

Risk of glaucoma

Contributed by Administrator
Monday, 12 April 2004
Last Updated Wednesday, 14 November 2007

Risk of developing glaucoma: assessment to determine risk is advised.

The risk of developing glaucoma is affected by a variety of factors. If your optometrist has identified you as being at risk, an evaluation by an Ophthalmologist may be recommended to determine your chance of conversion to glaucoma. Glaucoma may be prevented with treatment, however not everybody is treated as occasionally glaucoma drops have side-effects. Therefore, if the risk of developing glaucoma is very low (for example, less than 5% risk in 5 years), then no treatment would be offered.

The following risks factors for glaucoma are listed:

- * family history of glaucoma
- * diabetes
- * migraine
- * short sightedness (also known as myopia)
- * eye injuries
- * blood pressure
- * past or present use of cortisone drugs (corticosteroids, eg steroid inhalers, steroid tablets such as prednisolone, steroid creams including chinese herbal creams).