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### DIABETIC RETINOPATHY

Diabetic retinopathy is a complication of diabetes that affects the eyes. It is caused by damage to the blood vessels of the retina, the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye. The damage can lead to leakage of fluids and blood into the eye, which can cause swelling and blurring of vision. In severe cases, it can lead to blindness.

### CHILDHOOD BLINDNESS

Childhood blindness is a severe loss of vision that occurs before the age of 5. It is caused by a variety of factors, including congenital defects, infections, and trauma. It is a leading cause of blindness in children and can have a profound impact on a child's life.

### VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

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Visual impairment is a condition in which a person's vision is significantly reduced, making it difficult to see objects and people. It can be caused by a variety of factors, including aging, disease, and injury. It is a leading cause of disability in the world.

### GLAUCOMA

Glaucoma is a group of eye conditions that damage the optic nerve, which carries visual information from the eye to the brain. The most common type of glaucoma is open-angle glaucoma, which develops slowly and often without symptoms. It is a leading cause of blindness in the world.

## The Global Sight Initiative

The Global Sight Initiative is a leading organization dedicated to preventing and treating eye disease. It works to improve eye health and vision in low-income countries, where the need is greatest. The initiative focuses on a variety of eye conditions, including cataracts, trachoma, and diabetic retinopathy.

### CATARACT

Cataract is a clouding of the lens of the eye that gradually worsens over time. It is a leading cause of blindness in the world, particularly in older adults. It is caused by a variety of factors, including aging, disease, and injury. It is a preventable and treatable condition.

### TRACHOMA

Trachoma is an infectious disease that causes blindness. It is caused by the bacterium *Chlamydia trachomatis*. It is a leading cause of blindness in the world, particularly in low-income countries. It is a preventable and treatable condition.

### VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY

Vitamin A deficiency is a condition in which a person's body does not have enough vitamin A. It is a leading cause of blindness in the world, particularly in children. It is caused by a variety of factors, including poor diet and malabsorption. It is a preventable and treatable condition.

How would YOU go about it?



#### What is it?

It is a preventable and treatable condition that causes blindness. It is caused by a variety of factors, including poor diet and malabsorption.

#### Epidemiology

It is a leading cause of blindness in the world, particularly in low-income countries. It is caused by a variety of factors, including poor diet and malabsorption.

#### Management

It is a preventable and treatable condition. It is caused by a variety of factors, including poor diet and malabsorption.

#### What is it?

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# The Global Sight Initiative



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## What is Community Ophthalmology?

- Branch of medicine created in 1978
- Hospitals failed to provide preventive services to populations at risk of eye disease, leaving them to become blind due to **preventable causes**[1]
- Promotes eye health and prevention of visual impairment/blindness through programs

# Learning Objectives

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1. Define the terms blindness and poor vision
2. List causes of poor vision and blindness in the community
3. Describe the magnitude of blindness in the world community
4. Discuss the epidemiology of cataract and initiatives undertaken by the WHO in management of cataract patients
5. Discuss the importance of Vitamin A in maintenance of ocular health and describe the signs of Vitamin A deficiency with principles of its management
6. Identify clinical features of trachoma and its staging
7. Explain SAFE strategy implemented by the WHO

# VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

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# Visual Function

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There are 4 levels of visual function:

1. Normal vision
  2. Moderate visual impairment
  3. Severe visual impairment
  4. Blindness
- > Low Vision

Visual impairment includes both  
low vision & blindness

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## Low Vision

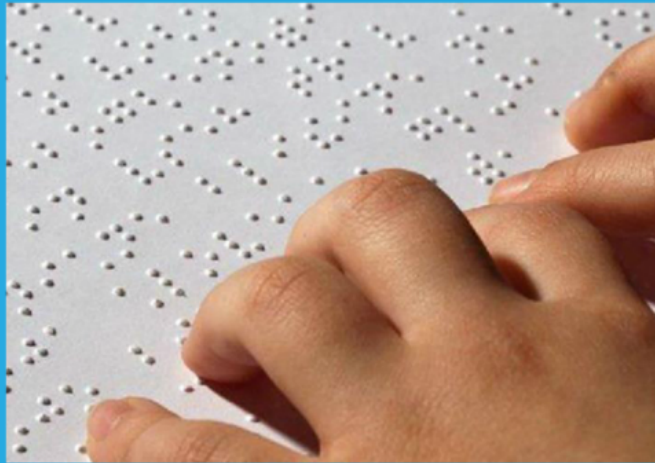
- A significant reduction in vision that cannot be corrected with medical glasses or contact lenses and reduces a person's ability to function at certain tasks[2]
- Visual acuity is **20/70 or poorer** in the better-seeing eye



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# Blindness

Visual acuity of **less than 3/60**, or a corresponding visual field loss to **less than 10°**, in the better eye with the best possible correction[3]





# Thecasesolutions.com Causes of Blindness

