

Contact Lenses, Ongoing Aftercare &

Access to Care

Contact lenses are designated as 'Medical Devices' and, as such, necessitate a legal standard of medical care.

So what are the true costs of buying contact lenses? Contact lens optometrists and internet companies have been guilty of not giving a clear pricing structure. Whether explained to you or not, fees must always cover not only the cost of the contact lenses but also the professional costs.

Professional costs can vary depending on where you go.

Contact Lens Only Prices (Internet Prices)

Check out our rarely beaten prices at: www.aaricoptometrists.com

Online suppliers obviously do not incorporate any professional fees and do not commit to your ongoing ocular care. When purchasing lenses in this way you are buying the commodity only; there is no health or ocular care included. Regardless there is a mandatory level of medical care required to continue purchasing lenses, which then must be charged for privately. To supply lenses in this way the contact lens prescription must not be more than 12 months old and you must not be overdue a contact lens appointment. This could jeopardise ocular health and we believe there are too many potential risks.

Professional Fees

Professional fees in optometry practices also vary. Some practices do not value this service themselves, and so only offer infrequent and very quick checks; ticking a legal box but not really satisfying the medical expectations. This is putting your ocular health at risk; something we are not prepared to do.

Aarons and Medical Optometry

At Aarons we have totally committed to the medical ethics of contact lens wear. We have full time cover of 'Medical Optometrists' licensed to prescribe drugs to treat immediately. Aarons is the only practice in Northumberland with continuous medical cover for emergencies. Coupled with our policy of instant access to the practice and emergency out-of-hours practice contact number, when required, we hope patients will value our professional service above all else.

Independent Prescribing, 'Medical Optometrists' became a reality in 2009. There remain only about 250 in all of Britain but three work at Aarons. Peter Frampton was one of the first 30 to attain this higher qualification and believes it is so fundamental to contact lens and general practice he will only employ 'Medical Optometrists'.

clarity When everything becomes clear.

This scheme supplies a service: not simply contact lenses. Unless you live a long way from the practice and cannot access this service it is the minimum we would recommend. Clarity includes:-

1. Instant access to care for emergencies.

You are buying instant access to the clinic. Our policy dictates a 'Medical Optometrist' is always on the premises during opening hours. If you present as an emergency you WILL be seen. It is always good to know if you have a red or irritable eye, or if your vision seems blurry, you can present for a 'Contact Lens Check' without charge.

2. Independent Prescribing Medical Optometrists.

Aarons is the only practice in Northumberland with permanent, qualified 'Medical Optometrists'. Medical (Independent Prescribing) Optometrists, still quite rare in Britain, can prescribe drugs for the eye without referral to a GP or hospital. Coupled with our 'Instant Access' this is the service, we believe, patient's should value most. As a 'Medical Device' we feel a medical clinician is vital for a comprehensive contact lens service. When monitoring treatments we also have an out-of-hours emergency number as well (see our website video).

3. Professional care throughout the period of wear.

4. Fitting and refitting of lenses as required.

5. The price of the lenses.

Extra bonuses include:

6. Replacement contact lenses due to loss or tears will be replaced free. (Note: This does not apply to patients who self trigger their lens purchases, patients with bespoke lenses or buy lenses on the internet).

7. 20% discount on spectacles purchased.

8. All non-prescription sunglasses, including Oakley and Ray Ban, are priced at VAT FREE: ensuring significant ongoing savings.