

## Welcome to our practice!

We would like to thank you for choosing Pediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus Associates for your eye care. We are committed to providing you with the best possible care in a friendly, comfortable environment. The following information is meant assist you with any questions, and help you prepare for your visit with us.

To help prevent delays on the day of your appointment, please read the enclosed information and fill out the required forms ahead of time. Please bring the completed forms with you to your appointment. We ask that you arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time. Please note that if you arrive more than 15 minutes **after** your scheduled appointment time, you may be asked to reschedule. We will make every effort to see you at your scheduled appointment time. Sometimes emergencies, or other situations that are out of our control may arise, resulting in us running behind schedule. We will make every effort to notify you upon your arrival if we are running behind.

If for any reason you need to cancel your appointment, please give us at least 24 hours notice. If you fail to show up for your appointment, or cancel with less than 24 hours notice, you will be charged a \$25.00 cancellation fee, which must be paid prior to your next appointment.

If someone other than a parent or legal guardian will be accompanying your child to their appointment, we require that you send a note stating the name of the person who will be bringing your child, and that it's OK for us to treat your child and instill dilating drops. For your convenience, we have included an authorization form that you can fill out, giving permission for your child to be accompanied to their appointment by a specified adult. The person bringing your child will be required to present a photo ID. We also need to have a number to reach you (the parent or legal guardian) during the exam. Please note, we have to refuse examination or treatment if we have any concerns with who is accompanying the child to the appointment.

### WHAT TO EXPECT AT YOUR FIRST VISIT

Your exam will begin with an evaluation by an ophthalmic assistant. She/he will perform a detailed history, visual acuity, confrontational visual fields, ocular motility, pupil assessment and binocular vision testing. If there are motility (strabismus) issues, the doctor will see the patient prior to dilation. None of these tests will hurt or surprise the child. After that, drops will be instilled to dilate the pupils. It usually takes approximately 30 – 45 minutes for the drops to work. This is done so that the doctor can see details about the back of the eye, and also assess the need for glasses.

The initial appointment will last approximately 2 hours and will include dilation. Dilation typically lasts about 12-24 hours. The patient may be light sensitive and have some difficulty seeing small details up close (usually within arms distance) during that time. However, some people have difficulty seeing at farther distances and have difficulty driving. Children can return to school with their pupils dilated. We can give you a note for school explaining that the vision may be blurry after the eye exam. **Please note, with the exception of some adults with strabismus, it is necessary to perform a dilated eye exam on the initial visit. Otherwise, the doctor will not have all of the information necessary to provide advice or treatment suggestions.**

Again, thank you for choosing our office. We are looking forward to meeting you. If you have any questions prior to the visit, please feel free to call us, or visit our website at [www.posa-pa.com](http://www.posa-pa.com).