

Optic Nerve Study

Dear Parent,

We have arranged for 5 year-old children from our practice to have an eye examination, at no charge, by the Department of Ophthalmology at the Albany Medical Center. Your child's participation is voluntary. The purpose of the examination is to discover any abnormalities which may impact their vision. The three ophthalmologists who are supervising the examinations are all nationally recognized experts in their field. They are donating their professional skill to improve the knowledge about the eyes of children. Specifically, the optic nerves of children have never been examined using new technologies that are routinely available for adult eye examinations. Your child's participation will help us understand what normal children's optic nerves should look like.

The examinations will be performed on various Saturdays beginning this September at the ophthalmologists' offices in in Slingerlands (1220 and 1240 New Scotland Rd). We expect that each appointment will be completed in 30 minutes or less. The examination will include measurements of visual acuity, refraction (need for glasses), and two tests to image the size and shape of the optic nerve and retina of each eye. All tests are painless and involve minimal risk. Children will have to sit still for a few minutes and will have their pupils dilated to insure accuracy of the examinations.

We recommend that your child participate in this program to better our understanding of pediatric eye diseases. Please call Dr. Simon's office at (518)-533-6502 to make an appointment. On the phone, please ask for Lisa and mention the free eye examination. We have appointments available in September, October, and November. We recommend that your child participate.

Sincerely Yours,

Your Pediatricians

THE RESEARCH

WHAT IS IT?

We are conducting a research project exploring the shape and size of the optic disc in children (5-6 years old).

WHY?

The characteristics of the optic disc in children have not been studied well enough. We want to establish a database of normal values for children and compare them to values in adults. This could make the child eye exam more informative in the future.

WILL IT BE COMFORTABLE FOR MY CHILD?

Absolutely! All the exams are quick, painless, and kid-friendly! You can get your child an eye exam for FREE!



MAKE AN APPOINTMENT:



Call the Lions Eye Institute
today to schedule an
appointment!

Please ask for Lisa and mention the free
eye exam!

Phone: 518-533-6502



*Note: Appointments are available on
select Saturdays beginning in September,
October, and November.*



Albany
Medical
College

Support AMC
Research in
Pediatric
Ophthalmology



And get a
FREE
eye exam
for your child.



The following ophthalmologists are leading this research project:

John W. Simon M.D.

Pediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus

Sai Gandham M.D.

Ophthalmology & Glaucoma

Steven T. Simmons M.D.

Ophthalmology & Glaucoma

These AMC physicians will be providing **free eye exams** to your children in return for participation in the research study.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

Come to the **Lions Eye Institute** (1220 New Scotland Rd) with your child at your assignment appointment time and date. We have dates available September through November 2011. Parking is available for free at Lions Eye.

We will guide your child through:

- **Routine Vision screening** — very important before they start school!
- **HRT and OCT** — cameras that we use to take pictures of the back of the eye. Kid-friendly!



DIRECTIONS TO LIONS

EYE INSTITUTE:



Address:

1220 New Scotland Rd
Slingerlands, NY

Driving directions:

From Albany Medical Center, Head west (toward Holland Ave and S Main Ave) on New Scotland Road for 3.7 miles. The Lions Eye Institute will be on the left.

CDTA:

Bus route #14