such as headaches, eye fatigue, sensitivity to light, loss of visual achievement and poor visual concentration.

It is expected that first correction or large changes in correction of astigmatism may cause objects or straight lines to appear tilted or distorted. This perception of distortion will decrease steadily with time.

As with most prescriptions, it is common for the degree of astigmatism to change naturally over time. Eyeglasses and/or special astigmatic (toric) contact lenses are available to correct astigmatism.

Well office visits and fees

Some patients present with no “medically” related eyecare needs. These patients simply want a new pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses. Any “code” used to characterize the visit has a set fee.

It is recognized that these types of visits, termed wellness visits, are of much less complexity than would occur with complaints such as floaters, red eyes, eye pain, vision loss, etc.

It is appropriate to “code” wellness visits with a wellness code, which also has a set fee. The fee for wellness visits is significantly less than that of any other type of visit (and code).

When appropriate, we will use a wellness code and you will pay less for the visit. Please recognize that insurances do not recognise this type of service and will we will not file any claim with your insurance (major medical or vision).

Please ask us to explain wellness codes if you are unsure how to proceed.