JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION: Optometrist

DEPARTMENT: Optometry

REPORTS TO: Chief Medical Officer

JOB DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

• Engage patients in conversation to determine their vision problems.
• Take and record patients' histories to understand what may have led to eye diseases or disorders.
• Examine patients' eyes using observation, instruments, equipment and pharmaceutical agents.
• Determine visual acuity and perception to diagnose diseases and abnormalities.
• Maintain knowledge of eye diseases such as color blindness and glaucoma.
• Perform tests on patients by operating eye testing equipment.
• Analyze test results to determine cause and nature of eye disease.
• Formulate and implement treatment plans to counter eye problems and diseases.
• Prescribe medications to treat eye diseases after ensuring that patients are not allergic to them.
• Educate patients on the use and care of eyes such as visual hygiene and contact lenses care.
• Refer patients to ophthalmologists or other healthcare professionals if eye problems are beyond scope of practice.
• Provide pre and post-operative care to patients due to undergo eye surgeries such as laser vision correction and cataract removal.
• Prescribe therapeutic or corrective procedures such as eye exercises and patching for patients with strabismus or lazy eye.
• Remove foreign substances from eyes and ensure that patients understand eye cared properly.
• Provide patients with information on handling eye care activities during regular days.
• Prescribe vision glasses to patients suffering from bad eyesight and / or photosensitivity.

EDUCATION:

1. Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) degree.
2. Must have completed at least 3 years of postsecondary education, including coursework in biology, chemistry, physics, English, and math.

3. Bachelor’s degree prior to enrolling in a Doctor of Optometry program.

4. Must have completed a 1-year residency program to get advanced clinical training in an area of emphasis, including, but not limited to, family practice, low vision care, pediatric or geriatric optometry, and ocular disease, among others.

LICENSES, CERTIFICATIONS, & REGISTRATIONS:

1. Must be licensed through the National Board of Examiners in Optometry of California.

2. Board-certified through the American Board of Optometry is a plus!

IMPORTANT QUALITIES:

Decision-making skills: Must be able to evaluate the results of a variety of diagnostic tests and decide on the best course of treatment for a patient.

Interpersonal skills: Must be able to help their patients feel at ease.

Speaking skills: Must be able to clearly explain eye care instructions to their patients, as well as answer patients’ questions.