

What is low vision?

Low vision is a severe impairment in eyesight that makes everyday tasks difficult. A person with low vision may find it difficult or impossible to accomplish activities such as reading, writing, watching television, recognizing faces, and crossing the street. People with low vision need help to learn how to use their remaining sight and keep their independence.

Who need low vision service?

When vision cannot be improved with regular eyeglasses, medicine, or surgery and if the person has the visual acuity of $<6/18$ to perception of light (PL) and has the visual field of <10 degree.

What is the impact of low vision?



Bumping into object



Blurred vision



Photosensitivity



Night blindness

Vision Rehabilitation centre at Aravind Eye Hospital

Vision Rehabilitation centre, Madurai has completed 10 years of its service for the cause of low vision patients. In our centre we assist people to gain a better understanding of their vision impairment and make the most of their

remaining sight. The main aim of our centre is to improve the quality of life, to make the person an independent and productive member in their family and society.

What can be done to help?

The vision Rehabilitation helps the persons with visual impairment compensate their vision loss and help them to use their remaining vision. Low vision device helps to improve the person's distant and near vision. Rehabilitation service helps to function better.

Low vision devices

Many devices can help people with low vision make the most of their remaining vision and to function better and enhance their quality of life. Different devices may be needed for different tasks. In our centre the low vision specialist perform a detailed vision analysis by using the LogMar chart. Distant vision is evaluated using telescopes. Highpowered spectacle magnifier, hand or stand magnifiers and the electronic devices may be used to evaluate near vision skills, like reading.

Highpower spectacle magnifier



Spectacle magnifiers are stronger than the ordinary power glass. It can be used for near tasks such as reading, threading a needle or any activity that requires close, detailed vision.

Hand magnifier

Hand magnifiers are available in varying strengths to suit different people and different tasks.



Stand magnifier

The facility to rest the magnifier over a page is useful for patients with a tremor or arthritis.

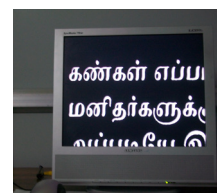
Telescope



Telescopes are used for seeing far away objects or signs. They can be handheld like a pair of regular binoculars or

mounted on a pair of eye glasses. It is mostly useful for children who have problem in seeing the blackboard writings.

CCTV



Video magnifiers are electronic devices that use a camera and television screen to enlarge printed material, pictures, or small objects.

They are adjustable and can enhance the material in different ways. For example, a video magnifier can make the print appear darker (increased contrast).

Rehabilitation service

Rehabilitation service helps the person with visual impairment to learn new strategies to perform their daily routine activities.

Vision stimulation



Encouraging the use of vision is vital for children with low vision as it enhances their development, education and experiences.

Vision stimulation exercise can help children use their remaining vision more effectively. The idea is that by performing these activities, the visual areas of the brain are stimulated to maximise the development of vision.

Educational guidance



Finding appropriate educational opportunities for visually impaired children can be quite a challenging task. The counsellor plays an important role to find

out the appropriate educational mode for the children with visual impairment.

Vocational guidance

The rehabilitation counsellor assists the person with visual impairment in finding out a suitable job and guide them to a proper institution for getting the prevocational training and for job placement.

Orientation and mobility

Orientation and Mobility training (O & M) helps a person with visual impairment know where he is in space (orientation) and helps him be able to carry out a plan to reach a place he wants to go (mobility).

The role of health professionals in low vision service uptake



Communication between eye care practitioners and their patients plays a critical role in patients' experiences of low vision services.

A specialist's assertion

that "nothing can be done" (from medical perspectives) is often falsely interpreted by the patient to mean that no service can help them. "By making referral a routine part of their treatment regimes, ophthalmologist and other health care providers can play an important role in encouraging more patients to use Low Vision and Rehabilitation Service."



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Tirunelveli - 627 001

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Avinashi Road, Coimbatore - 641 014

ARAVIND - PONDICHERRY

Cuddalore Main Road,
Thavalakuppam Junction, Pondicherry - 605 007

ARAVIND - DINDIGUL

31A, New Agraharam, Palani Road
Dindigul - 624 001

ARAVIND - TIRUPUR

Dharapuram Main Road,
Chettipalayam Post, Tirupur - 641 608

ARAVIND - SALEM

Kaliamman Kovil opp,
Sankagiri main road, Nethimedu,
Salem - 636 002

ARAVIND - TUTICORIN

Meenakshipuram West, Old Bus Stand Near,
Tuticorin - 628 002

ARAVIND - UDUMALPET

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Low vision Rehabilitation Centre



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