

VISION SCREENINGS

When to Refer a Patient



Age	Tests	When to Refer
Newborn to 12 months	• Ocular history • Vision assessment • External inspection of the eyes and lids • Ocular motility assessment • Pupil examination • Red reflex examination	• Refer infants who do not track well after 3 months of age • Refer infants with abnormal red reflex or history of retinoblastoma in a parent or sibling
12 to 36 months	• Ocular history • Vision assessment • External inspection of the eyes and lids • Ocular motility assessment • Pupil examination • Red reflex examination • Visual acuity testing (preferred) or photoscreening • Ophthalmoscopy	• Refer infants with strabismus • Refer infants with chronic tearing or discharge • Refer children who fail photoscreening
36 months to 5 years		• Refer children who fail photoscreening • Visual acuity thresholds: ◦ Ages 36–47 months: Must identify majority on 20/50 line ◦ Ages 48–59 months: Must identify majority on 20/40 line
5 years and older*		• Refer children who cannot read at least 20/32 with either eye (must identify majority on 20/32 line) • Refer children not reading at grade level

**Repeat screening every 1–2 years after age 5*

Know a child who may need a referral?

Visit our website at allchildrensee.org/patient/ to learn more about the All Children See (ACS) program.

All Children See is a program that connects children who have failed a vision screening or show signs of other eye conditions with qualified ophthalmologists for no-cost, comprehensive eye exams.

