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MedlinePlus Keyword Search

A “how-to” guide to searching for health information on MedlinePlus

Taubman Health Sciences Library
University of Michigan
What is MedlinePlus?

MedlinePlus is the National Institute of Health’s website for patients and their friends and family, produced by the National Library of Medicine.

Includes information about:

• Diseases and conditions
• Wellness
• Treatments, drugs, and supplements
• Meanings of words
If you know the website address, www.medlineplus.gov you can type it directly into the address bar and hit "enter" to go to the site
If you don't know the website's address, start by typing "medline plus" into the search engine's text bar. Then click on "search."
Click on the MedlinePlus link to view the MedlinePlus website.
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)
The first result is a broad topic overview from the National Library of Medicine. Click on the title, "Glaucoma" to see the entire entry.

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.

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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:

- 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.
Maybe you are interested in treatments for glaucoma.

Click on the first link under the heading "Treatment" to see information on glaucoma treatment.
Cyclophotocoagulation
A laser surgery to treat glaucoma

Other Treatments
Glaucoma Eyedrops
Glaucoma Filtration Surgery

Eligible for a free eye exam?
See if you Qualify

Find an Eye M.D.

Do you know who is taking care of your eyes?
Do you know the difference between ophthalmologists, optometrists and opticians? Many people don't.

Learn more from the...

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:
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
Now you might want to look at other treatment options.

To get back to the original article, click on the MedlinePlus tab.
Click on the second link under the heading "Treatment" for more treatment information.
Eyedrop Tips

Prescription eye drops for glaucoma can help maintain your eye at a healthy level and continue your 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 eye from being too full.

Explore the site by clicking on links that interest you.
To get back to the original MedlinePlus Glaucoma article, click on the tab.

Prescription eye drops for glaucoma help maintain the pressure in your eye at a healthy level and are an important part of the treatment routine for many people. Always check with your doctor 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.
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Now you know how to do a MedlinePlus search!

Continue to explore this topic by clicking on other links.

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