



Information on Angle-Closure Glaucoma

You have been identified as being at risk for developing angle-closure glaucoma. Please read this information carefully.

Angle-closure glaucoma, unlike most other forms of glaucoma, may develop very rapidly over a period of minutes to hours in what is called an “acute attack”. During an acute attack, intra-ocular pressure rises suddenly, vision is rapidly lost, and the eye becomes red and painful. Often, an acute attack is preceded by one or more mild attacks. The symptoms during these “sub-acute” episodes are similar, but milder than those of a full attack.

Angle-closure glaucoma can be treated surgically. If your doctor decides that you may be a candidate for surgery, he or she will refer you to a surgeon.

Angle-closure glaucoma is an emergency. If detected in time, permanent vision loss can be prevented. Should you develop any of the symptoms of angle-closure glaucoma listed below, seek the attention of a doctor immediately. If you are unable to reach an eye doctor directly, then proceed to a local hospital emergency room.

Symptoms of Angle-Closure Glaucoma

PAIN: Moderate to severe ache in the eye or brow region, or a severe headache.

LOSS OF VISION: Rapid onset of vision loss or blur in one eye.

COLOURED HALOS: Appearance of coloured halos about lights.

RED EYE: Eye redness may develop in conjunction with the above symptoms during angle-closure. However, there are many other causes of eye redness other than angle-closure glaucoma.

NAUSEA AND VOMITING: Symptoms of nausea and vomiting in the presence of one or more of the above symptoms is strongly suggestive of an acute attack.