

~~(F) A THERAPEUTICALLY CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST SHALL BE HELD TO THE SAME STANDARD OF CARE APPLIED TO A PHYSICIAN LICENSED UNDER TITLE 14 OF THIS ARTICLE PROVIDING SIMILAR SERVICES.~~

11-404.2.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, "REFER" MEANS THAT A THERAPEUTICALLY CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST:

(1) INFORMS THE PATIENT THAT THE PATIENT SHOULD SEE AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST AND GIVE THE OPHTHALMOLOGIST AN OPPORTUNITY TO PHYSICALLY EXAMINE THE PATIENT; AND

(2) REFRAINS FROM RENDERING FURTHER TREATMENT FOR THE SPECIFIC CONDITION THAT IS THE BASIS FOR THE REFERRAL UNTIL THE PATIENT HAS BEEN PHYSICALLY EXAMINED BY AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST.

(B) (1) A THERAPEUTICALLY CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST MAY ADMINISTER AND PRESCRIBE TOPICAL THERAPEUTIC PHARMACEUTICAL AGENTS LIMITED TO:

(I) OCULAR ANTIHISTAMINES, DECONGESTANTS, AND COMBINATIONS THEREOF, EXCLUDING STEROIDS;

(II) OCULAR ANTIALLERGY PHARMACEUTICAL AGENTS;

(III) OCULAR ANTIBIOTICS AND COMBINATIONS OF OCULAR ANTIBIOTICS, EXCLUDING SPECIALLY FORMULATED OR FORTIFIED ANTIBIOTICS;

(IV) ANTIINFLAMMATORY AGENTS, EXCLUDING STEROIDS;

(V) OCULAR LUBRICANTS AND ARTIFICIAL TEARS;

(VI) TROPICAMIDE;

(VII) HOMATROPINE;

(VIII) NONPRESCRIPTION DRUGS THAT ARE COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE; AND

(IX) PRIMARY OPEN-ANGLE GLAUCOMA MEDICATIONS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) IF A THERAPEUTICALLY CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST ADMINISTERS OR PRESCRIBES A TOPICAL THERAPEUTIC PHARMACEUTICAL AGENT LISTED IN PARAGRAPH (1)(I) THROUGH (VII) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AND THE PATIENT DOES NOT HAVE THE EXPECTED RESPONSE WITHIN 72 HOURS:

(I) THE THERAPEUTICALLY CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST SHALL CONSULT WITH AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST; AND

(II) THE OPHTHALMOLOGIST MAY DETERMINE THAT THE OPHTHALMOLOGIST NEEDS TO PHYSICALLY EXAMINE THE PATIENT.