

Why Vision Care?

3.5 to 5 million Americans are either blind or have low vision.¹

Families Need Regular Eye Exams

While 81% of Americans wear eyeglasses or contact lenses, a huge percentage of that population is not seeing as well as they should because their prescription is not strong enough.^{2,3}

11 million people over age 12 could improve their vision through proper eyewear.⁴

3.5 to 5 million Americans are either blind or have low vision.⁵

The leading causes of blindness and low vision are diabetes,

glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration and cataract.⁶

Each year, as many as 25,000 people go blind from diabetic retinopathy, the primary cause of blindness in American adults.^{7,8} One quarter of the 23 million diabetics in the U.S. remain undiagnosed.⁹

3 million Americans have glaucoma. Half of them do not know it.¹⁰

Glaucoma is called the “silent thief of sight” because there are no symptoms in its early stages.¹¹

Vision: The “Good News” Benefit

A comprehensive eye exam provides early detection of vision problems as well as systemic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension.¹²

Employees with a vision plan are more likely to obtain proper eye care. Uncorrected vision disorders cost American employers \$68 billion in medical expenditures and such indirect costs as lost productivity.¹³

Vision coverage costs employers just one-tenth of that spent on medical benefits.¹⁴

Stand-alone Exam + Materials plans drive members to providers at more than double the rate of bundled plans. With such a plan, more than 50% of members receive a routine eye exam at least once in a two-year period.¹⁵

63% of employees not covered by a managed vision care plan would sign up for one if presented with the opportunity—even if they had to pay a small monthly fee.¹⁶

Sources

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^{10/} “Glaucoma,” Medicine Net website, accessed 6-3-11

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