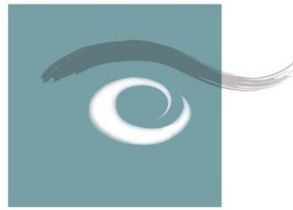


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Lifetime Eye Care

COVID-19 Policy Statement

Updated: March 16, 2020

Goal: Protect the health and safety of our patients, staff, and community while continuing to provide vision care services with as little disruption as possible.

Known information:

- COVID-19 is the illness caused by the SARS-CoV-2 . This has a varied course of illness from asymptomatic, to hospitalization, to mortality. Correlations have been made between severity and factors such as advanced age and pre-existing conditions. (<https://www.cdc.gov>)
- At the time of this writing there are zero positive results in Lane County (41 tested), zero deaths (<https://lanecounty.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=3585881&pageId=16503774>)
- At the time of this writing the State of Oregon has 39 confirmed and 1 related death (<https://coronavirus.1point3acres.com/en>)
- Transmission most commonly happens during close exposure to a person infected with COVID-19, primarily via respiratory droplets produced when the infected person coughs or sneezes. (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhcp%2Finfection-control.html)
- Body fluids other than respiratory secretions have not been clearly implicated in transmission of COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>)
- Healthcare personnel evaluating PUI or providing care for patients with confirmed COVID-19 should use, Standard Transmission-based Precautions. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/faq.html>)
- Asymptomatic infection with SARS-CoV-2 has been reported, but it is not yet known what role asymptomatic infection plays in transmission. Similarly, the role of pre-symptomatic transmission (infection detection during the incubation period prior to illness onset) is unknown. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/faq.html>)
- Viral particles can remain contagious for varying amounts of time on different materials (<https://www.aao.org/headline/alert-important-coronavirus-context>)
- Frequent symptoms at onset of hospital-admitted cases: Fever (77-99%), cough (46-82%), myalgia or fatigue (11-52%), and shortness of breath (3-31%). (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-guidance-management-patients.html>)

- The current CDC recommendations for disinfectants specific to COVID-19 include:
 - Diluted household bleach (5 tablespoons bleach per gallon of water)
 - Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol.
 - Common EPA-registered household disinfectants currently recommended for use against SARS-CoV-2 include Clorox brand products (e.g., disinfecting wipes, multi-surface cleaner + bleach, clean up cleaner + bleach), Lysol brand products (e.g., professional disinfectant spray, clean and fresh multi-surface cleaner, disinfectant max cover mist), Purell professional surface disinfectant wipes and more. The EPA offers a full list of antimicrobial products expected to be effective against COVID-19 based on data for similar viruses.
 - <https://www.aao.org/headline/alert-important-coronavirus-context>
- Willamette Valley Allergy season is beginning. COVID-19 and allergies share symptoms of “dry cough” and breathing issues. Fever is the distinguishing factor that is not found with an allergy response (<https://www.health.com/condition/infectious-diseases/allergies-vs-coronavirus>)

All persons in our office can be categorized under one of the following:

- Recovered from COVID-19
- Symptomatic, infected (Fever, cough, shortness of breath)
- Asymptomatic infected (potential carrier, appears well)
- Well, non-carrier

All employees, patients, and their guests will be subject to the following protocol and policies:

Persons recovered from COVID-19

- Persons recovered from COVID-19 can be in office only with note from their doctor indicating release from treatment. If recovery without medical assistance, then they must be without symptoms for 24 hours.

Persons showing symptoms, infected

- If a patient with known COVID-19 infection needs urgent ophthalmic/optometric care, they will be directed to go to the hospital ER.
 - Persons demonstrating the following symptoms will be directed to contact their primary care doctor and rescheduled.
 - Fever, cough, and shortness of breath
 - Fever is either measured temperature >100.0F or subjective fever
- (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>)

The “Asymptomatic infected,” and “Well, non-carriers” will present similarly. For this reason, the following universal precautions will be implemented:

- Alcohol wipe of all patient touch surfaces and any expected to be contaminated
 - “Routine cleaning and disinfection procedures are appropriate for SARS-CoV-2 in healthcare settings, including those patient-care areas in which aerosol-generating procedures are performed.” (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/caring-for-patients.html>)
- All toys and magazines will be removed temporarily from each lobby
- Lobby seating has been reduced, with remaining chairs being spaced apart
- All pens/touchpad stylus used at the front desk will be cleaned with alcohol after each use
- Credit cards will be handled using a KimTech wipe when accepted from the patient
- Scheduled cleaning of doorknobs, countertops, and touch-points in the lobby will occur multiple times per day.
- In addition to our standard cleaning of exam rooms between patients, we will be using alcohol on the doorknobs, arm rests, handheld items such as the occluder, and other patient touch-points.
- All staff, patients, and their guests will wash their hands upon entry to the exam room and therapy room.
- To further decrease the risk of any virus transmission, staff may ask a patient to speak as little as possible during certain exam procedures (<https://www.aaopt.org/headline/alert-important-coronavirus-context>)
- Patient-doctor breath shields/ slit-lamp barriers will be present on exam room slit lamps
- All optical frames will be cleaned with alcohol after it has been tried on or touched by an individual. No eyeglass cleaning cloths will be used for cleaning; only use KimTec wipes.
- Vision Therapy: all equipment such as lenses, prisms, filters will be cleaned with alcohol with each use. No eyeglasses cleaning clothes will be used for cleaning; only use KimTec wipes.
- All staff are to avoid handshakes and/or high-fives.
- All desks that include patient interaction will be cleaned after each use.
- Staff will be working from dedicated personal stations
- Pens used at the front desk will be put into a jar of “dirty” pens after use, for cleaning with alcohol
- Patients can opt to wait in a personal vehicle where they can be contacted by mobile phone when it is their turn to be evaluated, or served by optical.
- When phoning about visit reminders, we will be rescheduling appointments for patients with non-urgent ophthalmic problems who have respiratory illness, fever or returned from a high-risk area within the past 2 weeks (<https://www.aaopt.org/headline/alert-important-coronavirus-context>)

Employees:

- If you have an unprotected exposure (i.e., not wearing recommended PPE) to a confirmed or possible COVID-19 patient, contact your supervisor immediately.
- If you develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (fever, cough, or difficulty breathing), do not report to work. Contact your supervisor.

Thank you for understanding the necessity of these changes.

Respectfully,

David A. Hackett, OD
 Lifetime Eye Care
 Vision Performance Center, LLC

Additional Sources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-guidance-management-patients.html>

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fabout%2Fsymptoms.html

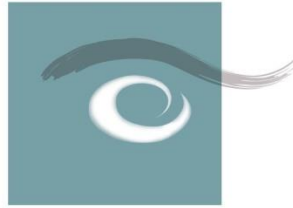
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/caring-for-patients.html>

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhcp%2Finfection-control.html

<https://lanecounty.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=3585881&pageId=16503774>

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Lifetime Eye Care

March 16, 2020

Regarding: COVID-19

Dear Patients,

We take pride in always putting the health of our patients and team members first, and we assure you that we are being proactive in response to the current COVID-19 outbreak. We have significantly expanded on our already-stringent sanitation procedures in order to protect you and our team. These details will be available on our website.

All currently scheduled appointments will continue as planned until further notice.

If you OR a direct family member are exhibiting a fever or respiratory issues, such as a severe cough, we are requiring that you first see your PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN. If you are currently scheduled and develop any of these symptoms prior to your appointment, please call or text the office at 541-342-3100 and we would be happy to reschedule your appointment once you are feeling better and are symptom-free.

Our full COVID-19 Policy Statement will be available on our website and updated as necessary.

Sincerely,

David A. Hackett, OD
Lifetime Eye Care
Vision Performance Center, LLC