Paraoptometric Education & Training Product Catalog
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LEVEL 1 Certified Paraoptometric (CPO)

CPO STUDY GUIDE

Used to prepare for entry-level paraoptometric certification, the CPO Study Guide (in either CD or book formats) covers many of the topics on the CPO certification exam. It is also great as a training tool for new paraoptometric staff.

Topics Include:

Chapter One – Professional Issues

- Eye Care Specialists and Ancillary Personnel
- Practice Management

Chapter Two – Basic Science

- Anatomy of the Eye
- Common Eye Disorders
- Terminology
- Surgery
- Basic Pharmacology
- Prescription Writing

Chapter Three – Clinical Principles and Procedures Eye Examination

- Refractive Status
- Contact Lenses
- Blood Pressure

Chapter Four – Ophthalmic Optics and Dispensing

- The Ophthalmic Prescription
- Ophthalmic Lenses
- Ophthalmic Dispensing

AOA Member Price: CD $48 Book $55
Non-member Price: CD $73 Book $80

Available in Book or CD-ROM formats
LEVEL 1 Certified Paraoptometric (CPO)

CPO STUDY FLASH CARDS Item # PS11

One hundred questions developed to help you test your knowledge and offer additional study resources for the first certification examination, the CPO. Questions are different from those found in the CPO Study Guide but cover the same topic areas listed above to assist in exam preparation. Start testing your knowledge today!

AOA Member Price: $30  
Non-member Price: $50

CPO REVIEW COURSE Item # PS19

The CPO Review Course CD-ROM assists you in the final stages of preparation to sit for the CPO Certification examination. After you have learned the information presented in the CPO Study Guide and Study Flash cards, use this tool to gain confidence by reviewing your knowledge. This CD is designed in an easy-to-use automated, audio, PowerPoint presentation format guiding you through 114 slides of review information. Complete the quiz at the end of the presentation to earn two hours of continuing education credit. There is a processing fee of $20 for AOA members/$50 for non-members for each person seeking credit. *Please note that this CD-ROM is not Mac compatible.

AOA Member Price: $50  
Non-member Price: $80

“Currently, our staff is made up of almost entirely certified paraoptometrics. New staff members are excited and often take their certification test as soon as they are eligible. This knowledge better serves our patients. I am proud to say we even have several staff members who have achieved their CPOT.”

Lyn Desjardins, O.D.
LEVEL 1 Certified Paraoptometric (CPO)

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY EDUCATION MODULE  ITEM # PS07

As an eye care professional, basic knowledge of ocular anatomy and function is a necessity to providing quality eye care for patients. This course will describe the various anatomy concepts involving how the eye works, explain eye disorders and diseases, and illustrate how vision occurs. *Please note that this CD-ROM is not Mac compatible.

The learning objectives of this course are:
• Identify the major parts of the eye
• Understand the function of the ocular components
• Understand common eye disorders and treatment methods
• Understand how vision occurs
• Define different types of refractive conditions

AOA Member Price: $45 each
Non-member Price: $70 each

CPO STUDY BUNDLE  ITEM # PS20

In the bundle you will receive the CPO Study Guide CD-ROM, CPO Study Flash Cards, CPO Review Course CD-ROM and the Anatomy & Physiology study module for one low price. All the learning tools you will need in one complete package. *Please note that the CPO Review Course and Anatomy & Physiology Education Module CD-ROMs are not Mac compatible.

AOA Member Price: $130
Non-member Price: $230
LEVEL 2 Certified Paraoptometric Assistant (CPOA)
LEVEL 3 Certified Paraoptometric Technician (CPOT)

SELF-STUDY COURSE FOR PARAOPTOMETRIC ASSISTANTS AND TECHNICIANS Item # PS01

This course helps prepare the certified paraoptometric (CPO) to sit for the certified paraoptometric assistant (CPOA) or certified paraoptometric technician (CPOT) exam. The course contains 19 chapters, each of which comes in booklet form. Each individual booklet contains review questions to evaluate knowledge comprehension and retention. Formerly titled Self-Study Course for Paraoptometric Certification.

AOA Member Price:  Book $ 95
Non-member Price:  Book $160

Booklet Titles
Chapter 1: Practice Management
Chapter 2: Anatomy and Physiology of the Eye and Visual System
Chapter 3: Refractive Status
Chapter 4: The Ophthalmic Prescription
Chapter 5: Ophthalmic Lenses
Chapter 6: Neutralization and Verification
Chapter 7: Ophthalmic Dispensing
Chapter 8: Basic Pretesting Procedures
Chapter 9: Special Testing
Chapter 10: Visual Fields
Chapter 11: Contact Lenses
Chapter 12: Low Vision Examination
Chapter 13: Binocular Vision
Chapter 14: Sports Vision
Chapter 15: Emergencies and Triage
Chapter 16: Ocular Pharmacology
Chapter 17: Ophthalmic Instruments
Chapter 18: Common Pathological and Functional Disorders
Chapter 19: Ophthalmic Surgery
Glossary

SELF-ASSESSMENT EXAM Item # PS02

This self-examination is a great way for paraoptometrics to assess their knowledge base in preparation for sitting for the CPOA and CPOT examinations. It includes 350 multiple-choice questions on information covered in the Self-Study Course for Paraoptometric Assistants and Technicians. After completion, the single–use exam may be mailed to the Paraoptometric Resource Center office for grading. If 249 or more questions are answered correctly, the candidate will receive 12 hours of continuing education credit and a certificate of achievement. This is truly a great resource for training or study.

AOA Member Price:  $ 65
Non-member Price:  $105
LEVEL 2 Certified Paraoptometric Assistant (CPOA)
LEVEL 3 Certified Paraoptometric Technician (CPOT)

CPOA Review Course  Item # PS142

After the many hours learning all the core competencies necessary to know in order to sit for the Certified Paraoptometric Assistant (CPOA) certification examination, use this CPOA Review Course as the last step in preparing for it. The CPOA Review Course is divided up into three parts covering office operations, ophthalmic optics and dispensing, testing procedures, special procedures, refractive status of the eye and binocularity, and basic anatomy and physiology.

This three hour course also offers the opportunity to earn three (3) hours of Commission on Paraoptometric Certification (CPC) approved continuing education credits upon successfully passing the Review Course Quiz. There is a minimal processing fee of $30 for AOA members and $75 for non-members.

*Please note that this CD-ROM is not Mac compatible

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CPOT REVIEW COURSE  Item # PS143

The highest level of CPC certification is the certified Paraoptometric technician (CPOT). The CPOT Review Course assists in preparing to sit for the certification examination. Gain confidence in successfully passing the examination by reviewing your knowledge using this Review Course as a guide. The CPOT Review Course is divided up into six parts covering pre-testing, clinical procedures, ophthalmic optics and dispensing, refractive status of the eye and binocularity, anatomy and physiology, and practice management.

This four hour course offers the opportunity to earn four (4) hours of CPC approved continuing education credits upon successfully passing the Review Course Quiz. There is a minimal processing fee of $40 for AOA members, and $100 for non-members.

*Please note that this CD-ROM is not Mac compatible

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Item number: PS142
Quiz: PS142Q

Item number: PS143
Quiz: PS143Q
### CPOA & CPOT STUDY FLASH CARD SETS

Each set includes approximately 100 questions that cover a variety of topics. Flash cards are effective learning tools to test the type of knowledge needed for the CPOA and CPOT certification examinations.

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### CPOA & CPOT STUDY FLASH CARD BUNDLE  Item # PS72

In the bundle you will receive all four sets of CPOA & CPOT flash cards for one low price. Each set includes approximately 100 questions that cover a variety of topics.

| AOA Member Price:                 | Non-member Price:                                 |
| $100                              | $200                                              |

Purchase the Bundle and Save $20
CPOA & CPOT STUDY BUNDLE  Item # PS70

The CPOA & CPOT Study Bundle includes the Self-Study Course for Paraoptometric Assistants and Technicians, Self-Assessment Exam, CPOA & CPOT Review Courses and four sets of flash cards with 100 questions each, covering topics that will help prepare optometric staff for the both the CPOA & CPOT exam.

AOA Member Price: $350
Non-member Price: $550

"Knowledgeable, educated paraoptometrics are critical for optometry. We lag other fields in leveraging doctor’s time. This will become even more critical as healthcare reform increases demand for services at reduced rates."

Peter Guhl, OD
The ABCs of Optical Dispensing  Item number: PS03

The paraoptometric spectacle dispenser plays an important role in completing the eyecare experience for the patient. Patients who feel good about their new eyewear are more likely to follow good vision habits and maximize the therapeutic and ocular health benefits that come with wearing eyeglasses.

This course is designed to give every member of the office team a fundamental understanding of:

- Frame selection and adjustments
- Spectacle lens materials and designs
- Lens treatments
- Lens measurements
- Tips for presenting designer frames and prescription sunglasses

Item number: PS03
Quiz: PS03Q
HOME-STUDY EDUCATION MODULES

Fitting Toric Soft Contact Lenses  Item number: PS12

Soft contact lenses are the most widely prescribed contact lenses in the United States today. They boast immediate and long term comfort for the wearer and they provide excellent vision for the myopic and hyperopic patient. But they are not used as often as they should or could be. There remains a mysterious air about toric contact lenses that finds them underutilized by today’s practitioners.

Education Module covers:
- Who are Soft Toric Lens candidates?
- Challenging Soft Toric Lens candidates
- Methods of Soft Toric Lens stabilization
- Soft Toric Lens fitting
- Soft Toric Lens power determination
- Dispensing Soft Toric Lenses to ensure patient success
- Troubleshooting the lens power
- Soft Toric Lens Follow-up

Introduction to Freeform®  Item number: PS18

Advance your practice by providing your paraoptometric staff with the latest Freeform® lens design technology available today. Freeform® lens technology can be challenging, and differentiating the designs in today's market can be demanding. This new information-packed education module includes elements in lens design and manufacture, fitting and verification techniques, and presenting and positioning Freeform® lens designs to personalize patients' needs.

Education Module covers:
- Defining Freeform® technology
- Taking measurements
- Verifying prescriptions
- Presenting patient options
- Dispensing new lenses
- Sharing product knowledge

Ophthalmic Dispensing  Item number: PS08

Many times, an optometric assistant's job requires the ability to identify and solve a variety of eyewear problems. Effectively working with ophthalmic prescriptions requires the assistant to blend the art of understanding the patients' needs along with the science of ophthalmic lenses. The ideal to which all dispensers should aspire is to anticipate and avoid problems before they occur. When something unexpected occurs however, the assistant must be able to isolate and correct the problem. At times, the correction will require a remake, but often the solution rests with a minor adaptation to the existing eyewear.

Education Module will assist your staff to:
- Describe the electromagnetic wave theory and how it applies to and effects human vision
- Locate and diagram lens power in any given meridian of a lens
- Diagram and explain parts and characteristics of a prism
- Describe how combinations of prisms relate to lenses
- Compute prismatic effect and base direction of a given lens
- Explain the function of a lens clock and distometer
- Explain the effects of vertex changes for plus and minus lenses
- Transpose any prescription from + to - cylinder or from - to + cylinder form
STAFF DEVELOPMENT & CROSS-TRAINING MATERIALS

HOME-STUDY EDUCATION MODULES

Optimizing Efficiency in the Optical Dispensary  Item number: PS13

Retail chains and mass merchandisers are commanding a bigger slice of the market each year. Patients visit less frequently, and when they do, some take their eyeglass prescriptions elsewhere. Your practice aren’t growing as fast as you’d like, and dispensary sales are less than stellar. How may you, as an independent practitioner, compete with this growth and succeed in an increasingly competitive environment? “Optimizing Efficiency in the Optical Dispensary” will offer some answers.

Education Module will assist your staff to:

• Recognize the rewards of maintaining existing patients and earning new ones
• Identify areas of the dispensary that affect the bottom line
• Present premium products through proper communication
• Reduce eyewear errors and redos
• Embrace technology to increase efficiency
• Use lab partnerships effectively to enhance your practice
• This education module is sponsored through an education grant from HOYA.

Practice Management 101  Item number: PS06

The “Practice Management 101” module was designed to train new staff to better understand their impact on the optometric team. Additionally, this course would be ideal for senior staff as a review for proper practice management procedures. This module explains how each team member affects overall efficiency, profitability, and quality patient care.

The course objectives are:

• Build a successful practice
• Learn how to assist in strategic business plan development
• Learn how to develop a personnel manual
• Learn about the recruitment process
• Learn how to motivate staff
• Learn the basics of financial statements and budgeting
• Learn the business of billing, coding, credentialing, and records management
• Provide a general overview of marketing
• Learn how to increase clinic efficiency and profitability
• Learn various managerial roles

Soft Contact Lens Wear & Care  Item number: PS10

If educating patients is a large part of your job, “Soft Contact Lens Wear and Care” can help you perform your duties more confidently and professionally. This module contains graphics and animation that provide visual aids for teaching application and removal techniques.

This module provides valuable information on:

• Soft contact lens designs available
• Proper application and removal techniques
• Solution use
• How to improve and strengthen compliance
• Answers to frequently asked questions
STAFF DEVELOPMENT & CROSS-TRAINING MATERIALS

HOME-STUDY EDUCATION MODULES

Special Procedures  Item number: PS09

Special procedures are considered an important area of learning for optometric assistants or technicians within the first two to four years of on-the-job training. This module will discuss the most commonly delegated procedures from optometrist to paraoptometric. When performing these tasks, it is important that the paraoptometric gather patient data for the optometrist to utilize in diagnosis and treatment.

The learning objectives of this course are:

• Explain different contact lens options for a varying patient base, wearing modalities, and care and handling recommendations
• Understand normal and abnormal symptoms associated with contact lens wear
• Define topography, visual field testing, tonometry, ophthalmic ultrasonography, pachymetry, sphygmomanometry, and first aid

AOA Member Price: $45 each
Non-member Price: $70 each

ARTICLE ARCHIVE

AOA Associate Member-only benefit: Articles are in PDF format. Members may download an archived article, complete the accompanying exam, and mail answer sheet and $10 (per hour of CE) processing fee. You will receive one hour of CE for successfully passing the exam at the end of the article, unless noted otherwise. There is no limit on the number of titles you may choose.

PS080 - Basics in Billing and Coding an Eye Exam
PS081 - Building Highly Effective Teams
PS082 - Cataracts for Beginners
PS083 - Color Vision
PS084 - Common Complaints: Facial Pain and Headaches (2 Hours of CE, $20)
PS085 - Computer Vision Syndrome
PS086 - Contacts Lenses and Allergies: Help stop the cries from red itchy eyes! (2 Hours of CE, $20)
PS087 - Contrast Sensitivity
PS088 - The Dreaded Dry Eye
PS089 - Electronic Health Records in the Optometric Practice (EHR)
PS090 - Emergency Triage - Protect the Patient and the Practice
PS091 - Fitting Progressive Addition Lenses
PS092 - Frame Materials
PS093 - Gas-Permeable Contact Lenses: What the Paraoptometric Needs to Know
PS094 - Glaucoma — The Silent Thief of Sight
PS095 - Headache Case History
PS096 - Here’s Looking at You Kid
PS097 - Management that Empowers Staff will Strengthen the Practice
PS098 - Meeting the Needs of Your Hispanic Patients
PS099 - Ocular Effects of Diabetes
PS100 - Optical Math Made Easy
PS101 - Providing Vision Care for The Alzheimer’s Patient
PS102 - Retinal Nerve Fiber Analysis: The Role It Plays in Assessing Glaucoma
PS103 - Telephone Reopenings Process vs. Duplicate Claim Submissions
PS104 - That Magic Moment When Your Patient Knows You Care
PS105 - The Dynamic Dispensary
PS106 - The Ins and Outs of Pretesting Children
PS107 - The Nuts and Bolts of Detecting Glaucoma
PS108 - The Paraoptometric’s Role in InfantSEE®
PS109 - The Power of Suggestion
PS110 - To Buy or Not to Buy
PS111 - Treating Dry Eye for Contact Lens Patients’ Comfort and for Practice Growth
PS112 - Trying to Sell That Second Pair? Think Safety
PS113 - Understanding Corneal Topography
PS114 - Update on Lens Materials, Designs and Coatings
PS115 - Visual Fields: The Path Less Taken
PS116 - Vitreous Detachments
PS117 - When 20/20 Vision Isn’t Enough
PS118 - Who’s a Good Candidate for Contact Lenses, When to Choose Glasses Over Contact Lenses, and Who Decides?
PS119 - Why Can’t My Child See Even WITH Glasses? (2 hours CE, $20)
PS120 - Becoming an Indispensable Employee
PS121 - Blepharitis Disease and Its Management (2 hours CE, $20)
PS122 - Infection Control in Optometric Practice
PS123 - Optician’s Toolbox
PS124 - Recruiting New Hires
PS125 - Neuro for the Rest of Us
PS126 - Night Vision
PS127 - Introduction to the Slit Lamp
PS128 - Cataract Co-management
PS129 - Becoming an Indispensable Employee
PS130 - Blepharitis Disease and Its Management
PS131 - Infection Control in Optometric Practice
PS132 - Optician’s Toolbox
PS133 - Recruiting New Hires
PS134 - Neuro for the Rest of Us
PS135 - Night Vision
PS136 - Introduction to the Slit Lamp
PS137 - Cataract Co-management
PS138 - Anatomy of a Staff Meeting
PS139 - The Cornea and some common Ailments
PS140 - From Crisis to Calm
PS141 - Night Vision
PS142 - Introduction to the Slit Lamp
PS143 - Cataract Co-management

Item number: PS09
Quiz: PS09Q
Enhance your career by learning new skills. Staff knowledgeable about insurance processing are in high demand. Intended as an introduction to insurance processing, the 130+ flash cards cover some of the basic concepts and terms used when processing insurance forms.

**INTRODUCTION TO INSURANCE PROCESSING STUDY FLASH CARDS  Item number: PS21**

AOA Member Price: $30
Non-member Price: $50
BILLYING & CODING CERTIFICATION MATERIALS

BILLING & CODING: FOUNDATIONS FOR BEGINNERS

This nine part series will assist paraoptometric staff in gaining knowledge of billing and coding. Developed with the beginner in mind, foundational topics are discussed in these one hour presentations. This training is available online for free as an AOA Associate member benefit on the Webinar Rewind web page.

Nine hours of continuing education credits (CEC) are available with the webinar series ($10 per CEC for AOA Associate members/ $25 per CEC for non-members). *Please note that this CD-ROM is not Mac compatible.

Available online for AOA Associate Members

Unlimited, free access

Available on CD-ROM

Item number: PS29

AOA Member Price: $225
Non-member Price: $325

Unit 1 – Medical Terminology
CE Quiz: PS120
The topics to be covered in this unit will be:
• What is documentation, and why is it important?
• Coding systems
• Relevant terms
• Resources

Unit 2 – Current Procedural Terminology
CE Quiz: PS121
The topics to be covered in this unit will be:
• How a code becomes a code
• How to find the proper code to use
• Relevant terms
• Resources

Unit 3 – Diagnostic Codes: History and Purpose
CE Quiz: PS122
The topics to be covered in this unit will be:
• How a code becomes a code
• How to find the proper code to use
• Relevant terms
• Overview of ICD10-CM
• Resources
UNIT 4 – EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

CE Quiz: PS123

The topics to be covered in this unit will be:
• What are the elements of Evaluation & Management codes?
• What are the examination elements?
• What’s involved in medical decision-making?
• Examples of CPT codes

UNIT 5 – HEALTH CARE PROCEDURES CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM (HCPCS)

CE Quiz: PS124

The topics to be covered in this unit will be:
• Explain the purpose of the HCPCS code set
• Differentiate between HCPCS Level I (CPT) and HCPCS Level II codes
• Identify circumstances under which codes from both HCPCS Level I and HCPCS Level II are required
• Compare permanent and temporary HCPC codes
• Describe the content and organization of the index, the Table of Drugs, and the main text in HCPCS
• Describe the purpose and correct use of HCPCS modifiers, including the ABN modifiers
• Choose the correct medication code based on the route of administration and the amount of medication administered
• Apply rules for choosing which level of HCPCS codes to assign
• Discuss the sources of information to keep up to date on current HCPCS codes
• Assign HCPCS codes with appropriate modifiers based on procedural statements

UNIT 6 – GENERAL OPHTHALMOLOGIC SERVICES

CE Quiz: PS125

The topics to be covered in this unit will be:
• 92002 and 92012 codes
• 92004 and 92014 codes
• Ophthalmologic Services regarding refraction and special testing
• S codes

UNIT 7 – SPECIAL OPHTHALMOLOGIC PROCEDURES AND MODIFIERS

CE Quiz: PS126

The topics to be covered in this unit will be:
• Special Ophthalmological Services
• 92XXX codes
• National Correct Coding Initiative Edits (NCCI)
• Modifiers

UNIT 8 – CLAIM FILING

CE Quiz: PS127

The topics to be covered in this unit will be:
• Types of insurance
• Key terms for insurance
• Key terms for claims
• Form components
• Insurance processing
BILLING & CODING CERTIFICATION MATERIALS

BILLING & CODING: FOUNDATIONS FOR BEGINNERS (continued)

Unit 9 – Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and Compliance
CE Quiz: PS128
The topics to be covered in this unit will be:
• Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
• Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH)
• Protected Health Information (PHI) Rules
• Encryption
• Breaches and penalties
• Compliance Plans
• Office of Inspector General (OIG)
• National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI)
• Advance Beneficiary Notice of Non-coverage (ABN)

INSURANCE PROCESSING EDUCATION BUNDLE Item # PS71


AOA Member Price: $488.99
Non-member Price: $691.36
Computer-based Learning

Paraoptometric Skill Builder®

- Beginner Level 1
- Intermediate Level 2
- Advanced Level 3

Designed with convenience in mind, this online training accommodates each skill level and individual learning style, as the program’s Web-based audio format walks the user through every step of the learning process.

Paraoptometric Skill Builder® Bundle Item # PS134

The Paraoptometric Skill Builder® Bundle includes the Paraoptometric Skill Builder® Beginner Level 1*, Intermediate Level 2 & Advanced Level 3 CD-ROMs.

*Please note that these CD-ROMs are not Mac compatible.

AOA Member Price: $500
Non-member Price: $950

* Unlimited, free access to the BEGINNER LEVEL 1 for AOA members or you may purchase on CD-ROM

Beginner Level 1 Item number: PS25

AOA Member Price: FREE online/CD-ROM $50
Non-member Price: $299 available only on CD-ROM

*Please note that this CD-ROM is not Mac compatible.

Introduction to Paraoptometry

This first program is an introduction into the eye care field. Included are descriptions of the roles of various Eye Care Professionals. It also includes components of presenting a professional image, the Paraoptometric Professional’s code of ethics and HIPAA requirements for patient care.

At the conclusion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- Describe the role of an optometrist, ophthalmologist, optician and paraoptometric
- Recognize the ten statements that encompass the AOA Code of Ethics
- Discuss and describe what is considered a professional image for a paraoptometric
- List the elements that make up a proper patient greeting over the telephone and in person
- State HIPAA guidelines and discuss how they are applied in practice
Basic Terminology

This program is an introduction to technical terms that are used routinely in an optometric practice. Some of them are technical terms that refer to various parts of the ocular anatomy, while others are terms used in the management of the office.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Explain what CPT and ICD codes are in the health care industry
• List and identify the major structures of the eye including but not limited to the cornea, crystalline lens, pupil, iris, retina, and optic nerve
• Incorporate common optical and ocular terminology into day-to-day practice
• Identify various pieces of optical equipment used in the practice
• Explain the function of ocular anatomy and how these structures participate in the delivery of vision

Front Office Procedures

There is no denying the importance of the procedures that take place at the front desk and that is the focus of the third module. Topics discussed are at an introductory level and include: telephone techniques, appointment scheduling, filing patient records, insurance and billing and check in/out procedures.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• List the proper steps to placing a caller on hold courteously
• Identify the ways to properly take a telephone message
• Outline how to effectively and politely screen calls for others in the office
• Incorporate tips on how to handle upset or irate callers on the telephone
• More efficiently schedule appointments for professionals in the office
• Set up and maintain filing systems in the office
• Discuss the difference between vision care insurance and medical insurance
• Outline steps to take when payment is not received in a timely manner

Obtaining an Ocular History

It is the patient’s ocular history that gives the optometrist the information they need to provide effective and appropriate care. And, it is often the paraoptometric who gathers this vital history. Obtaining an ocular history is the focus of this fourth module.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• List the eight elements of the History of Present Illness (HPI)
• List the fourteen systems in the Review of Systems (ROS)
• Describe what is part of the Past, Family, Social History (PFSH)
• Identify various abbreviations commonly used with ocular and systemic medications
• Differentiate between a medication side effect and a true allergic reaction to a drug
• Explain the legal and medical importance of accurate documentation
Routine Pre-Testing Procedures

Many tests and evaluations take place prior to the optometrist performing their own procedures. The information gathered during the pre-test gives the optometrist a starting point and provides valuable data that becomes part of the patient’s permanent medical record. In this fifth module the following tests will be reviewed: visual acuity assessment, intraocular pressure measurement and lensometry.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe how visual acuity is measured and recorded
- List the various types of tonometers
- Describe how various tonometers are used to measure intraocular pressure
- List and describe different types of spectacle lenses including spheres, spherocylinders and multifocals
- Describe the steps to using the lensometer to neutralize spectacle lenses
- Read a spectacle prescription and identify the various components of the prescription

External Examination

The external examination is a critical part of a thorough eye exam and it is often the paraoptometric who performs this vital task. “External Examination” is designed to outline the various steps to be performed in an alignment and motility evaluation, ocular muscle testing, color vision assessment, along with a pupil and anterior chamber evaluation.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Discuss principles of ocular motility
- Describe cover-uncover, Worth 4-Dot and stereopsis testing
- Identify the different types of color vision tests available
- List the various types of color vision deficiencies
- Describe the techniques used for pupil size assessment
- Understand the principles behind the “Flashlight Test” used to estimate the depth of the anterior chamber

Ancillary Testing

The ancillary or supplementary tests the paraoptometric performs offer valuable information relating to patient care. This module will outline a number of evaluations that include the keratometer, corneal topographer, pachymeter, Schirmer's test and blood pressure.

At the conclusion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- Outline the steps of taking a keratometer reading
- Evaluate the K readings to determine the amount and orientation of corneal cylinder
- Describe the findings on a corneal topography map
- Outline the steps required for a blood pressure reading
- Describe the ideal blood pressure reading
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PARAOPTOMETRIC SKILL BUILDER®
Beginner Level 1 (continued)

Refractions

The purpose of this eighth module is to acquaint the paraoptometric with the components of the refraction that the optometrist performs in the exam lane. The principles of objective and subjective refraction will be discussed along with the role of autorefractors. Loading a prescription into the phoropter will also be outlined in this module.

At the conclusion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- Differentiate and explain the difference between an objective and subjective refraction
- Name the various parts of the phoropter
- Outline the steps to loading a prescription into the phoropter
- Describe the procedure for properly placing the patient behind the phoropter

Visual Field Testing

Confrontation visual field testing, the Amsler Grid and computerized visual field testing are the areas covered in module nine of this series. The principles, the procedures and the results of the evaluation are also covered on a basic level.

At the conclusion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- Describe what is meant by a visual field
- Outline the steps of a confrontation visual field
- List the steps to using the Amsler Grid
- Describe the difference between static threshold and kinetic threshold testing
- Outline the steps to mapping a blind spot

Spectacles

Many optometric practices offer eyeglasses to meet their patients’ refractive needs. This is why it is important that the paraoptometric in the practice has a good understanding of how to dispense eyewear to meet the visual results the doctor prescribed. This module will focus on various lens designs, materials, treatments and tints.

At the conclusion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- List and describe the different types of spectacle lens designs available for various Rxs
- Describe lens treatments and their specific usage
- List available sunglass tints and describe the best use for each
- Outline the steps to taking a patient’s pupillary distance (PD) measurements

Contact Lenses

The majority of patients who come through the doors of an optometric practice will be wearing eyeglasses, contact lenses or even both. This is why it is important that the paraoptometric in the practice has a good understanding of both of these modalities. This module focuses on the role of contact lenses in the optometric practice.

At the conclusion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- Work through a contact lens prescription
- Discuss the various types and materials of contact lenses
- Outline the steps in training a patient to wear contact lenses
- Take a look at some of the unique instrumentation used in contact lens fitting
- Discuss the ordering and dispensing of contact lenses
Assisting the Optometrist

What exactly is the role of the paraoptometric assistant? It’s actually quite simple. The role of the paraoptometric assistant is to be an assistant to the optometrist!

At the conclusion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- Outline the steps of being a scribe
- Assist the optometrist during the exam
- Instill eye drops and ointment
- Apply and remove eye patches

Patients With Special Needs

Every patient who visits the practice has unique and specific needs and every one of them are special. However, there are some patients who have special needs of their own that not only impact their vision, they impact their visit. This module will focus on how to work with patients who are visually impaired, physically challenged, deaf or hard of hearing and diabetic. It will also address the paraoptometric’s role when there is a true ocular or medical emergency in the office.

At the conclusion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- Describe how to assist the blind or visually impaired patient in the office
- List various strategies for communicating with the deaf or hard of hearing patient
- Describe the symptoms of hypoglycemia and how to treat it in the office
- Outline the important questions to ask when a patient presents with an ocular emergency
- Define and describe Universal Precautions

Instrumentation and Maintaining Equipment

There is a lot of equipment in an optometric office and all of it needs to be maintained so that it works properly and provides the most accurate patient information for the doctor. Maintaining all of that important equipment in the office is the focus of this module. This module will outline how to clean and maintain the slit lamp, gonioscopy lens, applanation tonometer, tonopen, phoroptor, direct ophthalmoscope, indirect ophthalmoscope, lensometer, projector, and keratometer.

At the conclusion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- Describe the basic use of instrumentation in the office
- Outline the steps to maintaining the instrumentation in the office
- Describe the importance of cleaning equipment in the presence of the patient

“The paraoptometric program is essential to the profession of optometry. A highly trained staff increases morale, enhances quality of care and promotes teamwork in the care of our patients. Paraoptometry also advocates life-long learning and encourages staff to think of their work as a career rather than a job. As healthcare changes, we must continue to position ourselves and our staff as competent, well-trained professionals. Paraoptometry is integral to the continuing success of our profession.”

Steven Reed, O.D.
Intermediate Terminology

This course will familiarize you with some of the ophthalmic terminology paraoptometrics may hear and use in the optometric practice setting. In this unit, you will be able to break apart an ophthalmic term into word parts to understand the meaning of the medical term.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Describe the anatomy of a medical term
• Define root words, prefixes and suffixes used in eyecare
• Determine the meaning of ophthalmic terms by looking at the root, prefix and suffix

Anatomy: Orbit, Extraocular Muscles, and External Structures

This course provides an overview of the anatomical structures and functionality of the orbit, extraocular muscles and external structures of the eye.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Describe the anatomy and function of the orbit
• Describe the anatomy and function of the extraocular muscles
• Describe the anatomy and function of the external structures of the eye

Anatomy: Anterior Segment, Posterior Segment and Visual Pathway

This course provides an overview of the anatomical structures and functionality of the anterior segment, posterior segment and visual pathway.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Describe the anatomy and function of the anterior segment
• Describe the anatomy and function of the posterior segment
• Describe the anatomy and function of the visual pathway

Common Ocular Conditions

This course discusses common eye disorders along with system conditions that affect the eye.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Define common ocular conditions
• Define common systemic conditions that affect the eye
Intermediate Level 2 (continued)

**Ocular Effects of Systemic Conditions**

This course discusses ocular and systemic conditions that negatively affect the health of the eye and vision.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Define common diabetes conditions
- Define common thyroid conditions
- Define auto-immune disorders

**Ophthalmic Surgery**

This course introduces types of ophthalmic surgical procedures.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe types of surgical procedures
- Discuss the indications for ophthalmic surgery

**Eye Examinations Part 1**

This course provides an overview of procedures and equipment used in an optometric office to determine a patient's refractive error.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe the steps taken when assessing visual acuity
- Define methods of objective and subjective vision testing

**Eye Examinations Part 2**

This course provides an overview of tests and instrumentation used to evaluate a patient's ocular health.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Identify the most portable types of instrumentation
- List the steps in visual field testing
- Understand how to evaluate a Corneal Topography Map

**Basic Pharmacology**

This course discusses types of ocular drugs, along with the use of each type.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe the modes of drug delivery in eye care
- Describe the types of ophthalmic drugs
- Discuss the affect of ophthalmic drugs on the eye
- Determine the best way to instill eye drops without contaminating the bottle
Refractive Status & Ophthalmic Lenses

This course discusses the refractive status of the eye, along with correction modality.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Discuss the basic behavior of light as it travels through a prism
• Discuss the difference between emmetropia and ametropia
• Define accommodation
• Define and discuss the correction of myopia
• Define and discuss the correction of hyperopia
• Define and discuss the correction of astigmatism
• Define and discuss the correction of presbyopia

Ophthalmic Prescriptions

This course discusses the ophthalmic prescription components, add power, and the affect of prism on light.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Describe the components of a lens prescription
• Determine the add power in a pair of spectacles
• Describe the use of prism in correcting eye conditions

Spectacles Part 2

This course provides information on how to help patients make good choices when ordering new lenses and frames.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Expand on factors that influence lens options and frame selection
• List the benefits and types of Freeform Lenses
• How to choose the best frame size for patients
• List the three measurements that compose frame size

Contact Lenses Part 2

This course focuses on the role of contact lenses in the practice and the unique instrumentation used in contact lens fitting.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Outline the ordering and dispensing of process for contact lenses
• Understand the pieces of legislation that impact the contact lens practice

“From an optometrist’s standpoint, paraoptometrics are the pillars on which the practice stands, and from the patient’s standpoint they are often the factor that keeps them coming back year after year.”

Timothy Kearins, O.D.
ADVANCED LEVEL 3  Item number: PS27

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Advanced Terminology

This course is a follow-up to the beginner and intermediate units, this unit will cover additional terminology a paraoptometric may encounter.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Define Ganglion and Endothelial cells
• Understand the Schirmer’s test
• Describe Sjogren’s Syndrome and Steven’s Johnson Syndrome

Advanced Anatomy and Physiology

This course is a follow-up to the beginner and intermediate units, this unit will cover additional anatomy and physiology areas a paraoptometric may encounter.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Outline the advanced ocular system
• Outline legal blindness
• List the functions of major body systems

Contact Lenses Part 3

This course is a follow-up to the beginner and intermediate units, this unit will cover additional contact lens anatomy and physiology terminology, fitting procedures and contact lens related equipment use.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• List related ocular problems
• Discuss verification on contact lens related equipment
• Explain special lens designs and uses
• Understand fitting theories
COLOR VISION

This course will review what color vision is and explain color vision tests.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Describe types of tests
• Define and describe procedures
• Understand the significance of testing
• Explain the classification of disorders

LOW VISION REHABILITATION/ SPECIAL OCULAR PROCEDURES

This course will review what is considered low vision and explain how to use various low vision devices. It will also review other ocular procedures that weren’t included in the beginner and intermediate courses.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Explain the classification, aids, and patient instruction for low vision
• List and describe special ocular procedures

VISION THERAPY

This course will describe what vision therapy and sports vision therapy are. Additionally, commonly used equipment and exercises will be described.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Outline anomalies and associated procedures
• Identify vision therapy equipment
• Define and describe sports vision testing
• Describe sports vision therapy equipment and exercises

REFRACTIVE STATUS OF THE EYE

This course is a follow-up to the beginner and intermediate units on refractive status of the eye; this unit will explain additional terminology.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Describe the types, causes and corrective lenses of refractive conditions/3D vision
• Describe the types and procedures of stereo acuity
• List and describe binocular vision disorders
COMPUTER-BASED LEARNING

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Advanced Level 3 (continued)

**Compliance and Regulations**

This course will review the professional and government agencies that have rules and regulations that have an effect on an optometry practice; in particular, OSHA rules will be explained.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Explain what is OSHA, and why it exists
- Explain the General Duty Clause
- Describe the most cited safety violations
- Understand the standards of recordkeeping
- Understand the process of site inspections

**Insurance Processing**

This practice management course will review issues related to insurance processing for an eyecare practice.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Explain what CPT is
- Describe how to file a claim
- Describe the importance of proper coding when processing third party claims
- Understand HCPCS
- Understand HIPAA
- Understand Coding Ethics and Compliance

**Dispensary Staff and Sales**

This practice management course will review sales techniques and appropriate customer service procedures for an eyecare practice.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Motivate staff to be sales orientated
- Overcome sales objections
- Overcome price resistance
- Expand knowledge on customer service and returns

**Frame Adjustments, Tools and Repairs**

This course will explain how to do common frame adjustments and repairs with the adjustment tools found in most optical dispensaries.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe the methods of frame adjusting
- Describe frame tools
- Describe various types of frame repairs
Calculating and Evaluating Prism

This course will provide a detailed understanding of how to calculate prism and how to determine if prism was unintentionally added to a prescription.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Determine the optical center
• Understand Prentice’s Rule – how to calculate prism
• Recognize ANSI Standards
• Identify a vertical imbalance

Spectacle Lens Problem Solving

This course gives the learner practical steps to follow if a patient returns with their new eyeglasses and they say they can’t see or are uncomfortable wearing them. This information will help avoid unnecessary return visits to the doctor.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Outline the steps in problem solving for lens issues
• Compare new and previous Rx
• Compare new and previous eyeglasses
• Compare base curves
• Compare materials
• Evaluate frame fit

Public Relations, Promotion, and Staff Recognition

This practice management course will review how to implement common marketing strategies for an eyecare practice.

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

• Describe types of public relations events
• Explain when and how to use press releases
• Explain what to include in a press release
• Describe how to create headlines that will draw attention
• Understand how to keep customers reading further
• Understand the importance of staff recognition
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