

# Pseudo squint

Patient Information and guidance

The prevention of infection is a major priority in all healthcare and everyone has a part to play.

- Please decontaminate your hands frequently for 20 seconds using soap and water or alcohol gel if available
- If you have symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting, cough or other respiratory symptoms, a temperature or any loss of taste or smell please do not visit the hospital or any other care facility and seek advice from 111
- Keep the environment clean and tidy
- Let's work together to keep infections out of our hospitals and care homes.

## What is a Pseudo squint?

A Pseudo squint is the appearance of a squint (turn of the eye), but in fact the eyes are straight (Figure 3 and 4). It can sometimes appear in young children, due to their facial bones not being fully developed and can often be seen in photographs.

## What is a True squint?

A true squint, also known as strabismus, is an eye misalignment where the eyes can be turning inwards, outwards, upwards or downwards.

## Examples of a True squint:



Figure 1 is an inward turn in the Left eye.



Figure 2 is an outward turn in the Right eye.

## What causes a Pseudo-squint?

The most common cause of a pseudo-squint is facial features that give the impression of a squint, including:

- Wide or flat nasal bridge
- Folds of skin on the inner corner of the eyes (Figure 3)
- Eyes naturally close together

As your child grows and facial features develop the appearance of the squint looks less noticeable.

## Examples of Pseudo-squints

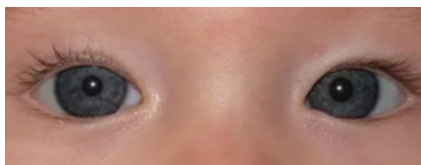


Figure 3: Pseudo-inward of the left eye



Figure 4: Pseudo-outward of the right eye

## How is a Pseudo-squint diagnosed?

The Orthoptist will check the alignment of your child's eyes and ensure there is no real squint. They will also ensure your child's eyes are working together as a pair and that the vision in both eyes is equal.

## Does a Pseudo-squint need to be treated?

No treatment is needed for a pseudo-squint because the eyes are straight. Treatments such as glasses, patching or surgery are only necessary if a true squint or vision problem is found.

## Can a true squint develop later?

Yes – there is still a possibility a true squint can develop later in life.

### **Risk factors of developing a true squint:**

- Typical age of onset is 2-5 years of age
- There is a family history of squints or childhood vision problems
- A squint is noticed occasionally, rather than all the time
- You notice a new or increase in eye turn

**If no true squint or risk to your child's visual development is found, then they will be discharged to the care of your local optician and the GP.**

**It is recommended that children undergo annual routine sight checks from the age of 3 onwards. This can be arranged with your Community Optician. Some areas also provide a Vision Screening Service in school between the ages of 4-5yrs of age.**

## Contact details

If you have any queries about your child's treatment, please contact the Orthoptic Department **01902 695830**.

## English

If you need information in another way like easy read or a different language please let us know.

If you need an interpreter or assistance please let us know.

## Lithuanian

Jeigu norėtumėte, kad informacija jums būtų pateikta kitu būdu, pavyzdžiui, supaprastinta forma ar kita kalba, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Jeigu jums reikia vertėjo ar kitos pagalbos, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

## Polish

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać te informacje w innej postaci, na przykład w wersji łatwej do czytania lub w innym języku, prosimy powiedzieć nam o tym.

Prosimy poinformować nas również, jeżeli potrzebowałiby Państwo usługi tłumaczenia ustnego lub innej pomocy.

## Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਪੜ੍ਹਨ ਵਿਚ ਆਸਾਨ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੂਜੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ, ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਜਾਂ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

## Romanian

Dacă aveți nevoie de informații în alt format, ca de exemplu caractere ușor de citit sau altă limbă, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret sau de asistență, vă rugăm să ne informați.

## Traditional Chinese

如果您需要以其他方式了解信息，如易读或其他语种，请告诉我们。

如果您需要口译人员或帮助，请告诉我们。

Designed & Produced by the Department of Clinical Illustration,  
New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton, WV10 0QP Tel: 01902 695377.