

(A) If, while providing optometric services to a patient, an optometrist OR DIAGNOSTICALLY CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST detects OR DIAGNOSES an active eye pathology WHICH THE OPTOMETRIST IS NOT LICENSED OR CERTIFIED TO TREAT UNDER ~~§ 11-404.1~~ § 11-404 OR § 11-404.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE, the optometrist shall refer the patient to a ~~physician OR ANOTHER APPROPRIATELY LICENSED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER~~:

(I) AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST OR A THERAPEUTICALLY CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST, AS APPROPRIATE;

(II) THE PATIENT'S PHYSICIAN;

(III) A PHYSICIAN IF REQUIRED UNDER A MANAGED CARE CONTRACT; OR

(IV) A HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM OR AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER IF NECESSARY.

(B) IF, WHILE PROVIDING OPTOMETRIC SERVICES TO A PATIENT, A THERAPEUTICALLY CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST DIAGNOSES AN ACTIVE EYE PATHOLOGY THAT THE OPTOMETRIST IS NOT CERTIFIED TO TREAT UNDER § 11-404.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE OPTOMETRIST SHALL REFER THE PATIENT TO:

(I) AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST;

(II) THE PATIENT'S PHYSICIAN;

(III) A PHYSICIAN IF REQUIRED UNDER A MANAGED CARE CONTRACT; OR

(IV) A HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM IF NECESSARY.

11-403.

(a) A licensed optometrist may:

(1) Use the title "optometrist"; [and]

(2) If the optometrist holds the degree of doctor of optics or doctor of optometry from a college or university authorized to give the degree, use the title "Doctor" or the abbreviations "Dr." or "O.D." with the optometrist's name [.] ; ~~AND~~

(3) IF THE OPTOMETRIST IS CERTIFIED UNDER § 11-404 OF THIS SUBTITLE, USE THE TITLE "DIAGNOSTICALLY CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST"; AND

~~(4)~~ (4) IF THE OPTOMETRIST IS CERTIFIED UNDER § 11-404.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, USE THE TITLE "THERAPEUTICALLY CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST".

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a licensed optometrist may not attach to the optometrist's name or use as a title:

(1) The words or abbreviations "Doctor", "Dr.", "M.D.", "physician", or "surgeon", or any other word or abbreviation that suggests that the optometrist practices medicine; or