



Gradual vision loss

Glaucoma is the second leading cause of blindness in the world. It is considered the “silent thief” of sight because the loss of vision usually happens very gradually over time and might not be noticed until it has caused significant damage.

It is important to schedule regular eye exams to ensure that your eyes are healthy and you will continue to see well your entire life.

Mon - Thurs 7am - 6pm

Fri 9am - 5pm

Sat 8am - 1pm

SPRINGFIELD LOCATIONS

2741 Prairie Crossing Dr. • 121 N. Grand Ave. W.
217-528-3233 • vision-care.com • 



VISION CARE
ASSOCIATES

You'll like what you see.



GLAUCOMA



VISION CARE
ASSOCIATES

You'll like what you see.

Schedule regular exams

Vision Care staff, technology, and equipment are dedicated to protecting and maximizing your vision. For a patient with glaucoma, the Vision Care doctor will monitor the patient over regular intervals with equipment to lower the risk of vision loss.

1. **OCT** — The optical coherence tomographer scans the inside of the eye giving the doctor a cross-section, detailed image to determine if any change has occurred with glaucoma.
2. **Threshold Visual Field** — A test to measure the sensitivity of the patient's peripheral vision.
3. **Tonometry** — This is a measurement of internal eye pressure, using either an air puff or gentle contact with the eye.
4. **Fundus Photography** — High-resolution digital photography for patients with glaucoma compares eye health from one visit to the next.
5. **Pachymetry** — Cornea thickness is measured by this procedure. A thin cornea results in an artificially low pressure reading and is correlated with glaucoma.
6. **Gonioscopy** — Measuring the internal drainage of the eye, this test determines if the glaucoma is open, narrow, or closed-angle glaucoma. This angle is shown on the eye diagram.



Signs of glaucoma become more severe the longer a person has the disease if treatment by a Vision Care doctor is not initiated early.



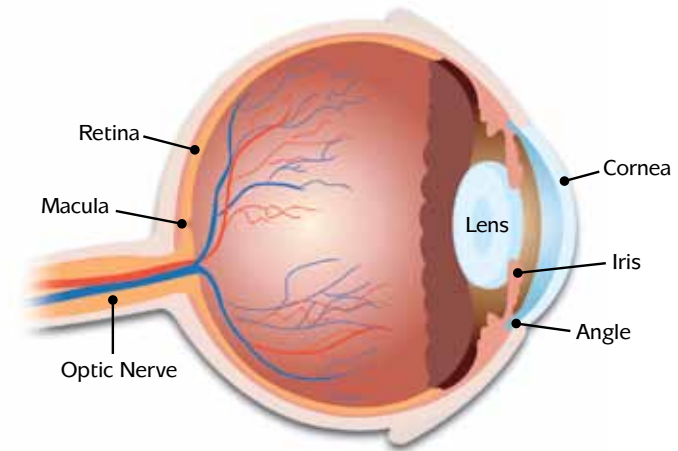
Mild: Some tunneling of vision becomes noticeable.



Moderate: Tunnel vision and dimness of vision is more pronounced.



Severe: Vision is restricted significantly with highly defined tunnel vision.



What causes glaucoma?

Causes of glaucoma are complex, but in general it is caused by poor circulation around the optic nerve. The result is loss of cells carrying a person's vision from the eyes to the brain.

Glaucoma's impact on vision

Glaucoma causes irreversible damage to the optic nerve. Because the optic nerve is the carrier of vision to the brain, the result is that sections of a person's vision gradually and permanently go dim.

Treatment for glaucoma

The most common treatment for glaucoma is long-term daily eye drops to maintain lower eye pressure. In cases where the drops are insufficient, surgery is performed to achieve lower eye pressure.

The main goal with treatment of glaucoma is to prevent further damage. Your Vision Care doctor will regularly check the optic nerve structure by OCT, the visual field, and the eye pressure.