

Eye Terms and Definitions

Achromatopsia: the most common of the cone disorders presenting in infancy with reduced visual function, color blindness, light sensitivity (photophobia) and a fast moving "shimmy" of the eye (nystagmus). Tinted lenses improve visual function. This is an autosomal recessive condition with no associated abnormalities.

Afferent Pupillary Defect = Diminished pupil reaction to light, usually secondary to optic nerve disease, caused by slowed conduction in optic nerve fibers.

Amblyopia = a functional defect. Decreased vision in one or both eyes without detectable anatomic damage in eye or pathways. Uncorrectable by optical means such as glasses.

Anophthalmia = absence of the eyeball

Atropine = eye drop that paralyzes the iris, causing enlarged pupil and blurred near vision. Used with children with muscle imbalance and to encourage the wearing of glasses.

Cataracts

Colobomas: congenital absence of retinal tissue (cleft or hole) caused by failure of normal development in the sixth week of pregnancy. Visual function is dependent on the size and location of the cleft.

CSM – Central, Steady and Maintained (tracking)

CVI = Cortical Visual Impairment

D = diopter; the degree to which light converges or diverges. This indicates the amount of correction needed in a lens to correct focal point. The higher the number, the more diopters need to correct.

DVM = Delayed Visual Maturation

ET = esotropia E(T) – intermittent esotropia

F+F – fix and follow

Glaucoma – increased intraocular pressure, often causing visual field loss

HM – Hand Motion

Hyperopia – “farsightedness” – imagine comes to focus behind the retina without correction

IOP – Intraocular pressure

LB – legal blindness = 20/200 in the BETTER EYE WITH CORRECTION or a visual field less than 30 degrees

LP – Light perception

Myopia – “nearsightedness” – image comes to focus in front of the retina without correction

Null Point – position of gaze where nystagmus lessens

OCA = oculocutaneous albinism (could be type I or OCA2) Type 1 (formerly known as Tyrosinase Negative) involves the complete lack of pigment. These children have white skin and hair and moderate to severe visual impairment. Children with Type 2 (formerly known as Tyrosinase Positive) have various amounts of pigmentation, yellow or blonde hair and usually less severe visual impairment. Usually includes nystagmus, decreased visual acuity, and light sensitivity.

OD = right eye

ONA = Optic Nerve Atrophy

ONH = Optic Nerve Hypoplasia

OKN – optokinetic nystagmus – elicited by an optokinetic drum (involuntary, rhythmic, normal eye movements produced by viewing a series of vertical bars or pattern. Should be able to be elicited by optometrist or ophthalmologist.

OS – left eye

OU – both eyes

Photophobia = extreme light sensitivity

ROP = Retinopathy of Prematurity

Strabismus = Eye misalignment caused by extraocular muscle imbalance: one fovea is not directed at the same object as the other.

SOD = Septo-Optic Dysplasia

XT = exotropia, X(T) – intermittent exotropia

*******This is by no means a comprehensive list – one great resource for eye terms is: *Dictionary of Eye Terminology 6th Edition*, by Barbara Cassin, M.Ed. and Melvin L. Rubin, M.D.**

Available at www.triadpublishing.com/eyedictionary.htm