

VOSH SPECTACLE INVENTORY GUIDELINES

The **minimum library** to take is about 2000 pair of glasses, or at least 500 pair per examiner. I would recommend the following baseline:

Women's Plus Bifocals:	500
Men's Plus Bifocals:	350
Women's Plus Single Vision:	500
Men's Plus Single Vision:	250
Women's Minus:	200
Men's Minus:	200

For a **clinic planning to examine about 1000 patients**, 4000 pair gives nice selection:

Women's Plus Bifocals:	1,000
Men's Plus Bifocals:	700
Women's Plus Single Vision:	1,000
Men's Plus Single Vision:	500
Women's Minus	400
Men's Minus	400

Tailoring your library to your patient population will let you be more efficient and effective. The above recommendations are based upon a rural setting. In these clinics, we find that we see about twice as many women as men. Up to 85% of the prescriptions are plus, mostly for near only. However, the more urban the setting, the more men and the more minus you will find. Rural populations do well with single vision readers for near tasks, whereas more urban populations frequently request bifocals.

Another hint is that the distribution of prescriptions dispensed on a VOSH mission often varies considerably from the distribution of the prescriptions that are collected and recycled. We do not use a lot of low plus (<+1.00) single vision Rx's. Most are from +1.25 to +2.75. Collection boxes accumulate lots of moderate minus (-3.00 to -5.00), while most of the VOSH requirements are only up to -2.00. The other big area of difference is in the plus bifocals, especially women's prescriptions. Most of the dispensed corrections are less than +2.25 in the distance, while we collect lots of more of the moderate plus.

Don't forget to include some aphakic and high minus corrections.

I would be happy to answer any questions.

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AIR TRANSPORT OF EYEGLASSES

As many have found out, a number of the airlines now have box embargos - ie: you cannot ship in boxes. One good solution that has worked for several teams is to pack your glasses in boxes, 4" X 6" X 20", which hold 50 pair to a box.

Twelve of these boxes fit readily in a "Compackteam L-40" duffel bag. And these 600 pair can be packed to come to 70# gross which can go on an international flight. The duffels have a rugged handle on each end to share the carrying load.

The boxes are available from the Lions recycling center c/o John Clester at 765-744-9182 or ineyeglassrecycling@ureach.com. Cost is \$40/100 plus shipping. At the work site, the boxes can readily be lined up for picking on long tables. These are the boxes that this center normally ships their glasses in.

The L-40 duffels are available from River City Luggage at 866-249-8821 or www.rivercityluggage.com Click – Cargo Duffels. **I bought 8 L-40's a year ago for \$25 each.** The duffel bags are much more innocuous in customs, thus less prone to inspection. Yes, occasionally the boxes get bent a bit, but the glasses are never damaged. And the bent boxes don't bother us. Gave a great mission.

Robert Merriam