

What is Strabismus?



ALCON
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Strabismus: A Guide for Parents



What is Strabismus?

Strabismus, commonly known as “crossed eyes” or “lazy eye”, is a condition in which the eyes do not properly align. This can cause double vision, difficulty seeing depth, and a wandering eye.

Causes of Strabismus

Strabismus can be caused by a variety of factors, including:

- Muscle imbalances in the eyes
- Refractive errors, such as farsightedness or nearsightedness
- Neurological conditions, such as cerebral palsy or Down syndrome
- Trauma to the eye or head
- Certain medical conditions, such as thyroid eye disease

Symptoms of Strabismus

The most common symptom of strabismus is a misaligned eye. Other symptoms may include:

- Double vision
- Difficulty seeing depth
- Squinting or tilting the head to see better
- Poor eye coordination
- Frequent eye rubbing

Diagnosis of Strabismus

Strabismus is diagnosed through a comprehensive eye exam. The eye doctor will measure the misalignment of the eyes and look for any underlying medical conditions.

Treatment for Strabismus

Treatment for strabismus depends on the underlying cause and the severity of the condition. Treatment options may include:

- Glasses or contact lenses
- Eye exercises
- Surgery
- Botox injections

Prognosis for Strabismus

The prognosis for strabismus depends on the underlying cause and the severity of the condition. With early diagnosis and treatment, most people with strabismus can achieve good vision and eye alignment.

When to Seek Medical Help

If you notice any of the symptoms of strabismus in your child, it is important to seek medical help right away. Early diagnosis and treatment can help prevent serious vision problems.

Tips for Parents of Children with Strabismus

- Encourage your child to wear their glasses or contact lenses as prescribed
- Make sure your child attends all of their eye appointments
- Talk to your child’s doctor about any concerns you have about their vision
- Be patient and supportive. Your child may need time to adjust to their new glasses or contact lenses