

Cataracts

FACTS:

- A cataract is a clouding area over the front part of the eye—an area that is normally transparent.
- It can affect either one or both eyes.
- Some cataracts are small and do not cause any visual symptoms.
- Other times they can cause visual problems in children.
- Cataracts in children are uncommon.
- A child may be born with the disease or it may develop later in life.
- Cataracts may be caused by trauma, infection, diabetes, poisoning and from other eye diseases, such as glaucoma.



Cataracts can affect one or both eyes.



A cataract is a clouding of the front part of the eye.



SYMPTOMS:

- The center of a child's eye might look cloudy or white, or like someone poured milk into the eye.
- The child might complain of feeling something scratchy in their eye.
- If an infant fails to show visual interest in the world around him, a cataract might be present.



TREATMENT:

- Specific treatment for cataracts will be determined by a doctor.
- In some cases vision loss caused by a cataract may be aided by eyeglasses.
- Surgical removal of cataracts is often recommended in infants and children. This surgery must be done by a highly trained eye surgeon.

Eyeglasses can help vision loss.