

Squint is not a sign of good luck. It affects your child's vision and appearance.



Loss of vision is preventable in children if squint is treated as early as possible, preferably before 2 years of age.

As the child grows older, it becomes more difficult to treat squint and regain the lost vision. However, cosmetically straightening the eye is possible at any age.

Squint

- Squint is a misalignment of the eye where the two eyes are pointed towards different directions
- The misalignment may be constant for a few, while it may be intermittently occurring for some others
- The deviation of the eye may be in any direction - inward, outward, upward or downward
- If the child is not treated at the appropriate time, a condition called amblyopia occurs, which eventually leads to permanent loss of vision

Amblyopia

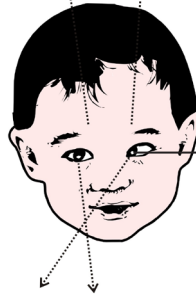
Suppression of blurred image



Brain rejects blurred image



Confusion results from super imposition of 2 dissimilar images



Squint in left eye



If untreated
Permanent loss
of vision in
squint eye

Causes of Squint

- Heredity
- Weakness of the eye muscles or problem in the nerves in the eye muscles
- Blurred or poor vision caused due to cataract, corneal scars, glaucoma, refractive errors, optic nerve disease, retinal disease, tumors of the eye etc.,
- Injuries

Symptoms of Squint

- One eye or both eyes pointing to different directions
- Children can have defective vision in one eye or both eyes
- Children with squint, sometimes close one eye in bright sunlight
- Some children turn their face or tilt their head in a specific direction in order to use their eyes together
- The child sometimes experiences double vision or confusion

Treatment to prevent permanent loss of vision

- Squint due to refractive errors is corrected by prescribing suitable spectacles
- Patching therapy: closing the normal eye helps in stimulating and improving vision in the squinting eye.

Surgical Treatment

- Surgical treatment is given to the child based upon the improvement in vision by spectacles correction and patching therapy
- The misaligned eyes can be straightened through surgery. In this surgery, the muscles are detached from their original insertion and shifted to a different spot. The amount of shift is based on the measurement done with special prisms

Before Surgery



After Surgery



- Surgery is usually done under general anaesthesia for children. It is ensured that the child is free from any illness like fever, common cold, cough etc., for subjecting to general anaesthesia
- Surgery is done either on both eyes simultaneously or one eye at a time
- Surgery is done on the white portion of the eyeball
- The eyeball is not opened
- Stay in the hospital is only for a day after the surgery
- Treatment does not stop with surgery. Glasses may have to be continued to maintain clarity of vision. Patching therapy may be needed to be continued for some time after the surgery

Early treatment for
Squint prevents
loss of sight


ARAVIND EYE HOSPITALS
& POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

ARAVIND - MADURAI

1, Anna Nagar, Madurai - 625 020

ARAVIND - THENI

Periyakulam Road, Theni - 625 531

ARAVIND - TIRUNELVELI

Swamy Nellaiappan High Road,
Tirunelveli - 627 001

ARAVIND - COIMBATORE

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

112, Dhalli Road, Opp Palaniandavar Mills
Udumalpet - 642 126

www.aravind.org

SQUINT



Is it a sign of
good luck or a
sight stealing
condition?