

From: mike-shannon
Sent: Saturday, March 06, 2004 5:48 PM
To: CONTACTLENSRULE
Subject: My rights as a contact wearer!!!

To Whom it May Concern,

I received a email from 1800-Contacts informing me that eye doctors in this country are petitioning against giving their patients their contact prescriptions so the patient can have their contacts purchased elsewhere.

I find this to be outrageous! If I am able to purchase my eyeglasses wherever I choose then I should be able to purchase my contacts wherever I choose.

I would like to relate to you what happened to me several years ago before this all started. I had lost a contact and went to my eye drs. to get the prescription and I was told that I could not have it. I asked to see the dr. immediately and asked him why I could not have it. He stated "if you are given the wrong contacts then I would be liable for that". I told him "you would only be liable if you measured or fitted me incorrectly". He still refused to give me my prescription so I informed him that every piece of paper in my file belonged to him, BUT every single word written on those papers legally belonged to ME, and he had no right to refuse to give me what was legally mine!!!! He continued to argue with me and I told him if he didn't give it to me I was going to get LOUD!!! Finally he realized I meant business and gave me my contact prescription. What he didn't know was that at the time I was in school for medical assisting and had come to learn what my rights as his patient were. I told everyone that would listen about my experience and informed them about their rights as patients and to not be bullied by drs. People seem to forget that they(Drs.) work for the patient, not the other way around.

I immediately asked for my records and found myself a new eye dr. who understood why I went elsewhere for my contacts, and I have never had another problem---so far.

I urge you and the eye drs. to think of their patients first. We all work hard for every dime and it is criminal for them to demand or try to control where their patients spend that dime.

Thank You,
Shannon Eglan