

Guilford Eye Center COVID protocols (3/19/20)

On March 18, 2020 the Centers for Disease Control recommended postponing all routine eye appointments until the corona virus pandemic is resolved. This position has been supported by the American Optometric Association, the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the North Carolina State Board of Optometry.

The health and safety of our patients and staff remain our number one priority. To align with federal, state and local health guidelines, at this time we will be prioritizing “essential care” appointments. Essential care can include, but is not limited to, Trauma, Vision Loss, Pain, Redness, or an exam required for eyewear due to a lost or broken pair. For routine annual exams, we will postpone these visits until given the ok by federal or state officials.

We want to ensure the safety of all our patients and employees. In order to comply with the most up to date guidelines provided by the CDC, we are implementing the following changes immediately:

We will reschedule the following appointments:

- If you have been out of the country or anywhere with a travel advisory in the past 14 days.
- If you have been exposed to someone who is suspected of having COVID-19.
- Are over age 60 years of age
- Have any flu-like symptoms within the past 48 hours including: Fever, Cough, Shortness of breath, Runny nose, diarrhea.

In our office we are ensuring that our facilities are clean. We are cleaning the restrooms, waiting room areas, and examination rooms multiple times per day. All surfaces are cleaned between patients. All eyeglasses that have been tried on, are cleaned before returning to the showroom display.

To limit social interactions between staff and patients and other patients in our office:

- Waiting area chairs are being spaced for the appropriate 6 ft distance between each chair.
- While waiting for your appointment, there is only space for 1 patient to wait at a time. Any additional visitors will be asked to remain in their cars and we will call them when it is their time to come in.
- Only patients are allowed in the examination or treatment rooms, with the exception of patients who are minors requiring a legal guardian or patients requiring the physical assistance of a guardian / family member. All other family members and guests will be asked to wait in their car until the conclusion of the visit.

We thank you for your patience during this time.