

Unilateral Cover Test - At Near

Ages

6 months through 20 years.

Purpose

To assess ocular alignment in primary gaze.

Description

Observing the uncovered eye for movement while child fixates on a target.

Equipment

- Handheld occluder
- Small single handheld target (i.e. a sticker on a tongue depressor or Popsicle stick, not a pen light).

Screen Qualifications

Can be performed by screeners who have received the recommended training by the Minnesota Department of Health or equivalent. Refer to Assessment Tools on the [Vision Screening Forms, Tools and Materials webpage \(www.health.state.mn.us\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us).

Facility

A well-lit room, free of distractions.

Procedure

1. Have the child seated in front of examiner, while the examiner holds a fixation target 15 inches in front of child; ensure the child acquires fixation.
2. Cover the child's left eye with the occluder, watch the uncovered eye (right eye) for movement.
3. Uncover both eyes and have child reacquire fixation.
4. Cover the child's right eye with the occluder, watch the uncovered (left eye) for movement.
5. This procedure should be repeated 2 or 3 times.

PASS

No detection of movement in the uncovered eye.

REFER

Repeatable movement of the uncovered eye or resistance to occlusion by child for one eye but not the other.

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-3650.