#### **NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES**

EyeMed Vision Care, LLC ("EyeMed")

# THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY

## **OUR LEGAL DUTIES**

EyeMed is committed to protecting your privacy. This Notice explains how we may use and disclose your personal health information, including certain rights that you have, and obligations we have, with respect to such information.

We are required by applicable federal and state law to do the following:

- Maintain the privacy and safeguard the security of your health information;
- Give you this Notice about our privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your health information;
- Notify you, along with all other affected individuals, of a breach of unsecured health information; and
- Follow the privacy practices that are described in this Notice while it is in effect. This Notice takes effect December 1, 2018, and will remain in effect until we replace it. We reserve the right to change our privacy practices and the terms of this Notice at any time, provided such changes are permitted by applicable law.

We reserve the right to make the changes in our privacy practices and this Notice effective for all health information that we maintain, including health information we created or received before we made the changes. In the event we make a material change in our privacy practices, we will change this Notice and provide it to you or post it on our Web site. You may request a copy of our Notice at any time. For more information about our privacy practices, or for additional copies of this Notice, please contact us using the information listed at the end of this Notice.

# **USES AND DISCLOSURES OF HEALTH INFORMATION**

For purposes of this Notice, your "health information" consists of any information that is created or received by us and individually identifies you, and that relates to: your past, present or future physical or mental health or condition; the provision of health care to you; or the past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to you.

# How We May Use or Disclose Your Health Information

<u>For Payment</u>. We may use and disclose your health information to facilitate payments of benefits for treatment and services provided to you. This may include:

- eligibility and claim adjudication;
- billing and collection activities and related data processing; and
- medical necessity, appropriateness of care, and utilization review activities.

<u>For Health Care Operations</u>. We may use and disclose your health information for our health care operational purposes. For example:

- rating the insurance risk related to the benefit and determining premiums for the plan;
- conducting quality assessments and improvement activities;
- training programs or credentialing activities;
- conducting or arranging for medical review, legal services, audit services, fraud and abuse detection and compliance programs;
- determining how to continually improve the quality and effectiveness of the products, service and care we provide, including customer satisfaction surveys and data analyses;
- properly managing our business; and
- business planning and development, including acquisitions, mergers and consolidations; and
- communicating with you.

<u>To Your Family and Friends</u>. We may disclose your health information to a family member, friend or other person involved with your health care or with payment for your health care. If you are present or available, we will ask before making the disclosure. If you are not present or contacting you is not practicable, then we will disclose the information only if we determine, in our professional judgment, that the disclosure is in your best interest. We will disclose only the health information that is directly relevant to the other person's involvement in your health care.

<u>For Notification Purposes</u>. We may use or disclose your health information to notify, or assist in the notification of (including identifying or locating) a family member, your personal representative or another person responsible for your care, of your location or your general condition. If you are present or available, we will ask before making the disclosure. If you are not present or contacting you is not practicable, then we will disclose the information only if we determine, in our professional judgment, that the disclosure is in your best interest. We will disclose only the health information that is directly relevant to the other person's involvement in your health care.

<u>Required by Law.</u> We may use and disclose your health information as permitted or required by applicable law.

Other Permitted Disclosures. We may use or disclose your health information:

- for judicial and administrative proceedings pursuant to court order or specific legal authority;
- pursuant to a shared/joint custody and child care or support arrangement authorized by law or court order;
- to report information related to victims of abuse, neglect or domestic violence;
- to assist law enforcement officials in their law enforcement duties; or
- to assist public health, safety or law enforcement officials avert a serious threat to the health or safety of you or any other person.

<u>Personal Representatives; Decedents</u>. We may disclose your health information to your personal representatives authorized under applicable law, such as a guardian, power of attorney for health care, or court-appointed administrator. Your health information may also be disclosed to executors, legally authorized family members, funeral directors or coroners to enable them to carry out their lawful duties upon your death.

<u>Organ/Tissue Donation</u>. We may use or disclose your health information for cadaveric organ, eye or tissue donation purposes, provided we follow applicable laws.

<u>Government Functions</u>. We may use or disclose your health information for specialized government functions, such as protection of public officials or reporting to various branches of the armed services that may require the information.

<u>Workers' Compensation</u>. We may use or disclose your health information in order to comply with laws and regulations related to Workers' Compensation.

<u>Marketing Products or Services</u>. We will not use or disclose your health information for marketing purposes, without your prior authorization, except in the narrow circumstances permitted by HIPAA.

<u>Sale of Your Health Information</u>. We will not sell your health information without your prior authorization, except in the narrow circumstances permitted by HIPAA.

<u>Your Authorization</u>. You may give us written authorization to use your health information or to disclose it to anyone for any other purpose. We will not condition your current or future coverage on the basis of providing an authorization. If you give us an authorization, you may revoke it in writing at any time. Your revocation will not affect any use or disclosures permitted by your authorization while it was in effect. Unless you give us a written authorization, we cannot use or disclose your health information for any reason except those described in this Notice.

<u>Your Employer or Organization Sponsoring Your Health Plan</u>. We may disclose your health information to the employer or other organization that sponsors your group vision plan to permit the plan administrator to perform plan administration functions.

<u>To Another Covered Entity or Health Care Provider</u>. We may disclose your health information to a HIPAA-covered health plan or health care clearinghouse, or to a health care provider, in connection with their treatment, payment, or health care operations. For example, we may give eligibility and benefits information to your eye doctor.

<u>To a Business Associate</u>. A Business Associate is a person or entity that helps EyeMed provide its services to you. We may disclose your health information to a Business Associate who has agreed in writing to protect that information as required by HIPAA.

Organized Health Care Arrangement ("OHCA"). If we (or your group health plan) are a member of an OHCA, we may disclose your Protected Health Information to another member of the OHCA for the health care operations of the OHCA.

<u>Underwriting.</u> We may use or disclose your health information for underwriting, premium rating or other activities relating to the creation, renewal or replacement of a contract of vision insurance or vision benefits. However, we are prohibited from using or disclosing any of your genetic information for such purposes. We will not use or further disclose this information for any other purpose, except as required by law, unless the contract of health insurance or health benefits is placed with us.

#### YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION RIGHTS

Access: You have the right to review or get copies of your health information, with limited exceptions. You may request that we provide copies in a format other than photocopies. We will use the format you request unless we cannot practicably do so. You may be asked to make a request in writing to obtain access to your health information. You may obtain a form to request access by using the contact information listed at the end of this Notice. We will charge you a reasonable cost based fee for expenses such as copies and staff time. You may also request access by sending us a letter to the address at the end of this Notice setting forth the specific information to which you desire access. If you request an alternative format, provided that it is practicable for us to produce the information in such format, we will charge a cost-based fee for preparing and transmitting your health information in that format. If you prefer, we will prepare a summary or an explanation of your health information for a cost-based fee. If we use or maintain an electronic health record ("EHR") with respect to your care, you have the right to request a copy of your information in electronic format, and to direct us to transmit a copy of your information to a third party designated by you; and our fee may not exceed our labor costs in responding to such request. Please contact us using the information listed at the end of this Notice for a full explanation of our fee structure.

**Disclosure Accounting**: You have the right to receive a list of instances in which we or our business associates disclosed your health information for purposes other than treatment, payment, health care operations, where you have provided an authorization and certain other activities, for the last 6 years (or a shorter period if our relationship with you has existed for less than 6 years). If you request this accounting more than once in a 12 month period, we may charge you a reasonable, cost based fee for responding to these additional requests. With respect to disclosures made by our business associates, we may choose to provide you with a list of business associates acting on our behalf, along with their contact information, who must provide you with the accounting upon a request made directly by you to such entities

**Restriction**: You have the right to request that we place additional restrictions on our use or disclosure of your health information. Except as noted below, we are not required to agree to these additional restrictions, but if we do, we will abide by our agreement (except in an emergency). Upon your request, and except as otherwise required by law, we will not disclose your health information to a health plan for purposes of payment or health care operations when the information relates solely to a service/product for which you paid out-of-pocket in full.

**Alternative Communication**: You have the right to request in writing that we communicate with you about your health information by alternative means or to alternative locations. Your request must specify the alternative means or location, and provide satisfactory explanation how payments will be handled under the alternative means or location you request.

**Amendment**: You have the right to request that we amend your health information. Your request must be in writing, and it must explain why the information should be amended. We may deny your request under certain circumstances. You may obtain a form to request an amendment to your health information by using the contact information listed at the end of this Notice.

**Electronic Notice**: If you receive this Notice on our Web site or by electronic mail (e-mail), you are entitled to receive this Notice in written form, as well.

**Breach of Unsecured Health Information**: If we discover that your health information has been breached (for example, disclosed to or acquired by an unauthorized person, stolen, lost, or otherwise used or disclosed in violation of applicable privacy law) and the privacy or security of the information has been compromised, we must notify you of the breach without unreasonable delay and in no event later than 60 days following our discovery of the breach.

## PRIVACY QUESTIONS AND COMPLAINTS

If you want more information about our privacy practices or have privacy questions or concerns, please contact us. If you are concerned that we may have violated your privacy rights, or you disagree with a decision we made about access to your health information or in response to a request you made to amend or restrict the use or disclosure of your health information or to have us communicate with you by alternative means or at alternative locations, you may complain to us using the contact information listed at the end of this Notice. You may separately choose to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Civil Rights (OCR), by completing a Health Information Privacy Complaint Form (available at http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/hipcomplaintform.pdf) and sending to the applicable OCR Regional Office listed on the form, or by calling 1-800-368-1019 for instructions and contact information. An electronic complaint may be filed at http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/index.html. You must file a complaint with OCR within 180 days (6 months) after the occurrence of the act or omission giving rise to your complaint.

We support your right to the privacy of your health information. We will not retaliate in any way if you choose to file a complaint with us or with the Office of Civil Rights.

# **Contact Information**

If you have any questions or complaints relating to privacy, please contact: Privacy Office
EyeMed Vision Care, LLC
4000 Luxottica Place

Mason, Ohio 45040 Phone: 513-765-4321 Email: privacyoffice@luxotticaretail.com Web site: www.eyemedvisioncare.com