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Myopia Program: Atropine Eye Drops

Overview:

Atropine is a long-used medication that can be used to dilate the pupils, but also has been proven to reduce myopia progression in lower doses. Patients are prescribed to use one drop per eye daily, and will still need to wear glasses or contacts during the day. Side effects may include blurry vision up-close or sensitivity to light, depending on the dosage prescribed.

Program Details:

The Atropine Myopia Program is a year-long program that includes the medication prescription and evaluation process, a Visual Education Session, and Quarterly Follow-up Visits.

Specifically, the program includes:

- In-office application and evaluation of atropine eye drops
- Training and education for patient and parents about using the eye drops and possible side effects
- Medical follow-up visits for the first month
- Prescription to purchase atropine eye drops at a pharmacy
- 3 Quarterly Follow-up visits for myopia evaluation
- 1 Visual Education Session to help the patient improve their visual habits, reducing eyestrain and limiting the environmental effects that can increase myopia.

First Year Fees:

The fee for the atropine eye drops depends on your health insurance and local pharmacy (we do not sell this medication in our office), but the program fee is all-inclusive of the above services.

- Year 1 Atropine Myopia Program: $725

Renewal Fees:

Patients must return yearly for their comprehensive eye exam, in addition to renewing the Myopia Program. Program renewal fee includes 3 Quarterly Follow-up visits for myopia evaluation.

- Atropine Myopia Program Renewal: $415

Program Fees do not include:

- Cost of the Atropine eye drops (estimated up to $400 annually)
- Eyeglasses/ Back-up eyeglasses
    - We offer quality children's eyewear, but the eyeglasses may be purchased at our office or elsewhere. Patients may use vision plan benefits towards the purchase of eyeglasses.
    - Eyeglasses may require specialized lenses, depending on the dose of atropine prescribed and the individual patient sensitivity. Lenses may need to be a Progressive lens design (with a near-reading area at the bottom of the lens) and they may need to have photochromic treatment (turns dark in the sunlight) to reduce the side effects of the atropine. The doctor will discuss recommendations with you.