

What You Need to Know

Glaucoma is the second leading cause of blindness around the world, so it is important to understand its significance and treatment options. While glaucoma is not curable, there are several treatments that will help control the disease, including medication and/or surgery. This brochure will help you understand what you need to know now to preserve your vision.

You play an important role in the management of your glaucoma. It is important to follow your eye doctor's advice and adhere to the treatment plan developed for you.

If you have any questions regarding glaucoma or your treatment, speak with your eye doctor.



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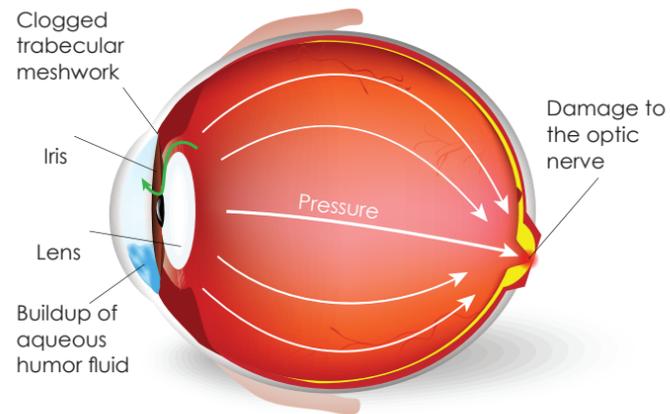
KNOW
NOW

What You Know About Glaucoma Could Save Your Sight



What Is Glaucoma?

Glaucoma is a disease that damages a nerve in the back of your eye called the optic nerve. The optic nerve sends signals to your brain that enable you to see. If left untreated, glaucoma will cause a slow but steady loss of vision.



Glaucoma is caused by a buildup of fluid inside your eye. This buildup can happen because of a block in the outflow pathway, where fluid normally drains out of the eye to maintain normal pressure. The blockage results in an increase in pressure, which damages the optic nerve.

What Are the Symptoms of Glaucoma?

Glaucoma has no early warning signs. Most patients do not know they have it until they visit their eye doctor. Untreated glaucoma can cause a gradual, sometimes undetectable, loss of vision starting in your peripheral vision. Visit your eye doctor regularly to monitor your eye pressure and your vision, and follow your treatment regimen.



Healthy Vision



Early Glaucoma



Advanced Glaucoma

Treatment Options for Glaucoma

Glaucoma treatment has advanced significantly in recent years. Your eye doctor will discuss your options and recommend what is best for you, such as one or more of the following treatments:

- Prescription eye drops
- Laser surgery
- Goniotomy
- Glaucoma implant surgery
- Glaucoma filtering surgery