



Ophthalmology Clinic

Preparing for your child's visit



We are dedicated to the medical and surgical care of eye problems in infants, children and adolescents. An eye exam helps us find out if there is a vision problem and create a plan for treatment. We look forward to seeing you and your child at the appointment.

Our goal is to make your child's visit as comfortable as we can. Here is what to expect and answers to some common questions from families.

On the day of your child's visit

- A parent or legal guardian must come with your child to the clinic visit.
- If you are more than 20 minutes late, you can either reschedule or wait to see if there is another opening on the same day. Allow plenty of time for travel, parking and registration.
- If your child or teen wears eye make-up, please remove the make-up before your child's appointment.
- If your child is visiting the Oculomotor Laboratory and is taking medicine that causes drowsiness, please tell our clinic staff.
- Please ask our clinic staff if you would like a copy of the information collected during your child's test. A copy of the test results will be sent to the doctor who referred your child to us.

Bring these items on the day of your visit

- **History of your child's symptoms.**
- **Appointment Reminder Notice.**
- **Insurance card(s), Medicaid medical coupon** and any required **co-pay.**
- **List of the medicines your child takes** – include the name, dose and instructions. (Example: amoxicillin, 250 mg, 3 times a day.) Or, you can bring the medicine with you.
- **Diaper bag and/or comfort items for your child**, such as toys, snacks and a change of clothes.

To Learn More

- Ophthalmology Clinic
206-987-2177
- Your child's
healthcare provider
- www.seattlechildrens.org

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your child's nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the Toll-free Family Interpreting Line 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.
- For Deaf and hard of hearing callers: 206-987-2280 (TTY).

- **Legal papers**, if needed, about custody or making healthcare decisions for your child.

When you arrive

- Enter Children's at any Whale entrance, and go to the 4th floor of the Whale zone. Ask the greeter at the front desk to direct you.

During your first visit

- Allow at least 2½ hours for this visit so that we can do a thorough eye exam on your child.
- We may put drops in your child's eyes. This is done so that the doctor can look at the backs of the eyes. The drops will be given by one of our certified technicians. The drops can sting a bit, but this feeling is very brief. You and your child will be asked to wait for about 30 minutes after the drops are given, to allow time for your child's pupils to dilate. There is a quiet waiting area for this part of your visit.
- Based on the nature of your child's eye problem, the exam may include additional testing, which your child's doctor will discuss with you.

The clinical team

- **Certified Ophthalmic Technician** – Assists the doctor with the diagnosis of your child's eye problem and administrative tasks
- **Neurophysiologist** – Does ophthalmic research and specialized testing
- **Ophthalmologist** – A medical doctor who specializes in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of vision problems and eye diseases
- **Resident** – A medical doctor who is in specialty training. Since we are a teaching hospital, your child may be seen by a resident.

Paying for your visit

- The cost of your visit will depend on the length and type of service.
- If you have questions or need help paying for your bill, call 206-987-5770 to talk to a financial counselor.

To cancel or change an appointment

- If you need to cancel, change or make another appointment, call the scheduling center at 206-987-2177.
- If you need to cancel, please call at least 24 hours before your appointment.

Clinic hours

The Ophthalmology Clinic is open weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Seattle Children's offers interpreter services for Deaf, hard of hearing or non-English speaking patients, family members and legal representatives free of charge. Seattle Children's will make this information available in alternate formats upon request. Call the Family Resource Center at 206-987-2201.

This handout has been reviewed by clinical staff at Seattle Children's. However, your child's needs are unique. Before you act or rely upon this information, please talk with your child's healthcare provider.

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