

Droopy eye lids

(Ptosis)

Information for parents from
the 3V2 Eye Clinic

A droopy eye lid may hinder or harm your child's vision.
We can tell you if your child will benefit from treatment.

What is a droopy eye lid?

A droopy eye lid is when the upper eye lid is lower than normal. The medical term for this is Ptosis (said like “toe-sis”).

The droopy eye lid may cover part or all of the pupil, the dark centre of the eye.

A droopy eye lid can:

- **occur in one or both eyes**
- **be inherited**
- **be present at birth or develop later in life**

Why is this important?

If the pupil is blocked, no light enters the eye and no images are sent to the vision centres in the brain. As a result, the vision in that eye may not develop normally. This condition is called amblyopia.

Is the droopy eye lid affecting my child’s vision?

We will check how well your child sees with each eye and whether the vision is weaker in one eye than the other.

We will also check if the droopy eye lid actually covers the pupil. If it does, we need to know how often this occurs during the day.

This information helps us decide whether the droopy eye lid is preventing vision from developing normally.

Does my child need treatment?

If the droopy eye lid is not causing any vision problems, no treatment is needed. However, we will need to re-check your child's eyes regularly. Your child should have a follow-up appointment at the Eye Clinic in a few months.

If the droopy eye lid could prevent vision from developing normally, surgery is needed to lift the eye lid. The doctor will give you more information if surgery is recommended for your child.

Is it OK for my child to tip his/her head back to see?

Your child may tip his or her head back to watch TV, look at objects or walk. This position lets your child see from under the droopy eye lid. Do not stop your child from tipping his or her head back, as this lets your child continue to see with both eyes.

If your child suddenly stops tipping his or her head back, call the Eye Clinic right away. The droopiness may have become worse and your child has given up trying to use that eye. Urgent surgery may be needed to raise the eye lid.

**If you have questions or concerns please call the
Eye Clinic at 905-521-2100, ext 72400.**

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