

Ptosis

FACTS:

- Ptosis is a condition in which one or both of a child's upper eyelids droop.
- It is caused by a poorly developed levator muscle (the muscle that lifts the eyelid upward).
- The eyelid may droop slightly or it may cover the pupil and impair sight.
- If children cannot easily see beyond their eyelids, they will often tilt the head backward in order to be able to better see. Sometimes they will wrinkle the forehead to lift the eyebrows upward to allow better vision.
- If the condition is severe, the child's sight may not develop properly and the child can develop "lazy eye"—a condition where the brain only uses the images from the good eye.
- Most children with this condition have normal intelligence and functioning.
- If the condition interferes with sight, surgery is needed and can correct eyesight.



Ptosis is a condition where a child's eyelid droops.



Simple ptosis does not affect a child's intelligence.





TREATMENT:

- **Surgery is usually required to correct ptosis.**
- **It is important to do surgery as early as possible if the eyelid is not allowing the child to see—as the child may lose the ability to see after a few years.**
- **Children with this condition should be seen by an eye doctor.**



Following surgery a child's eyes can appear normal.



Early treatment is important to a child's sight.