



**Bedfordshire
Community
Health Services**



Duane's Retraction Syndrome

Bedfordshire Children's Eye Services



Bedfordshire adult and children's community health services are provided in partnership by East London NHS Foundation Trust (ELFT) and Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS) NHS Trust

What is Duane's Retraction Syndrome?

This condition is present at birth. Girls are more often affected than boys and the left eye more commonly affected than the right eye.

The causes of Duane's Retraction Syndrome

Each human eye has six muscles around it which coordinate with the muscles of the other eye to allow the eyes to move together to look in different directions. To make the eyes move, each muscle must receive an impulse from a nerve in the eye.

Duane's Syndrome occurs when:

- either one of the eye muscles is not working properly;
- the eye muscle is attached to the wrong place;
- the nerve supplying one of the eye muscles is not functioning properly.

It is difficult to find out the exact cause of each individual child's Duane's Syndrome.

Features of Duane's Retraction Syndrome

What is most commonly noticed by parents is that one eye does not move outwards properly.

Another sign of Duane's Syndrome is that the affected eye appears smaller as the eye moves towards the nose, and then appears larger as the eye moves outwards.

Parents may also notice that their child turns their head to look at books or TV, to adapt to the lack of eye movement in one direction. If this is the case it is advisable to make your child's teacher aware of this once they start school.

The future

As your child grows up, regular checks will show if there are any problems with your child's eyesight. Spectacle wear and the use of eye patches will be recommended if the Orthoptist detects reduced vision in your child's eyes.

Most children with Duane's Syndrome do not require any treatment at all, but Orthoptic checks are necessary to ensure that the child's vision remains good in each eye and that their eyes work together properly when looking straight ahead.

If you have any questions regarding the treatment of your child's eye condition please discuss them with the Orthoptist.

Additional information which you may find useful can be found here: www.squintclinic.com

For further information about this service contact:

Community Eye Service

Enhanced Service Centre
Bedford Health Village
3 Kimbolton Road
Bedford, MK40 2NT

Community Eye Service

Liverpool Road Health Centre
9 Mersey Place
Liverpool Road
Luton, LU1 1HH



Children's Community
Health HUB



**Your one stop
contact point**

Tel: 0300 555 0606

Email: ccs.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub@nhs.net

If you require this information in a different format such as in large print or on audio tape, or in a different language please contact the service on the details above.

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If you have any compliments about this service or suggestions for improvements, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service on 0300 131 1000 (charges may apply depending on your network) or email: ccs-tr.pals@nhs.net.

For free, confidential health advice and information 24 hours a day, 365 days a year please contact NHS 111.