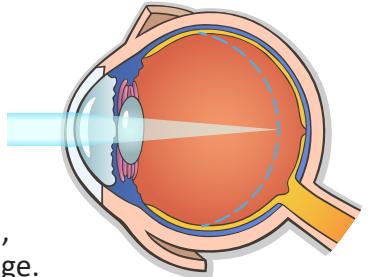


Clinical Myopia Profile

The clinical myopia profile is a summary of the extensive scientific data available on what increases and decreases risk of development or progression (worsening) of myopia.

Your optometrist has elected to profile your myopia because you/your child:

1. Currently has normal visual clarity but is **AT RISK** of developing myopia, or
2. Is already myopic, and at risk of further myopia progression.



MYOPIA (shortsightedness) is where the eyeball is too long or too powerful, resulting in blurred far vision. Vision for close objects is clear within a certain range.

Why do we need to control myopia?

Generally once you become myopic, it tends to worsen over time. Higher levels of myopia are associated with higher risks of eye diseases like glaucoma, retinal detachment and cataract later in life.

What causes myopia development and progression?

Genetics, each individual's characteristics and environment. Your clinical myopia profile is below.

GENETICS: FAMILY HISTORY OF MYOPIA

Neither parent myopic

One myopic parent
(three times risk)

Two myopic parents
(six times risk)

Low Risk

Medium Risk

High Risk

INDIVIDUAL CHARACTERISTICS: VISUAL CLARITY – current far vision

Age appropriate

Less than age-normal (at risk)

Already myopic

Low Risk

Medium Risk

High Risk

VISUAL EFFICIENCY (eye teaming) 1 – esophoria / convergence excess

Normal

Borderline

Esophoria

Low Risk

Medium Risk

High Risk

VISUAL EFFICIENCY (eye teaming) 2 – accommodative lag

Normal

Borderline

Accommodative lag

Low Risk

Medium Risk

High Risk

NOTE: It is recommended that an **AT RISK, normally sighted child** should be monitored every six months if two or more of these are medium risk. If two or more of these are high risk, active treatment is recommended.

A myopic child – if both visual efficiency risk factors 1 and 2 are high, progressive addition or bifocal spectacles may be recommended. If only one is high, orthokeratology/CRT or multifocal soft contact lenses may be recommended. Monitoring every six months is advised.

Clinical Myopia Profile

ENVIRONMENT: TIME SPENT OUTSIDE (daylight hours, per day)

High (2.7+ hours)

Moderate (1.6 to 2.7 hours)

Low (0 to 1.6 hours)
(2-3 times increased risk)

Low Risk

Medium Risk

High Risk

TIME SPENT DOING CLOSE VISION TASKS (per day) *not including school time*

This includes reading, homework, handheld games, drawing, computer work.

Low (0 to 2 hours)

Moderate (2 to 3 hours)
(around 2 times risk)

High (3+ hours)
(2-3 times increased risk)

Low Risk

Medium Risk

High Risk

NOTE: Environmental risk factors are unlikely to affect the management pathway, however they are modifiable and should be considered in view of the overall myopia risk profile. Tips for modifying environmental risk:

- Spend time outside each day.** Walk the dog, ride a bike, play in the backyard, sit outside in shade. It is the brightness of natural sunlight which is beneficial rather than UV light—still take sun protection precautions.
- Take regular breaks from close work.** Look away for a minute or so to change your focus, or change your task every 30-60 minutes to alter the demand on your visual efficiency (eye teaming) systems.
- Try to limit near tasks (after school/work) to 2 hours per day.** This also includes leisure time – ensure it is not primarily spent on handheld digital devices or other close vision tasks like reading and drawing. On the weekends, ensure a balance between inside and outside time, and increase natural lighting.

I'M ALREADY MYOPIC! How can I put the brakes on my shortsightedness?

Myopia control is the area of science dedicated to slowing down or stopping the progression, or worsening, of myopia in children and young adults. The following table is a compilation of over 30 research papers on myopia control, published up to and including 2013.

| Type of vision correction | Effect on slowing myopic progression |
|---|--|
| Normal glasses and standard contact lenses | 0-5% |
| Progressive/bifocal lenses (with reading power) | 12-55% |
| Myovision (special design spectacle lenses) | 0-30% |
| Multifocal soft contact lenses | 29-45% |
| Orthokeratology/CRT (special design rigid contact lenses) | 32-100% |
| Atropine (daily eye drops to paralyse focus) | 30-77%, reducing to 30% after cessation. Side effects include significant glare sensitivity and constant requirement for reading glasses. |

Clinical Myopia Management Pathways

AT RISK of developing myopia

Myopia with risk of progression

Q1: Is visual efficiency (eye teaming) high risk?

YES: Manage with progressive/bifocal lenses
NO: Monitor every six months

YES: Manage with progressive lenses
NO: Consider contact lense options

Q2: Are you/your child interested in and suitable for wearing contact lenses?

YES: Manage with orthokeratology/CRT or multifocal soft contact lenses
NO: Manage with progressive/bifocal lenses or single vision distance