

STANDARD OF PRACTICE

ON-SITE OCULO-VISUAL ASSESSMENTS

Name:	On-Site Oculo-Visual Assessments
Date Approved:	02/08/2020
Date Updated:	
Number:	SP-PM-12
Type:	Practice Management Standards (PM)
Reference:	Replaces G-C-2 In-School Eye Examinations 02.08.20 MOTION "To approve STANDARDS OF PRACTICE SP-PM-12 On-Site Oculo-Visual Assessments and to have it replace GUIDELINE G-C-2 In-School Eye Examinations." CARRIED.

The Saskatchewan Association of Optometrists (SAO) believes that all individuals deserve oculo-visual assessments to ensure they maintain a functional visual system. The definition of an **on-site oculo-visual assessment** is an assessment of vision, binocularity, and ocular health that occurs outside of a practitioner's typical office space in an effort to overcome geographical, mobility, or other barriers to individuals receiving ocular care. Examples of where on-site oculo-visual assessments may be administered include senior care homes, schools, remote communities, and hospitals.

Practitioners providing on-site oculo-visual assessments are required to uphold current standards of practice. They must maintain record confidentiality, accessibility, continuity of care, and accept billing to Saskatchewan Health and Non-Insured Health Benefits.

Minimum Equipment

- Occluders
- Fixation Targets
- Visual Acuity Charts – distance and near – conventional or computerized
- Colour Vision
- Stereo Test
- Transilluminator
- Refraction equipment – Trial lens kit and Trial Frame or Portable Phoropter/Stand combo
- Biomicroscopy – 20 D lens and BIO and/or Portable Slit Lamp
- Retinoscope which may be supplemented by an autorefractor
- Pupillometer – or ruler for PD measurements
- Lensometer
- Phoria measuring device such as prism bar, Risley prisms, and/or Maddox rod
- Direct ophthalmoscope
- Dispensing/frame adjusting kit
- Sanitation Control: Hand Washing facilities or sanitizing gels between each patient, gloves, swabs, etc. for instrumentation as appropriate

- Foreign body kit
- Ophthalmic diagnostic medications in a secure portable container.

Procedure Guidelines for On-Site Oculo-Visual Assessments:

<p>Patient History (this could be in the form of a questionnaire provided to parents or powers of attorney)</p>	<p>May include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature of presenting problem • Visual and ocular history • General health history • Family eye and medical history
<p>Visual Acuity – Distance and Near</p>	<p>May include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symbols, pictures, Snellen letters
<p>Refraction</p>	<p>May include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Static retinoscopy • Cycloplegic Refraction • Subjective refraction • Auto refraction • Ophthalmometry
<p>Binocular Vision</p>	<p>May include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cover test • Near Point of convergence (NPC) • Accommodative amplitude • Accommodative facility • Stereopsis • Versions • Phoria measurements with fusional reserves
<p>Ocular Health</p>	<p>May include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of the anterior segment and adnexa • Evaluation of the posterior segment • Colour vision testing • Assessment of pupillary responses • Visual field screening (confrontation) • Imaging
<p>Additional Requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a controlled, clean clinical environment • Availability for follow-up and warranty if required • Must provide contact information

Confidential Storage of Records	As per Professional Bylaws (6.4) A member shall keep records required under Section (6.3) in a systematic manner and shall retain each record for a period of at least six years after the date of last entry in a record. All records for pediatric patients shall be retained for two years past the age of majority or six years after the date they were last seen whichever may be the later date.
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Follow-Up Care and Availability

Optometrists must ensure that patients will continue to receive treatment and management of oculo-visual conditions or diseases as indicated. The optometrist’s permanent practice location must be staffed during regular office hours to allow access to health records and for continued care options. Delivery of ophthalmic devices and in-person maintenance of such devices to the location care is provided is required.

Information Regarding In-School Oculo-Visual Assessments:

The SAO does not support “vision screenings” and members should ensure that they do not communicate or promote their services as a vision screening. Please see SAO’s position statement on vision screenings for additional information on this matter.

Optometrists wishing to provide optometric services to schools must obtain legal guardian consent prior to examination. Children with existing ongoing relationships with optometrists should be encouraged to return to their practitioner of choice. This must be clearly stated on the consent form. Consent form samples are available on our SAO website and at www.ESELSk.ca. Proposals and consent forms must be approved by the SAO Advertising Committee prior to submission to the school division. Upon approval by the Advertising Committee, the member must ensure the Superintendent or equivalent for the school division being approached has granted approval prior to communicating to the individual schools.

Optometrists are cautioned when approaching schools to inform schools of their optometric services in a professional and truthful manner that meets Saskatchewan optometric advertising standards.

It is appropriate for optometrists to respond to requests for in-school services with comprehensive examination services, especially in a community that is without regular optometric care.

Optometrists who provide in-school examination services will be listed in the SAO directory of practitioners who provide in-school examination and dispensing services. The SAO is to be notified when a member is providing in-school eye examinations.

Guideline for In-School Eye Examination Parental Permission

- Parents must be notified in advance and in writing of the in-school examination
- Signed consent must be returned PRIOR to the child having an eye exam

- The consent form must inform parents that, if a relationship has already been established with an optometrist, the in-school examination may be declined
- When needed, documentation shall be returned to the parent to ensure appropriate follow-up and continuing care is arranged

Guideline for In-School Eye Examination Billing

All 2U minimum standards must be met in order to bill the oculo-visual assessment.