

## Consultation Fees

The initial consultation is usually bulk-billed to Medicare, meaning there is no out-of-pocket cost to you unless you have had an examination with another optometrist within the previous two years.

So far as the series of contact lens consultations described above is concerned, if you have a high or unusual prescription we may be able to bulk-bill Medicare for these services, but otherwise you will be responsible for them yourself. Contact lens consultation fees are not covered by private health insurance

If you have not worn lenses before, a bulk fee is charged to cover the series of visits. The fee is the same no matter how many consultations are required to fit the lenses and is the same as the Medicare schedule fee for fitting contact lenses (refer to the insert for the current fee level). The fitting of lenses for overnight wear is a special case and different fees apply (also refer to insert)

If you have worn lenses before and require no instruction in inserting and removing your lenses, you may be billed on a per-visit basis. Most of these visits are usually 15-minute appointments, for which the equivalent of the current Medicare fee for a short consultation is charged (refer to insert for current fee level). Most annual review visits are fully covered by Medicare.

## Contact Lens Fees

Contact lens fees will vary according to the type of lens prescribed, but you will be informed of these in advance before any lenses are ordered. You will also be provided with a starter kit of solutions with your first pair of lenses.

Most contact lenses prescribed these days tend to be disposable. Some of the different types of disposable lenses include:

- > Standard spherical fortnightly or monthly disposable lenses
- > Spherical single-use disposable lenses
- > Toric fortnightly or monthly disposable lenses
- > Tinted spherical disposable lenses

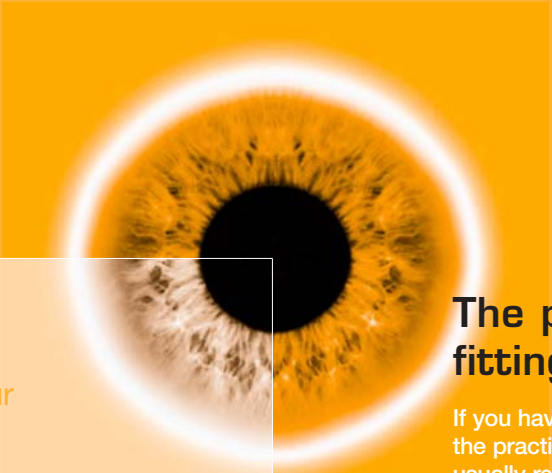
At many times there are also special promotions for coloured contact lenses that offer incentives such as special pricing or bonus lenses. Please check with our reception staff for details of these offers.

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Contact lenses can be a great way of correcting your vision, especially for social and sporting activities.

For contact lenses to be successful they must be comfortable, and provide good vision. Most importantly they must be safe so far as the health of your eyes is concerned and this is an issue we are very serious about.

To achieve this, a number of visits are required to ensure that:

- > your eyes are suitable for wearing contact lenses;
- > you are prescribed the right type of lens;
- > the lenses fit your eyes properly;
- > you are taught how to properly insert, remove and care for the lenses;
- > you are taught how to recognise the different types of problems that can occur with lenses and what to do about them.

## The process of fitting contact lenses

If you have not previously been examined at the practice, a normal initial consultation is usually required to establish your normal levels of vision, your prescription and any eye or general health conditions that may affect the wearing of contact lenses.

### The main visits involved in fitting contact lenses are:

- > a fitting visit to discuss your likely wearing needs, to determine what type of lenses should be prescribed for you and possibly to trial a number of lenses on your eye (sometimes this visit may be combined with the initial consultation or the delivery visit);
- > a delivery visit to teach you how to handle, insert and remove your lenses as well as how to deal with contact lens problems;
- > at least two aftercare visits to monitor the fit of the lenses and the health of your eyes, as well as check your satisfaction with the lenses;
- > other visits to solve problems you may encounter, for example if you require further instruction in handling your lenses, or if your initial lenses are unsatisfactory and another type needs to be trialed;
- > once the fitting process is completed, you will be recalled for at least annual check-ups of lens fit and eye health.