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### Financial Disclosure Statement

#### Andrew Bruce provides consulting services for . . .

- VSP Optics/UUniversity
- Mitsui Chemicals
- · Optical Training Institute
- All relevant relationships have been mitigated
- He has NO financial interest in any product presented in this course.

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## Only The Best Will Do! ABO Level I - 1 hour

Andrew S. Bruce, LDO, ABOM, NCLEM, FCLSA

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### **Learning Objectives**

#### Upon completion of this course, the participant should be able to $\dots$

- Appreciate the importance of providing every patient with only the best service, eyewear, delivery, and aftercare
- Understand how every staff member must be on the same page and take pride in representing the practice in the best possible way
- Communicate the benefits of having practice policies in place to facilitate hassle-free resolution when "stuff" happens.

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### **Industry Stats**



- U.S. eyewear market value for 2023 totaled almost \$66 billion
- 93% of U.S. adults wear some form of eyewear
- ~ 45,000 brick-and-mortar retail locations in U.S
- How do you compete for your piece of the \$66 billion?

Stats taken from the 2023 Market inSights Report. The Vision Council: January 2024

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#### Only The Best . . .

- · Service will do!
- · Eyewear will do!
- Delivery will do!
- · Aftercare will do!



### Good Examples

### **BAD Examples**

Too Numerous To Mention!

- Apple
- Amazon
- Costco
- And . . .

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Only The Best Service And Patient Care Will Do!

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# What Kind Of Welcome Do Your Patients Receive?





THE VISION THERAPY INSTITUTE



### The Receptionist's Role

- · Sets the practice tone
- Manages patient expectations
- Provides positive "to go" feelings.



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#### The Technician's Role

- · Explains tests
- Reviews history, questionnaire responses, lifestyle activities
- Briefs doctor on pre-test findings.



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#### The Doctor's Role



- Entrusted to manage the patient's eye care and eye health
- · Patient should feel a personal connection to doctor
- A positive doctor-patient relationship leads to loyalty, patient retention, and increased referrals.

### **Doctor-Optician Handoff**



- Following exam, a vital step to retain patient as eyewear customer
- Doctor and optician can forge the link between the exam and eyewear
- Doctor personally transfers the patient's care to the optician.

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## The Optician's Role



- As the eyewear expert, the optician assumes patient's care
- Reviewing doctor's orders serves to ease patient anxieties
- Recommends personalized eyewear solutions.

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# The Entire Team's Role "The 3 Ps"

- Provide every patient with incomparable service and care
- Promote patient loyalty and long-term retention
- Proudly represent the face of the company.



Only The Best Eyewear Will Do!

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# The Optician's Extended Role



- Serve as the patient's trusted advisor
- Educate regarding care, maintenance, adaptation
- Ensure utmost precision, in terms of eyewear fitting, measurements, and fabrication.

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#### **Lens and Frame Selection**



- Discuss lenses prior to selecting frames
- Patients rely on their optician's expert guidance
- · Avoid choice overload.

#### **Benefits of Premium Frames**

- · Compliance with ANSI guidelines
- Incorporate premium materials
- · State of the art manufacturing processes
- · Strict QC standards
- · Excellent warranties.



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# Benefits of Premium Lens Designs

- · Free-form technology
- Ultimate in precision and customization
- · Best visual experience.



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#### Benefits of Premium Lens Materials

- Superior optics
- · Enhanced clarity
- Superior long-term performance and durability.



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#### Benefits of Premium Lens Enhancements





- · Enhanced versatility
- · Superior performance.

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# Only The Best Delivery Will Do!

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### **Eyewear Dispense**



- Prior to dispense, all eyewear should undergo an in-house final quality inspection
- · Focus on presentation and delivery
- · Provide a personalized fitting
- Make it fun! Especially, for pediatric patients.

#### **Patient Education**



- Adaptation
- · Care and maintenance
- · Warranty information.

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#### Only The Best Aftercare Will Do!

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# Demonstrate Superior Aftercare

- At dispense, encourage patients to return for routine tune-ups and a professional cleaning
- · Send a thank you note
- 1 week post dispense, call to see how they're loving their new glasses, especially important in the case of a re-make
- Stay connected, but respect boundaries.

What if?

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### What if "Stuff" Happens?



What if . .

- The patient's preferred frame is on backorder?
- The lenses don't pass inspection at the lab, so they're going to be delayed?
- The eyewear doesn't pass your final quality inspection?

What's The Best Way To Handle The Situation?

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### **Three Vital Steps**

Every employee should *Proudly* represent the face of the company

- FIRST: Own it!
- SECOND: Apologize for the inconvenience
- THIRD: Resolve it!



# Dealing With The Irate Patient



- · Comply with your company policies
- · Don't take it personally
- · Listen and show you care
- · Validate their frustrations
- · Talk slowly and softly
- Reassure them that you'll do what you can to make things right.

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# What Can You Do To Stand Out From The Crowd?

- Less rigid with policies (opening times, etc.)
- Go out of your way to open the door for patients
- Recommend the best eyewear solutions, regardless of price
- · Demonstrate honesty to earn patient trust
- And . . . I'm sure you can list a string of others.

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#### To Take Away . . .

- Be sure to provide every patient with a great experience by offering only the best service, eyewear, delivery, and aftercare
- Every staff member must be on the same page and take pride in representing the practice in the best possible way
- If "stuff" happens, practice policies should be in place to facilitate hasslefree resolution by empowering staff members to "take care of the patient"
- Differentiate your practice by always going above and beyond; because, to successfully compete . . .
- · Only The Best Will Do!

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#### Thank You!

#### Speaker Contact Information

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