

**145.713 OPTOMETRIST AND PHYSICIAN PRACTICES.**

Subdivision 1. **Prohibited conduct.** No optometrist or physician may:

(1) condition the availability of an eye examination or the release of a prescription to a patient on a requirement that the patient agree to purchase ophthalmic goods from the optometrist or physician who performed the eye examination or from another specified optometrist or physician;

(2) charge a patient a fee in addition to the optometrist's or physician's examination and fitting fees as a condition of releasing the prescription to the patient. An optometrist or physician may charge a reasonable additional fee for fitting ophthalmic goods dispensed by another practitioner if that fee is imposed at the time the fitting is performed; or

(3) prescribe a manufacturer's brand name contact lens that can only be dispensed through the prescribing physician or optometrist's office.

Subd. 2. **Contraindications for contact lenses.** If an optometrist or physician determines that a patient's ocular health presents a contraindication for contact lenses, the optometrist or physician must orally inform the patient of the contraindication and must document the contraindication in the patient's records. An optometrist or physician may exclude categories of contact lenses where clinically indicated.

Subd. 3. **Waivers of liability prohibited.** No optometrist or physician may place on a patient's prescription, require a patient to sign, or deliver to a patient a form or notice waiving liability or responsibility for the accuracy of the eye examination or the accuracy of the ophthalmic goods and ophthalmic services dispensed by another practitioner. Prohibiting waivers of liability under this subdivision does not impose liability on an optometrist or physician for the ophthalmic goods or ophthalmic services dispensed by another practitioner pursuant to the optometrist's or physician's prescription.

**History:** 2002 c 259 s 3