

Re:

June 5, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

suffers from an advanced form of an eye distortion known as keratoconus. This condition of unknown etiology progressively distorts the shape and structure of the cornea of the eyes, leading to an unusable form of vision even with a best spectacle correction.

To date the only effective treatments for keratoconus involve the **fitting of therapeutic, rigid contact lenses or corneal transplant surgery.** A therapeutic contact lens creates a new, artificial, undistorted front surface for the cornea, with tears filling in the space between the contact lens and the distorted cornea. Vision is therefore as normal and natural as a keratoconic individual can ever achieve.

When keratoconus is first diagnosed and just emerging, it is possible to fit the patient with a custom toric soft contact lens for satisfactory vision. This option is more comfortable for the patient and is utilized until the condition progresses making rigid contact lenses necessary.

When contact lenses cannot be fitted or tolerated, a keratoconic individual must undergo a corneal transplant. This grafting procedure is complex, potentially dangerous and extremely costly.

By any risk vs. benefit or cost effectiveness ratios analysis, contact lens therapy for keratoconic individual is the universal procedure of choice. For this reason and the fact that usable vision can only be achieved in these cases by one of these two treatments, the vast majority of insurance carriers cover the costs of contact lens therapy up to the limit of one's policy coverage.

Sincerely,