

Signs Of Vision Problems In Children

- Squinting or blinking
- Sitting close to the television
- Drifting or crossing of an eye
- Tilting or turning of the head
- Droopy eyelid
- Excessive tearing
- Headaches while reading
- Closing or covering an eye
- Drop in school performance

Your Child's First Exam

There is no need to feel apprehensive about your child's first eye exam. Your child does not need to know the alphabet to have their vision checked. The exam is completely painless except for a few seconds of stinging from the dilating eye drops. We take special care to ensure that your child's visit is an enjoyable experience – from the games in the waiting area to the children's videos in our exam rooms. Our staff is specially trained to assist in the evaluation of eye problems in children.

Checklist for eye exam

- ✓ Eyeglasses
- ✓ Current medications
- ✓ Insurance information
- ✓ Bottle & blanket for infants

A room of fun and discovery! Dr. Silverman's waiting room is designed to keep young patients happy.



Common Eye Problems In Children

Myopia, Hyperopia, and Astigmatism can be inherited and are all treated with glasses or contact lenses. LASIK can be considered for those 18 years or older with a stable prescription.

Myopia (nearsightedness)

Distant objects are blurry in cases of myopia. This is usually detected in elementary school when problems arise seeing the whiteboard.

Hyperopia (farsightedness)

A small amount of hyperopia is normal in children. However, with more pronounced hyperopia, the eye is unable to see near objects without extreme focusing. This can cause headaches, blurred vision and crossing of the eyes.

Astigmatism

Astigmatism is an irregularity in the shape of the cornea. Instead of being shaped round, the cornea is shaped oval, causing a blurred image at all distances.



Amblyopia (lazy eye)

Amblyopia, sometimes referred to as "lazy eye," is poor vision in an eye that did not develop normal sight during childhood. Without treatment, children with amblyopia will never see

well in one eye, even with glasses. Patching treatment and eye drops are effective in the treatment of amblyopia, especially when initiated prior to seven years of age.

Tear Duct Obstruction

The tear duct drains tears from the eye into the nose. When this duct is incompletely formed at birth, excessive tearing and crusting of the eyelids occurs. This condition is treated with tear duct massage and antibiotics. Tear duct surgery is recommended for those who do not improve by their first birthday.

Visit us on your computer or smartphone at CoastalEye.com for new patient forms, driving directions, and more information.



Dr. Silverman strives to make your child's eye exam a comfortable experience.

Strabismus

Strabismus is misalignment of the eyes. The eyes may cross in, drift out or drift up. Strabismus may be present from birth or may develop later in life. Some types of strabismus can be controlled with glasses, while other types may require eye muscle surgery. The surgery is performed on an outpatient basis and takes less than an hour to complete.

Before



Before surgery, the left eye is drifting out. One month after eye muscle surgery, the eyes are straight.

After



Before surgery, the left eye is crossing inward. One month after eye muscle surgery, the eyes are straight.





Our Team Is Here For You

Choosing Dr. Scott Silverman to treat your child's vision problems means teaming up with pediatric professionals who truly care about their patients, no matter how small in size!

Dr. Silverman specializes in pediatric eye care and eye muscle surgery. He is a staff member at All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, where he lectures to training physicians.

Dr. Silverman graduated with honors from Washington University School of Medicine. He completed his ophthalmology residency at Doheny Eye Institute of the University of Southern California. He then completed specialty fellowship training in pediatric ophthalmology and eye muscle surgery at Texas Children's Hospital of the Baylor College of Medicine.



Scott Silverman, M.D.
Fellowship-Trained
Pediatric Ophthalmologist



COASTAL EYE INSTITUTE

Formerly Manatee Sarasota Eye Clinic



Lakewood Ranch
6310 Health Park Way, Suite #340
Sarasota
1427 South Tamiami Trail

941-748-1818



Your Child's Vision

A Parent's Guide



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