

# Medical & Urgent Eye Care

## DID YOU KNOW?

- + All Albertans have access to medical and urgent eye care provided by an optometrist.
- + A referral is **not required**.
- + Most optometrists will see patients the **same day** if the matter is urgent.
- + The Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) provides partial coverage for medically necessary and urgent care appointments.<sup>1</sup>
- + Optometrists have the proper knowledge, tools and equipment necessary to diagnose, treat, prescribe medications, and refer to a specialist, if needed.





## Medical & Urgent Care Services Include

- + Red eye (pink eye infection, allergic conjunctivitis, chemical burn).
- + Infection or inflammation of the eye or eyelid.
- + Eye injury or foreign objects in the eye.
- + Sudden changes in vision.
- + Monitoring for diabetes and glaucoma complications.
- + Retinal detachment, defects and diseases.
- + Pre- and post-operative care for cataract patients.



**Alberta Health partial coverage is available towards urgent eye care, eye infections and medically necessary appointments.**

*<sup>1</sup>Optometrists can charge for insured services that the optometrist deems exceeds the AHCIP benefit and Albertans are responsible for additional costs incurred at the time of treatment. Practitioners are required to discuss fees with their patients before providing the service.*