

From: Shamma Erica M SrA 8 MSS/DPMPE
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2004 12:22 AM
To: CONTACTLENSRULE
Subject: My opinion

Sir/Ma'am,

I believe that we need to keep the monopoly of the contact lens industry from being controlled by the doctor. I have been wearing glasses and contact lenses for many years. When I first was prescribed contact lenses, I was required to buy them from my eye doctor. The cost was outrageous. Once I was able to obtain my prescription from my doctor and begin shopping around for these, I was saving over 25% of the cost. What a relieving factor this was for me because I had to pay for my medical insurance and any deductibles that were incurred as well as pay for the prescription to be filled. All of these costs add up over time and can hurt a single income family. It is an injustice to allow the medical industry to get away with hi-jacking the prices of these types of daily requirements for some people. I am lucky now that I am in the military because the military covers most of my medical expenses. The exception is for my contact lenses. I choose to go through 1800Contacts because they deliver wherever I am stationed at the time. There are several instances where I may be deployed to locations where an eye doctor may not be able to have a shipment in stock for me. 1800Contacts has been able to take care of me quicker and cheaper in one experience such as this one. If this rule was not in effect, I would have needed to wait 3 weeks longer than I did and I would have had to pay twice as much. When we (military personnel) are separated from our families, we have enough to worry about. Why add to it with small things such as contact lenses?

Thank you

Erica M. Shamma, SrA, USAF

Career Enhancements Clerk