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Tips for Safely Dispensing Reading Glasses While Social Distancing

We recommend that our partners follow the most updated recommendations from leading health experts, including the WHO and CDC.

As we navigate through these challenging times, we want you to feel empowered to decide when is the right time to go back and serve the communities you care about through the gift of sight. For this reason, we have created this adapted dispensing tips manual.

As more information becomes available, we will update this manual to ensure that you have the tools you need to safely and effectively dispense glasses when you are ready to go back to the field.



SOCIAL DISTANCING- FRIENDLY DISPENSING TIPS

NEW SELF-SCREENING CHART:

To prevent people from trying on different pairs of glasses and risking contamination when trying to find the right power, we've created a self-screening chart that allows individuals to identify their reading glasses needs without trying a pair on. Please click [here](#) to download.

SOCIAL DISTANCING-FRIENDLY DISPENSING TIPS

- **Planning and Set-Up:**

- Encourage outside dispensing, if possible, to create more space for people to spread out.
- Ensure the set-up of your event allows for an easy flow and transition from entrance to testing, from testing to dispensing, and from dispensing to exit. This will eliminate congestion or bumping into individuals by accident. Test the flow of your event prior to the start of your event.
- Determine your crowd control methods in advance, as these will be critical in ensuring the space does not become crowded.
- When announcing the event, consider including pre-screening questions. This will help ensure that only people who need reading glasses attend and create a smaller crowd.

SOCIAL DISTANCING-FRIENDLY DISPENSING TIPS

- **Dispensing Glasses:**

- **Make sure to utilize the new [self-screening chart](#) to help beneficiaries find their reading glasses power without trying reading glasses on.** Consider printing enough copies that no one has to share, or laminating the document so that it can be easily sanitized between uses.
- **Prevent people from trying on different pairs of glasses and risking contamination.** Once the right strength has been identified, provide the individual with a single pair of glasses matching their power and gender. Alternatively, let them pick from a selection by pointing to the one they would like.
- Place emphasis on the pre-screening test, either before the event or early in the process of individuals waiting in line, to limit the crowd size.
- Require all participants to remain 6 feet apart at all times. Consider creating marks on the ground with tape or chalk to visually inform people where to stand while in line, receiving their glasses, etc.
- As people reach the front of the line, limit how many people move into the testing and dispensing areas at a time.
- Make sure all people exit after they receive their glasses to prevent crowding.
- Take all CDC and WHO recommended cleaning and sanitation measures before, during, and after the event.