

Facts and Figures on Glaucoma

Glaucoma is a leading cause of blindness.

According to the World Health Organization, glaucoma is the second leading cause of blindness throughout the world.

Certain groups are at a higher risk for glaucoma.

While a person of any age, gender, or ethnic group can develop glaucoma, some groups are more at risk. These include:

- African-Americans
- People over 60
- People who have family members with glaucoma
- Hispanics over the age of 60
- Asians
- Steroid users
- Individuals who have suffered a previous eye injury

Individuals within these groups are encouraged to get a complete dilated eye examination every one or two years.

There is no cure for glaucoma.

Vision that is lost to glaucoma cannot be regained. Through early detection of treatment, vision loss can be slowed or even stopped. However, glaucoma will have to be monitored for life.

The Statistics

- Glaucoma is the leading cause of blindness among African-Americans.
- It is estimated that over 3 million Americans have glaucoma, but only half of those know they have it.
- Approximately 120,000 Americans are blind from glaucoma, accounting for 9% to 12% of all cases of blindness in our country.
- Worldwide, there are approximately 65 million cases of glaucoma.

Source: Glaucoma Research Foundation.

For more information:

Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation
404 Portland St.
Columbia, MO
1-800-753-2265
info@mlerf.org or www.mlerf.org

Media contact:
Annie Kuhl, PR Manager
314-428-4373 ext. 107
annie@mlerf.org

To schedule a glaucoma screening:
Tina Twenter, Program Coordinator
573-443-1471 ext. 241
ttwenter@mlerf.org