



VENTURA

ophthalmology

**Bryant J. Lum, M.D.**  
Board Certified Eye M.D.

Refractive Surgery  
Glaucoma Surgery  
Cataract Surgery  
Corneal Surgery  
LASER Surgery  
LASIK Surgery  
Eyelid Surgery  
Eye Exams  
Contacts  
Glasses

To Our Medicare Patients,

Our doctors at Ventura Ophthalmology Medical Group are Medicare providers and accept payments from Medicare. However, we are “*non-assigned*” Medicare providers. This means Medicare payment is handled a little differently here than at other doctor’s offices you might visit.

As “non-assigned” Medicare providers we bill at Medicare’s pre-set fees. This is slightly higher than the “assigned fees.” Medicare, however, does not pay us directly. The payment goes to you, the patient. So approximately three weeks after your visit or surgery you will receive a check from Medicare in the mail. Usually Medicare will electronically forward the billing to your secondary insurance. If your secondary insurance policy is a “Medi-gap” policy, your secondary insurance will cover the difference in cost between what Medicare allows us to charge and what Medicare pays, i.e. the Medicare gap. If your secondary policy is not a “Medi-Gap” policy, there may be a small balance due our office after Medicare and your secondary insurance payment.

**How to Pay:** After your visit or surgery, you will receive a monthly statement and a return envelope from our office. **Once you receive your Medicare check, endorse the check and send it to our office along with a copy of the Medicare summary or explanation of benefits you receive from Medicare.** Secondary insurance payments are sent either to you or our office. (please forward to our office if you receive this check.) Any remaining balance may be paid by private check or credit card.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call our office. We will be happy to go over your statement with you.

Sincerely,

Keith Wintermute  
Administrator