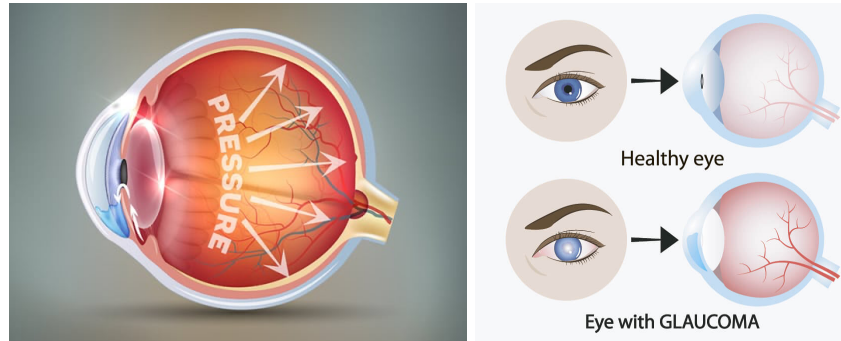


Glaucoma

Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases that damage the optic nerve, which sends visual information from the eyes to the brain. This damage is often caused by increased pressure inside the eye (intraocular pressure), although it can also occur with normal eye pressure.

Glaucoma is **one of the leading causes of permanent vision loss** because it often develops slowly without noticeable symptoms in the early stages.



Types of Glaucoma:

1. **Open-Angle Glaucoma (Most Common)**
 - When the eye's drainage system slowly becomes less efficient over time, causing pressure inside the eye to increase gradually.
 - Commonly develops without pain or early warning signs.
 - Symptoms: Gradual loss of peripheral (side) vision, difficulty seeing in dim lighting, tunnel vision in advanced stages.
2. **Angle-Closure Glaucoma**
 - When the drainage angle inside the eye becomes blocked suddenly, causing a rapid increase in eye pressure.
 - Symptoms: severe eye pain, redness, blurred vision, halos around lights, headaches, nausea and vomiting.
3. **Normal-Tension Glaucoma**
 - When optic nerve damage develops despite eye pressures being within the normal range
 - Reduced blood flow to the optic nerve may play a role.
4. **Secondary Glaucoma**
 - Occurs as a result of another condition, injury, medication, or inflammation.
 - Common causes: Eye trauma, diabetes, long-term steroid use, eye inflammation
5. **Congenital Glaucoma**
 - A rare type of glaucoma present at birth caused by abnormal development of the eye's drainage system.
 - Symptoms: excessive tearing, sensitivity to light, cloudy corneas, enlarged eyes

Treatments Include:

- **Prescription Eye Drops:** Reduce eye pressure by decreasing fluid production or improving drainage.
- **Laser Treatment:** Procedures such as SLT or LPI improve drainage and lower eye pressure.
- **Oral Medications:** May be prescribed to further reduce eye pressure.
- **Surgery:** If needed, procedures such as MIGS, trabeculectomy, or drainage implants help improve fluid drainage and protect vision.

Early diagnosis and treatment are key to preserving vision and preventing permanent damage.

Glaucoma often develops without noticeable symptoms until significant vision loss has already occurred. Routine comprehensive eye examinations allow our doctors to detect glaucoma early using advanced technology and testing.

Testing May Include:

- Eye pressure measurements
- Optic nerve imaging
- Visual field testing
- Corneal thickness measurements
- Retinal imaging

At Inspire Vision Development Centre, we use advanced technology to detect and monitor glaucoma, helping protect your vision for the future. Contact our **Orangeville** or **Brampton** clinic to book your comprehensive eye exam and glaucoma screening.

Contact Us:

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