

# Unilateral Cover Test - At Distance

## Ages

3 years through 20 years.

## Purpose

To assess ocular alignment in primary gaze.

## Description

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

## Equipment

- Handheld occluder
- Small single target at 10 feet (i.e. visual acuity chart).

## Screening 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 child seated in front of examiner and fixate on the target 10 feet away.
2. Cover the child's left eye with the occluder, watch the eye not being covered (right eye) for any movement.
3. Uncover both eyes and have child reacquire fixation.
4. Cover the child's right eye with the occluder, watch the eye not being covered (left eye) for any movement.
5. This procedure should be repeated 2 or 3 times.

## UNILATERAL COVER TEST - AT DISTANCE

### **PASS**

No detection of movement in the uncovered eye.

### **REFER**

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

Minnesota Department of Health  
Child and Teen Checkups  
651-201-3650  
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*To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-3650.*