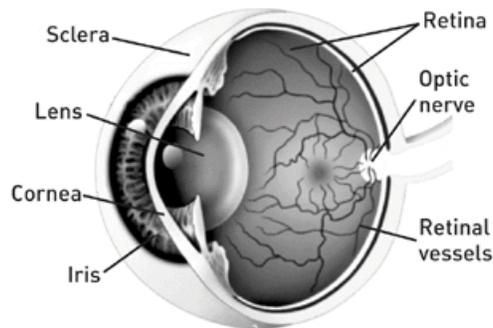


Vision Conditions that Require Corrective Lenses

Myopia, also known as shortsightedness or nearsightedness, is a condition in which distant objects appear out of focus. Myopia occurs when the physical length of the eye is greater than the optical length, causing the visual image to focus in front of the retina instead of directly onto it. This condition cannot be prevented but can easily be corrected by eyeglasses, contact lenses, or a surgical procedure such as LASIK.

Hyperopia, also known as farsightedness, is a condition in which nearby objects appear out of focus. Hyperopia occurs when the eyeball is too small or the eye's focusing power is too weak, causing the visual image to focus behind the retina instead of directly onto it. This condition cannot be prevented but can easily be corrected by eyeglasses, contact lenses, or a surgical procedure.



Presbyopia is a condition in which the lens loses some of its focusing power over time, which diminishes a person's ability to see nearby objects. Presbyopia develops with increasing age, and usually begins to have a noticeable effect on vision around the age of 45. This condition cannot be prevented but can be corrected by eyeglasses or contact lenses.

Astigmatism is a condition in which the cornea of the eye is asymmetrically curved, causing vision to be out of focus. Astigmatism is very common, frequently occurs in conjunction with nearsightedness or farsightedness, and is usually present from birth. It can affect either close or far-range vision. This condition cannot be prevented but can usually be corrected by glasses or hard contact lenses (soft contact lenses do not work as well).