



For more information, please contact

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WHAT IS AMBLYOPIA?

- Amblyopia is a central nervous system disorder in which the vision in one or both eyes is reduced because the eye and brain are not working together properly.
- It is the most common cause of visual impairment in children. It affects an average of one child in every classroom.
- Amblyopia can only develop in the first few years of life, and is typically caused by unequal eye power, misaligned eyes, or blockage of vision.
- Unless it is successfully treated in early childhood, amblyopia usually persists into adulthood.
- The National Eye Institute reports that amblyopia is the leading cause of vision loss in one eye in the 20 to 70- year-old age group.

HOW IS AMBLYOPIA TREATED?

- To correct amblyopia, the weak eye must be made stronger. This is usually done by patching or covering the strong eye.
- Glasses may be prescribed to correct vision errors.
- Amblyopia may also be treated by blurring the vision in the good eye with special eye drops or lenses to make the child use the amblyopic eye.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO TREAT IT NOW?

- Treating by age five is critical, because early treatment can usually reverse this disorder.