

Pseudostrabismus

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What is pseudostrabismus?

Pseudostrabismus is when the eye shape or position gives the appearance of a squint; it usually looks like the eye is turning inwards. A good example can be seen in the picture below.

What causes pseudostrabismus?

Pseudostrabismus is caused by an excess of skin at the inner part of each eye covering the white of the eyes. This is particularly noticeable if your child looks to one side or at something close up to their face. The excess skin at the inner part of each eye called an epicanthic fold. The main cause of the excess skin is the flat nose bridge that developing children have, although some ethnic groups such as Asian ethnicities are more likely to have epicanthic folds later into childhood and even adulthood.



What are the symptoms?

There are no symptoms of pseudostrabismus.

How is it diagnosed?

Pseudostrabismus can be diagnosed by any ocular specialist, including the following:

- Ophthalmologist
- Orthoptist
- Optometrist

How is it treated?

Pseudostrabismus does not require any treatment and will not affect your child's vision or visual development. Pseudostrabismus usually becomes less noticeable as children develop.

Possible effects of treatment

Not applicable.

Follow up

The eye department may follow up with you if there are any concerns or if there is an issue such as a strong family history of wearing glasses or squint.

Further information

If you would like any further information, please contact the orthoptic department on 01271 322469.

Or visit the American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus website available at <https://aapos.org/terms/conditions/88>

References

Picture taken from-AAPOS, Pseudostrabismus [online] Available at: <https://aapos.org/terms/conditions/88>. [Accessed 21/10/16]

PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) ensures that the NHS listens to patients, relatives, carers and friends, answers questions and resolves concerns as quickly as possible. If you have a query or concern call 01271 314090 or email rduh.pals-northern@nhs.net. You can also visit the PALS and Information Centre in person at North Devon District Hospital, Barnstaple.

Have your say

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Tell us about your experience of our services. Share your feedback on the Care Opinion website www.careopinion.org.uk.

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