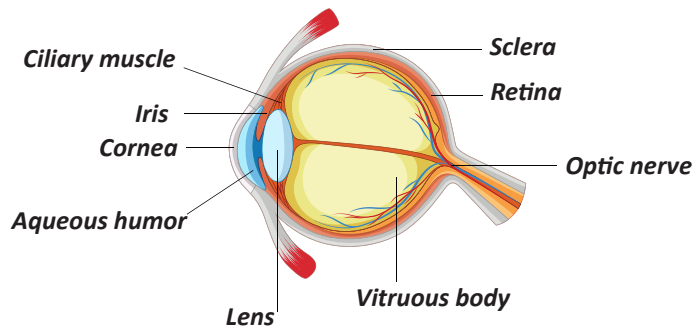
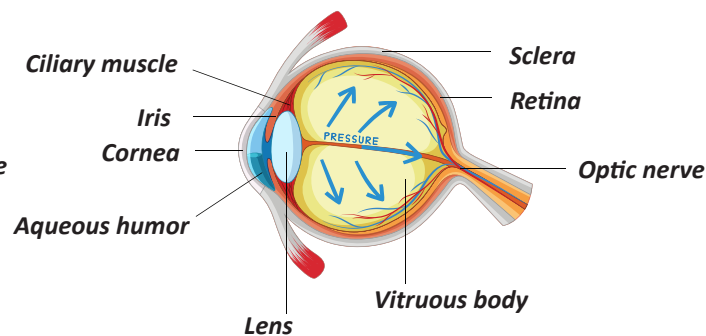


Glaucoma

Healthy eye



Eye with glaucoma



What is it?

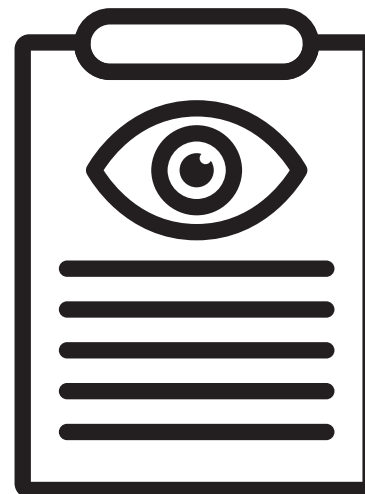
Glaucoma is a condition of increased fluid pressure inside the eye. The increased pressure causes compression of the retina and the optic nerve, which can eventually lead to nerve damage.

Glaucoma can cause partial vision loss, with blindness as a possible eventual outcome.

Types of glaucoma, and the causes

- 1 Open-angle (chronic) glaucoma** - Increased eye pressure occurs slowly over time, and is painless. The pressure pushes on the optic nerve. The cause is unknown and cannot be cured.
- 2 Angle-closure (acute) glaucoma** - The exit of the aqueous humor fluid is suddenly blocked, there is a quick, severe and painful rise of pressure in the eye. This is a medical emergency.
- 3 Congenital glaucoma (seen in babies)** - It is present at birth, and caused by abnormal eye development.
- 4 Secondary glaucoma** - it is caused by drugs e.g. corticosteroids, systemic disease, trauma, and eye diseases such as uveitis.

GLAUCOMA TEST



Tonometry – Eye pressure test

Gonioscopy – Special lens to examine the eye

Optic nerve imaging- Photographs or laser scanning of the inside of the eye

Examination of the retina in the back of the eye

Visual acuity

Visual field measurement



Signs and symptoms

Open-Angle Glaucoma

- No symptoms
- When vision loss occurs, the damage is already severe
- Slow loss of sight (peripheral vision) – tunnel vision
- Advanced glaucoma can lead to blindness

Angle-Closure Glaucoma

- Sudden onset – severe pain in one eye
- Decreased or cloudy vision (steamy vision)
- Rainbow-like halos around lights
- Red eye
- Eye feels swollen
- Nausea and vomiting

Congenital Glaucoma

- Symptoms noticed when a child is a few months old
- Enlargement of one or both eyes
- Red eye
- Cloudiness of the front of the eye
- Tearing
- Sensitivity to light

Treatment



Open-angle glaucoma - the goal is to reduce eye pressure. It will be treated with eye drops and, in some cases, also with tablets to decrease the eye pressure.



Laser surgery - iridotomy

Eye surgery if other treatments are not effective



Acute angle glaucoma - eye drops and medicine to lower the pressure, either by mouth, or intravenous medication



Emergency operation (laser surgery iridotomy) - it will open a new pathway in the coloured area of the eye. It relieves the pressure and prevents another attack



Congenital glaucoma - treated with surgery



Secondary glaucoma - treating the underlying disease

**LIFESTYLE
CHANGES**

