# KEEP VISION IN YOUR FUTURE















#### **Objectives**

After this presentation, you will be able to explain:

- What glaucoma is
- How glaucoma affects vision
- The importance of early detection and treatment
- The exam that detects glaucoma







#### What is glaucoma?

 Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases that can damage the optic nerve.

 There are different forms of glaucoma.

 The most common form is primary open-angle glaucoma.







#### What are the effects of glaucoma?

#### Glaucoma can:

- Reduce side vision.
- Cause permanent vision loss or blindness.
- Affect one or both eyes.

I am 60, and I take care of my eyes so I can be independent.



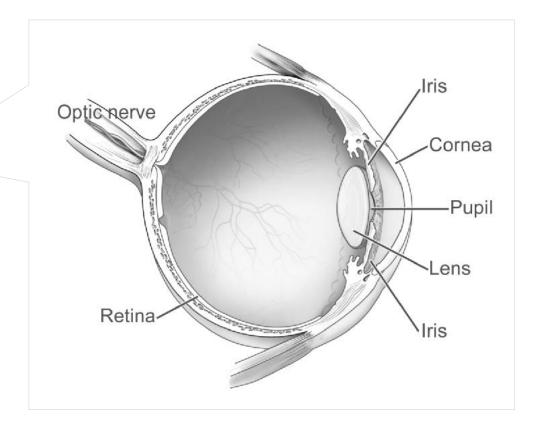






#### What causes glaucoma?









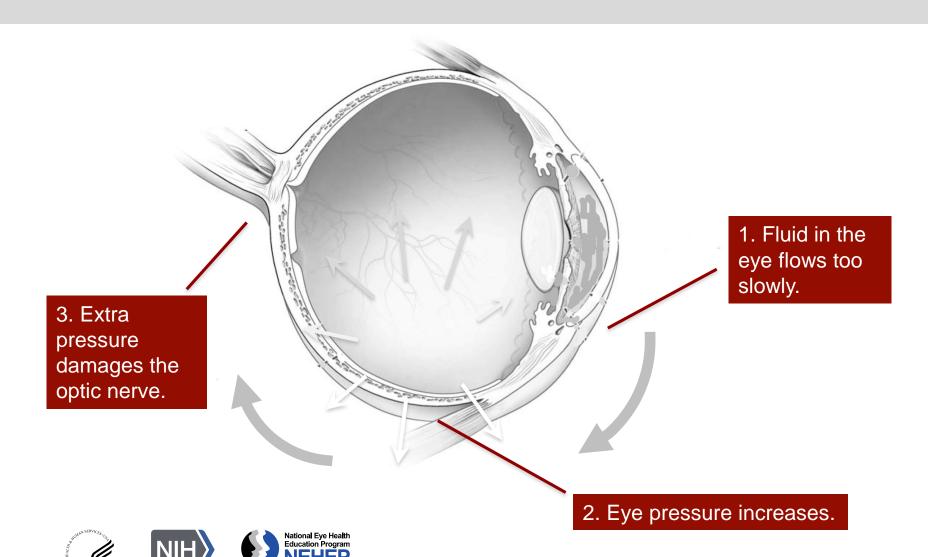


#### What causes glaucoma?

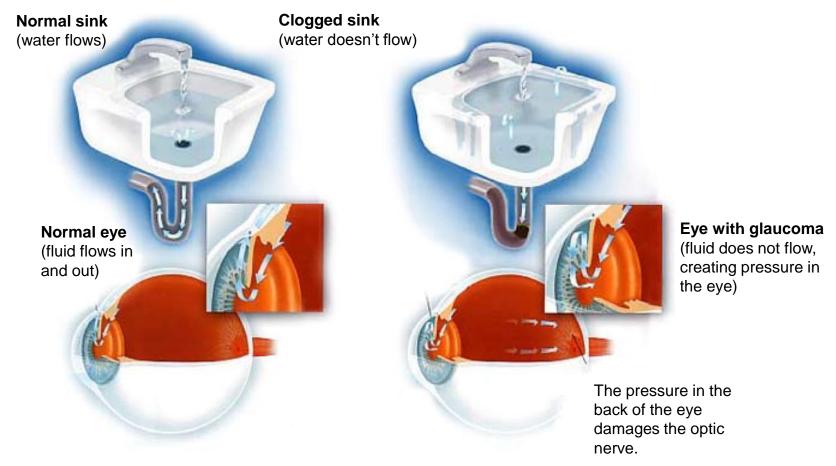
A program of the National

Institutes of Health

National Eye Institute



#### What causes glaucoma?







#### How common is glaucoma?

Almost 3 million people in the U.S. have glaucoma, and half of them don't even know it.









#### Who can get glaucoma?

#### Anyone can get glaucoma.









#### Who is at higher risk for glaucoma?

- African Americans age
  40 and older
- Adults age 60 and older, especially Hispanics/Latinos
- Those with a family history of glaucoma









#### What other factors can cause glaucoma?

- Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Previous eye injury









#### What are the symptoms of glaucoma?

- At first, glaucoma has no symptoms.
- As the condition progresses, side vision may be lost.





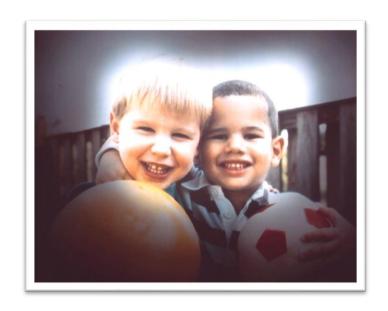




## How does your vision change with advanced glaucoma?



Normal vision



Vision with advanced glaucoma







#### How is glaucoma detected?



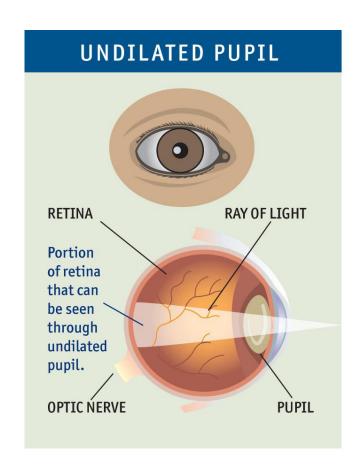
Glaucoma can be detected with a comprehensive dilated eye exam. Screening for eye pressure is not enough.

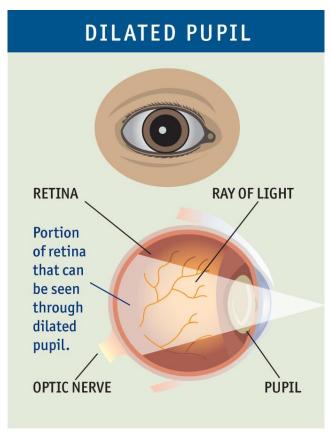






#### The undilated and dilated pupil



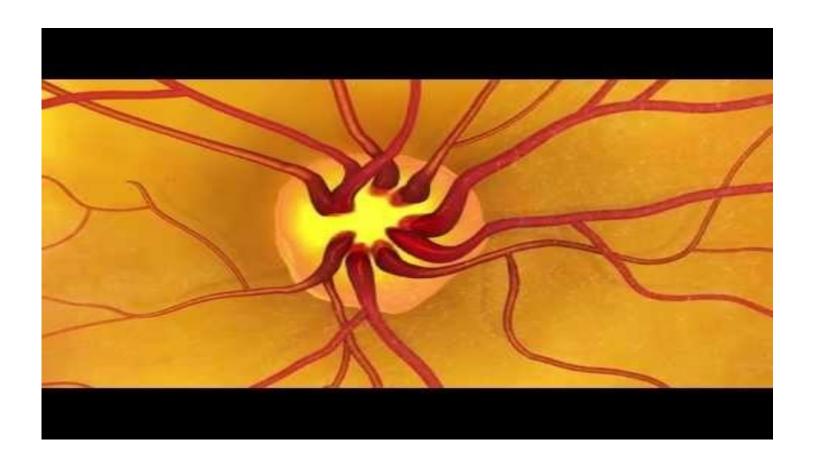








## What does glaucoma look like during a dilated eye exam?



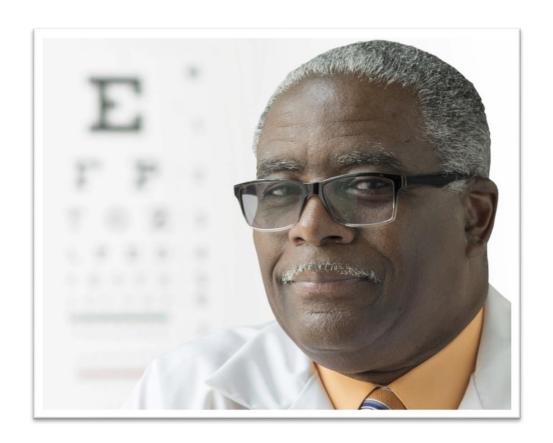






#### How is glaucoma treated?

- Medications
- Laser surgery
- Traditional surgery









#### What can you do to protect your vision?

- Visit your eye care professional for a comprehensive dilated eye exam every 1 to 2 years.
- Follow your doctor's instructions for managing diabetes and hypertension.
- Wear protective eyewear in the workplace and during sports and recreational activities.









#### What should you remember?

- Glaucoma:
  - Often has no symptoms.
  - Can result in vision loss or blindness.
- Only an eye care professional can diagnose glaucoma.
- Vision loss from glaucoma cannot be restored.

My eye care professional told me my eye pressure is fine.



I am glad to hear that! This means you can keep coaching your son's football team!







#### What are your next steps?

- Find out if you have a family history of glaucoma.
- Schedule your comprehensive dilated eye exam.
- Learn about the Medicare benefit that can help pay for part of an exam. Visit: www.nei.nih.gov/Medicare.









#### How can you help your family and friends?

- Spread the word!
- Encourage other people to visit their eye care professional.
- Tell them to ask for a comprehensive dilated eye exam.













### **Questions?**







#### Where can you get more information?





www.nei.nih.gov/glaucoma