



News Release

May 1, 2020

Optometry clinics opening to provide full patient care May 4, 2020

Alberta's optometrists are headed back into their clinics to provide full patient care as of May 4, 2020. This includes regular comprehensive eye exams, medically necessary appointments for patients with diabetes, glaucoma, other eye disease, and urgent care.

"Optometry was declared an essential service by the Alberta government during the crisis, and many optometrists stepped forward to provide Albertans with the urgent eye care they needed," said Dr. Troy Brady, President of the AAO. "Working within safety protocols, our doctors will now be able to provide comprehensive eye exams to Albertans as of May 4, along with urgent care. Each clinic will take the time necessary to appropriately implement the safety protocols needed to ensure patients, staff and doctors remain safe."

Clinics are currently limiting the number of people permitted in the clinic at one time – those accompanying patients to appointments are asked to wait outside unless needed for the appointment. Protective shields have been installed on equipment in exam rooms, and all patient-related equipment is sanitized between patients. Anyone accessing a clinic will be asked to sanitize their hands upon arrival.

Albertans are encouraged to contact their optometrist to book appointments. Anyone without a regular optometrist can find one close to home at www.optometrists.ab.ca/findanoptometrist and entering their postal code

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