



GRIFFIN EYE C E N T E R

Dear Patient:

Welcome to the **Griffin Eye Center** You have chosen a leading eye care facility. Our goal is to make your experience here as pleasant as possible. Everything we do is geared toward providing you, our patient, the highest quality medical and surgical care possible.

PHYSICIAN:

Our Board Certified Ophthalmologist Neil Griffin, M.D. has specialized training in the diagnosis and treatment of all eye diseases. Dr. Griffin specializes in the medical and surgical treatment of cataracts, and diseases of the cornea and dry eyes.

IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT FACTS:

Your Visit: You should plan to be here 1 ½ to 2 ½ hours, depending on the extent of your examination and any additional tests, studies, or procedures that might be required.

Medical Records: Griffin Eye Center can NOT see you without your most recent medical records for your Optometrists. If you have had prior surgeries or have seen Dr. Griffin when he was with Carolina Eye Associates then those records will ALSO be needed. REMEMBER we MUST receive these records in order for you to be seen. It is best to get those records in advance so you may contact the site of your past visits and ask them to send the information to our practice as quickly as possible and prior to your scheduled visit. They will then give you instructions on how to make that happen. We have enclosed a Medical Records Release and highlighted for your convenience the areas that you will need to sign. We also took the liberty to send you a self-addressed envelope so that you could address it and mail it to the respective facility.

PLEASE BRING WITH YOU TO THE APPOINTMENT:

Medications and Medical History – please either bring a current list of all medications you are taking, or the medications in the bottles as received from the pharmacy. Please complete the medical History Questionnaire and bring that with you to your visit.

Eyeglasses – please bring your best or most recent eyeglasses, even if they no longer improve your vision. The glasses will provide important information about the past condition of your eyes.

Insurance Cards – please bring all current insurance cards with you to the appointment. We will bill your medical insurance, primary and secondary, for the medical eye exam and any additional testing and procedures performed. Any unpaid visits due to invalid insurance cards will become the patient's responsibility.

Photo ID – We are required to obtain a copy of your photo ID. This is to protect you from someone else using your medical insurance (a type of identity theft).

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Self-Pay – If you are not covered by medical insurance, you will be expected to pay-in-full at the time of service.

Medicare – We accept assignment on Medicare. If you are a Medicare beneficiary and do not have secondary coverage, you will be responsible for payment of 20% of the Medicare allowed amount unless you have supplementary insurance.

Deductible – Be prepared to pay your medical insurance deductible if it has not been met for the year.

Copays – You are required to pay your insurance copay at the time of service. The copay amount is usually noted on your insurance card or can be found in your insurance handbook.

Non-Covered Services – Some services might not be covered by your insurance. Most medical insurance plans, including Medicare, do not pay for “routine eye exams.” Routine Eye Exams are exams which **do not** result in a medical diagnosis. For example, diagnoses such as myopia (near-sightedness), hyperopia (far-sightedness), astigmatism, presbyopia (aging eyes) would not be considered medical. Routine eye exams also include “screening for eye disease” which does not result in a medical diagnosis. In the event of service not covered by your medical insurance, you will be responsible for the charges.

Payment Options – We accept **Cash, Check, Debit, Visa, MasterCard.**

EXAMINATION SPECIFICS

REFRACTION:

Refraction is a measurement of near-sightedness, far-sightedness, and astigmatism. Refraction is part of a complete eye exam and will be done at the initial visit. Medicare and most medical insurance do not cover refraction, but it is frequently necessary, to establish what a patient's best-corrected vision is. The refraction fee is \$____ and due at time of service, whether or not it results in a prescription for eyeglasses.

DILATION:

Your pupils will probably be dilated during the initial visit. Dilation lasts several hours and may blur your vision. If you have not previously driven with dilated pupils, you should bring a driver.

I prefer to DECLINE Dilation * _____

**If you are 65 or older and /or diabetic you will be dilated to meet insurance health requirements.*

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Office hours are Monday Thru Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (except holidays). We encourage you to call us anytime you have a question or problem with your eyes. Non-emergency calls are best handled during business hours. Emergency and after-hour calls are handled by our answering service or forwarded to the Physician on-call.

Local Phone Number: 843-449-6414

Fax Number: 843-497-0357

Outside Myrtle Beach: 888-570-5789

