



**Bedfordshire
Community
Health Services**



Marcus Gunn (Jaw Winking) 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 Marcus Gunn Syndrome?

This condition is usually present from birth, and usually affects one eye. It sometimes runs in families.

The causes of Marcus Gunn Syndrome

This condition occurs when the third cranial nerve, which normally supplies messages to the upper eye lid, also sends messages to the jaw muscles.

Features of Marcus Gunn Syndrome

The child will have one slightly droopy eye lid (Ptosis) which tends to go up and down when the child is eating/sucking. The affected eyelid goes up when the jaw is opened and moved to the opposite side.

How will it affect my child?

If the droopy eye lid covers over the pupil it can reduce the vision in the affected eye due to lack of visual stimulation. This may need to be treated by the Orthoptist. As the child becomes older they may avoid chewing on the affected side so that the 'winking' becomes less obvious.

Treatment

If the droopy eyelid is affecting the vision of the affected eye an operation to lift the eyelid can be performed. Sometimes this involves surgery to both eyes to maintain a similar appearance of both eyelids.

If the droopy eye lid is causing reduced vision in the affected eye then glasses and/or an eye patch over the good eye may also be needed.

If you have any other queries regarding the treatment of your child's eyes, please discuss these with the Orthoptist.

For further information about this service contact:

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

Orthoptic Clinic
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.