



## Mobile Vision Care Clinic

### **DILATING EYE DROPS INFORMATION SHEET**

#### **Why do we need to use eye drops?**

It is necessary to dilate (make bigger) your child's pupils during their eye exam in order to get an accurate glasses prescription and thoroughly examine the back of your child's eyes. It is especially important to use dilating drops when examining non-verbal and younger children so that objective testing can be performed.

#### **Which eye drops may be used on my child's eyes?**

There are 2 different eye drops that our clinic uses: Cyclopentolate 1% and Mydracil 0.5%. Cyclopentolate is the drop that is most commonly used. It dilates the pupil and immobilizes the focusing muscles in the eye. As children have very active eye muscles (which can sometimes over focus) this helps us get the most accurate glasses prescription. Mydracil is less effective and is only used when the doctors feel a weaker drop is necessary.

#### **Will the drops hurt my child?**

The drops can sting a little when they go in, however, the process is not painful for your child. These drops are safe to use and very rarely have any negative side effects.

#### **What are the effects of the drops and how long do they last?**

The drops will cause blurring of your child's vision and will also make him/her a little more light sensitive. The blurring is more commonly with near work but can sometimes affect their distance vision as well. The teachers are aware that your child may have some difficulty reading for a couple hours after their eye exam. The effects of the drops usually last between 3-6 hours but in some case can be up to 24 hours.

**If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at [info@mobilevisioncareclinic.com](mailto:info@mobilevisioncareclinic.com) or by phone at (204) 808-9407.**