

From: Holly Schneider
Sent: Friday, March 05, 2004 11:36 AM
To: CONTACTLENSRULE
Cc: '1-800 CONTACTS'
Subject: Contact Lens RX

Several years ago I went to my eye doctor for a fitting for contact lenses. I had to wait 8 months for the appointment. When I called to set up the appointment, I told the receptionist exactly why I was coming - I wanted to get contact lenses. I explained that I was pregnant, asked questions regarding the timing of my appointment, etc. I went to that appointment, had an eye test, AND WAS THEN REFERRED TO ANOTHER DOCTOR to get my contact lenses. I was FUMING to say the least. I had just waited 8 months for an appointment, had a newborn at home, was just returning to work, and now this???? What a scam! I will never forget that. I then went to a mall eyeglass store, paid "out of pocket" to visit the doctor on duty, had an eye exam, was fit for contact lessons, and left with them all w/i an hour.

Now, I just received notification that contact lenses wearers are in jeopardy of having certain rights taken away from them - primarily the right to receive a prescription without fee or obligation once a contact fitting has been done. I can not think of any benefit to the patient for this action. I can only think of monetary gains for the doctor. When I go to my PCP for an illness, he/she does not charge me to write me a Rx, not do they demand that I have it filled at a pharmacy of their picking. I already pay over \$400 a month for health insurance for my family and another \$200 out of pocket for my asthma medicine and my son's asthma medicine. Since when does an evaluation NOT include the means with which to correct the problem that I went there to begin with. For crying out loud! I am a FT working mother of 2 small children. I barely have time to make a healthy meal at night - never mind the baths, story-time, the laundry, the bills, the homework, etc. Do I really have time for this? Give us a break. We are hard-working, honest, BUSY people. These are stressed out times. Please let me spend my quality time with my family and friends (who knows how long we'll be here) and not chasing around RX writing physicians. Why does everything have to be so hard?