Eye Conditions Snippet

Condition Name: Cataracts

Description: There are a number of factors which can cause cataracts such as long-term exposure to sunlight (ultraviolet light) and complications stemming from other diseases such as diabetes and rubella. Cataracts may also result from an eye injury such as a trauma or drug use during pregnancy. Studies have shown that there is also a genetic propensity where cataracts are concerned. There are three classifications of cataracts, nuclear, cortical and subcapsular. Cataracts can be removed in an operation, performing this early prevents the student developing amblyopia or lazy eye. After surgery the student will require lenses, and may need patching to strengthen the weaker eye.

Effects on Vision: The lens of the eye is affected by cataracts. Often the lens becomes cloudy and prevents light from refracting onto the retina at the back of the eye.

Educational implications: Cataracts can affect student’s visual acuity and cause decreased reading efficiency and problems seeing the board due to a cloudy lens. Student will need time for adaptation to light change (going from the indoors to outside). Also O&M is important for environmental awareness especially at night time.