



The mission of the Colorado Optometric Association is to provide member optometrists with the resources necessary

- ★ to deliver the highest standard of professional care to Colorado citizens
- and
- ★ to be a representative voice for Colorado optometrists.

By law the practice of optometry includes:

- Diagnosing and treating eye diseases
- Writing prescriptions for medications (including controlled substances) for ocular conditions
- Pre and post-operative care for surgical conditions
- Removal of superficial foreign bodies from the eye

The law also specifically states that optometrists:

- Must diagnose diseases of the eye
- Are held to the same standard of care as an ophthalmologist
- Must carry the same level of malpractice insurance as an ophthalmologist
- Must refer patients to the appropriate health care provider, and depending on the condition that may be an internist, neurologist, family physician, retinal specialist, glaucoma specialist, corneal specialist or other practitioner.

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