

ONLINE EYEWEAR SALES

Unregulated eyewear suppliers entice consumers to purchase eyeglasses and contact lenses online without the benefit of quality assurance and accountability. Prescribing in the absence of a comprehensive eye exam poses a risk to the public of substandard care.

Problems associated with buying online eyewear include:



Internet eye wear dispensing must comply with the following principles of optometric dispensing:



For your protection, ensure:

a *current and valid prescription for eyeglasses* from an optometrist or physician

accurate and appropriate frame and lens measurements from a regulated eye care professional

eyeglasses are verified, fitted and adjusted personally by a regulated eye care professional

a *current and valid prescription for contact lenses* from a regulated eye care professional



Consumers beware!

1 in 7 Canadians will develop a serious eye disease in their lifetime.

Consumers need to be aware that an online test used to determine the lens power required to correct blurry vision—without the eyes being examined by an optometrist or an ophthalmologist—is **NOT** a comprehensive eye exam. Anyone claiming to have performed an eye exam without an in-person physical exam is misleading a patient that their eye health needs have been met.

For more information, please see CAO's Position Statements:

[Internet Dispensing](#)

[Online Eye Exams](#)

[Valid Optical Prescription](#)