



Low Vision Clinic

What to Expect During a Low Vision Evaluation

An appointment for a low vision evaluation with Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired is one of the most important appointments you can make for improving your ability to see.

First, you must realize your lost vision cannot be restored. This is a rehabilitation process. That means you are going to be taught how to effectively use your remaining vision.

We can help you use your remaining vision by:

- Teaching you to use your remaining vision more efficiently than you do now.
- Showing you how to perform tasks by using alternative devices such as lighting, high contrast and enlarged print.
- Teaching you how to use optical devices such as magnifiers. These will improve your ability to see detail but may require you to hold material close to your eyes or see through only a small field of view. The benefits, however, usually far outweigh the limitations if you are truly motivated.

Preparing for your Appointment

Think about the specific problems you are having at home, work, or school because of your failing vision. These may include problems such as:

- Reading newspapers, magazines or books
- Watching TV
- Spotting street signs
- Reading price tags, menus or medicine bottles
- Seeing oven dials and settings
- Writing a check

- Recognizing faces

Some of these problems may not be helped by the options available, but we cannot try to help unless we know what your specific problems are. It may be helpful to bring a list of what you have difficulty with to the evaluation to make sure we look at all aspects.

What to Bring to the Evaluation

Bring any glasses, sunglasses, or magnifying glasses that you are currently using. In addition, bring examples of the tasks that you have difficulty accomplishing (knitting project, checkbook, forms from work, or books).

Please bring all current insurance cards with you. Photocopies will be made at the time of appointment. We accept private insurance and Medicare. Unfortunately we are not a Medicaid provider. Please call us if you have concerns regarding insurance coverage of services – in the end we want you to get the services you need no matter the coverage you have.

Please bring enclosed forms you have completed to help us expedite your time with us (HIPAA privacy notice and grant application).

Feel free to invite a spouse, relative, friend to accompany you during the evaluation process.

The Evaluation

Please plan on spending at least 1.5 hours to 2 hours with us the day of your appointment. Make sure you schedule around your medications and meals, and select a time when you feel your vision is best.

Follow Up

At the completion of your evaluation, your Low Vision Specialist will loan you a variety of aids for a two week period. At the end of this

time, you will need to return and meet with your Low Vision Specialist. Be honest; let them know what worked and what didn't. At this time, you will review cost of items and billing procedures. Low vision aids aren't covered by health insurance, but we do have some generous donors who want to ensure your decision to or not to purchase isn't because of cost, so please consider completing the grant application if in financial concern.

Your Low Vision Team

Eric Smith, OD
Richard Kerstine, MD
Debbie Albert
Kara Foster
Dee Sunderman

Location for your evaluation

**1574 Claretta Avenue – in the Procter Center
Cincinnati, OH 45231
(513) 728-3941**

**If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to
call us at (513) 728-3941.**