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GUIDELINES FOR CONTACT LENS SOLUTION AND REWETTING DROPS SAMPLING

Contact Lens Solutions

- Sample one (1) starter kit per new contact lens fit/refit/change of solution and consider a written recommendation of the product to promote compliance
- Document the recommended product in the medical record
- Do not offer the patient multiple starter kits
- Do not offer the patient different starter kits, as this will contribute to poor compliance
- Educate the patient on the importance of contact lens case hygiene, which is why a new case is included in each starter kit. Recommend replacing the case every 1 to 3 months.
- Do not break-up starter kits to provide patients with individual components
- Using the latest scientific data, consider any potential CL/Solution incompatibilities to guide your choice of solution
- Explain to the patient how long the sample is likely to last and what to do thereafter (fill an Rx, return for a follow-up visit, etc.)

Rewetting drops

- Sample one (1) bottle of rewetting drops during the eye examination and consider providing a written recommendation to promote compliance
- Document the recommended product in the medical record
- Do not offer the patient multiple sample bottles
- Explain to the patient how long the sample is likely to last and what to do thereafter (fill an Rx, return for a follow-up visit, etc.)

General considerations

- Use your discretion in sampling when it may be difficult for a patient to get to a pharmacy (weekends, evenings, holidays)
- To promote compliance, explain to the patient why you have chosen that product, since not all products are the same
- Educate the patient that generic products are usually not the same as the latest brand name products and may change in formulations from year to year
- Instruct the patient to check the expiration dates on all medications, including contact lens solutions
- Promote an annual supply of contact lenses once the fit is complete to promote compliance
- Review manufacturer's recommendations with respect to the given product