

WHAT IS CATARACT?

A cataract is the clouding of the lens of the eye that makes it hard to see. Cataracts can affect one or both eyes. Cataracts are common in older people.

RISK FACTORS OF A CATARACT

The risk of a cataract increases with age. Other risk factors include:

- Some diseases such as diabetes
- Smoking
- Alcohol use
- Prolonged exposure to sunlight

SIGNS OF A CATARACT

Signs of a cataract develop slowly over time.

- Cloudy or blurry vision
- A halo is seen around lights or lights are too bright
- Poor night vision
- Double vision
- Colors seem faded

YOUR CARE

See an eye doctor if you have any signs. Your doctor will do an eye exam to check for problems. If your vision problems interfere with your daily activities, your doctor may suggest surgery. Surgery removes the cloudy lens and replaces it with an artificial lens. You and your doctor will decide together if surgery is the best treatment option for you.

Your lens may cloud slowly over time, so you may not need surgery for years. Your doctor may suggest new glasses, brighter lighting, UV protection sunglasses or magnifying lenses to improve your vision. Be sure to have regular eye exams so that you and your doctor can discuss when surgery is needed.

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR VISION

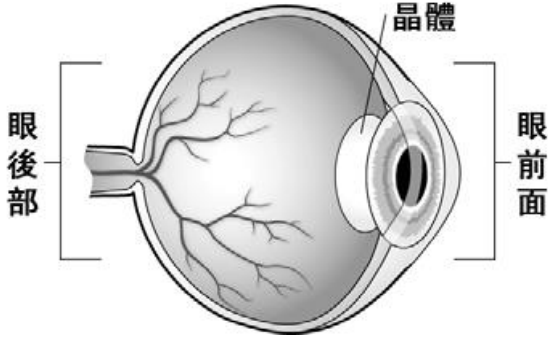
- If you are age 60 or older, have an eye exam with dilation at least every two years
- Eat plenty of green, leafy vegetables, fruits, and other foods with antioxidants
- Wear sunglasses and a hat to block ultraviolet sunlight
- Manage diabetes with the help of your doctor and dietitian
- Quit smoking
- Limit alcohol

Talk to your doctor or nurse if you have any questions or concerns.

Sources:

- The Ohio State University Medical Center
- Mount Carmel Health
- www.healthinfotranslations.org
- Medline Plus

請注意，此信息並不是用作診斷健康問題或用作取代專業醫護人員的意見。若您根據此信息作出任何決定，東北醫療中心不會就此承擔任何責任。
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甚麼是白內障?

白內障是指眼睛的晶體出現混濁，造成視力減弱。白內障可發生於單眼或雙眼，是老年人的常見病。

白內障的風險因素

白內障的風險隨年齡而增加。其他風險因素包括：

- 糖尿病等疾病
- 吸煙
- 飲酒
- 長期日曬

白內障的症狀

白內障的症狀是逐步加重的。

- 視力渾濁或模糊
- 看燈光時四週有光環，或覺得燈光過於明亮
- 夜間視力差
- 重影
- 看顏色偏淡

白內障護理

如果出現白內障的症狀，要去看眼科醫生。醫生會檢查眼睛是否有問題。如果視力問題影響到日常生活，醫生可能會建議做手術。透過手術摘除混濁的晶體，換上人工晶體。手術是否為最佳治療選擇，要由您和醫生共同決定。

晶體變混濁的速度可能很慢，因此可能多年後才需要手術。醫生可能建議更換新眼鏡、換用更亮的燈具、戴防紫外線的太陽眼鏡或使用放大鏡來改善視力。務必定期檢查眼睛，以便和醫生討論何時需要手術。

如何保護視力

- 年滿60歲後，至少每兩年作一次散瞳眼睛檢查
- 多吃帶葉綠色蔬菜、水果和其他含抗氧化劑的食物
- 外出時戴太陽眼鏡和帽子，防止紫外線照射
- 在醫生和營養師的幫助下，妥善控制糖尿病
- 戒煙
- 少飲酒

如果有任何疑問或擔心，請諮詢醫生或護士。

資料來源：

- The Ohio State University Medical Center
- Mount Carmel Health
- www.healthinfotranslations.org
- Medline Plus

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