

Author(s): Kate Saylor, 2011

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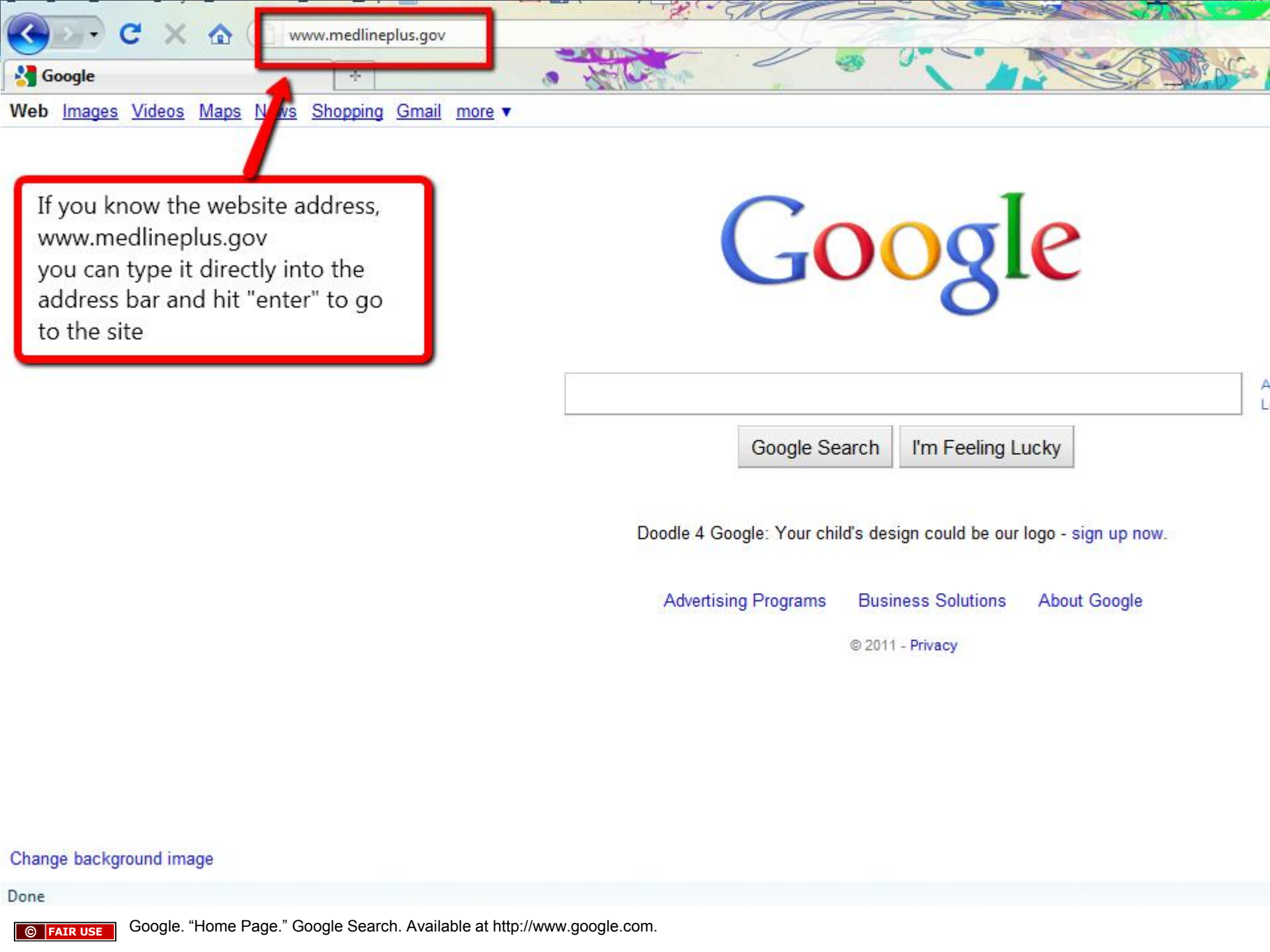
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Includes information about:

- Diseases and conditions
- Wellness
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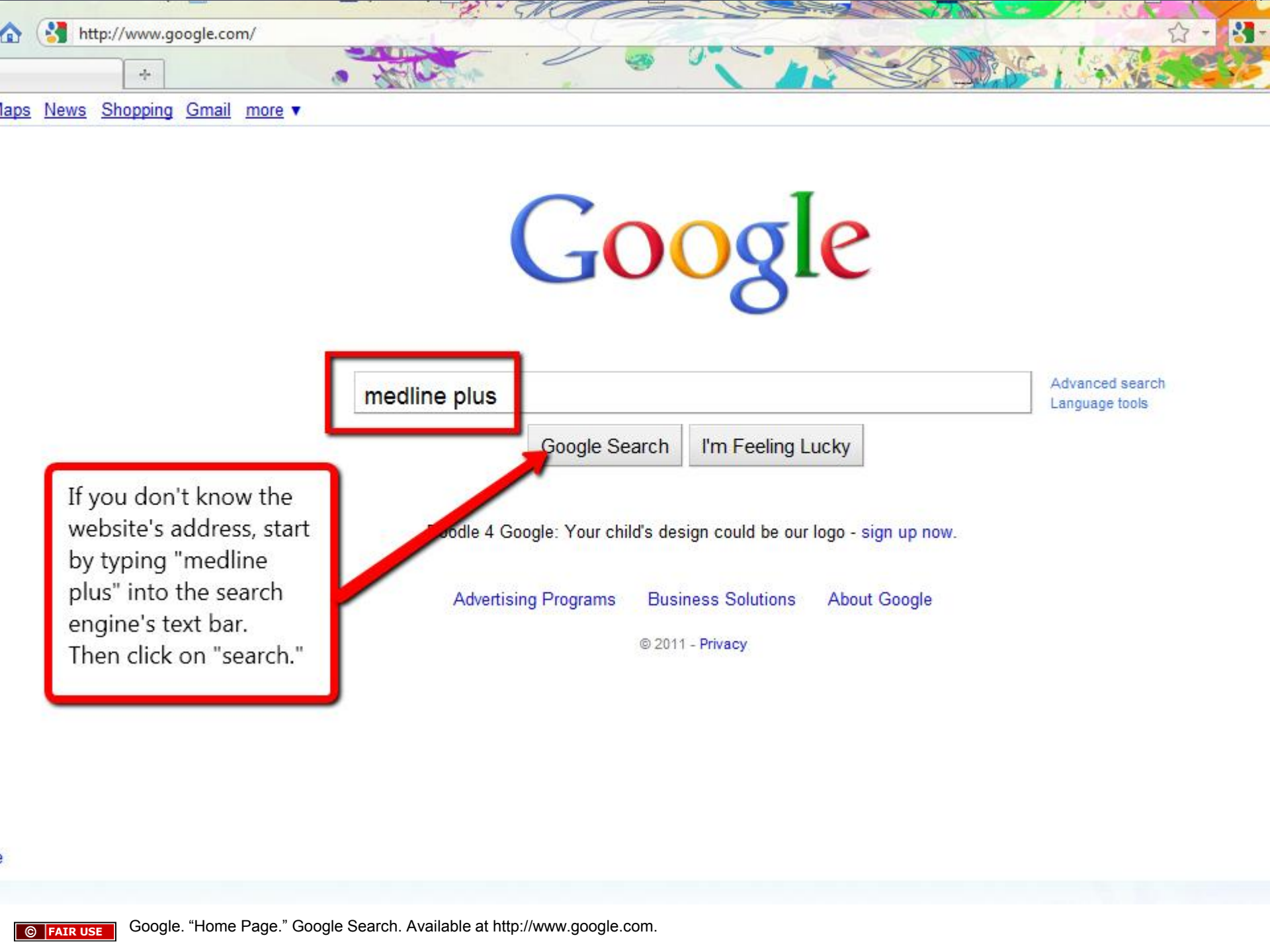
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Glaucoma damages the eye's optic nerve. It is a leading cause of blindness in the United States. It usually happens when the fluid pressure inside the eyes slowly rises, damaging the optic nerve. Often there are no symptoms at first, but a comprehensive eye exam can detect it.

People at risk should get eye exams at least every two years. They include [Read more](#)

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Glaucoma

Scroll down for links to more glaucoma-related topics

Glaucoma damages the eye's optic nerve. It is a leading cause of [blindness](#) in the United States. It usually happens when the fluid pressure inside the eyes slowly rises, damaging the optic nerve. Often there are no symptoms at first, but a comprehensive eye exam can detect it.

People at risk should get eye exams at least every two years. They include

- African Americans over age 40
- People over age 60, especially Mexican Americans
- People with a family history of glaucoma

Early treatment can help protect your eyes against vision loss. Treatments usually include prescription eyedrops and/or surgery.



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- [Types of Glaucoma](#) (Glaucoma Foundation)

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Maybe you are interested in treatments for glaucoma.

Click on the first link under the heading "Treatment" to see information on glaucoma treatment.

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Do you know the difference between ophthalmologists, optometrists and opticians? Many people don't.

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An ophthalmologist uses a YAG laser.

If you have advanced open-angle glaucoma and other treatments have failed, you may be a good candidate for cyclophotocoagulation.

What it is:

This laser surgery is used to reduce the amount of fluid entering the eye. This helps lessen eye pressure for people with glaucoma.

What You Can Expect:

This is an outpatient laser surgery. There may be some pain or discomfort afterwards.

Who Is a Good Candidate:

If you have advanced open-angle glaucoma and other treatments have failed, you may be a good candidate for cyclophotocoagulation.

In-Depth Information:

What It's For

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Cyclophotocoagulation is generally used to treat advanced or aggressive open-angle glaucoma. It is usually used after other treatments have proven unsuccessful.

In open-angle glaucoma, the eye's aqueous humor (the clear liquid that circulates inside the front portion of the eye) does not drain properly. This causes pressure to build up within the eye. The medical term for this pressure is intraocular pressure. Such pressure inside the eye may damage

Here is the basic information that is provided about this treatment.

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Glaucoma: MedlinePlus

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Now you might want to look at other treatment options.

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Eyedrop Tips

Prescription eye drops for glaucoma help keep your eye at a healthy level and are a part of the treatment routine for many people. If you are having difficulty,

Remember:

- Follow your doctor's orders.
- Be sure your doctor knows about any other drugs you may be taking (including over-the-counter items like vitamins, aspirin, and herbal supplements) and about any allergies you may have.
- Wash your hands before putting in your eye drops.
- Be careful not to let the tip of the dropper touch any part of your eye.
- Make sure the dropper stays clean.
- If you are putting in more than one drop or more than one type of eye drop, wait five minutes before putting the next drop in. This will keep the

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Glaucoma

Glaucoma damages the eye's optic nerve. In the United States, it usually happens slowly over time, damaging the optic nerve. A comprehensive eye exam can detect glaucoma before it causes vision loss.

People at risk should get eye exams more often.

- African Americans over age 40
- People over age 60, especially African Americans
- People with a family history of glaucoma

Early treatment can help protect your eyes against vision loss. Treatments usually include prescription eyedrops and/or surgery.

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Then try using what you have learned to search for a different health condition, symptom, or medication.



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