

# Strabismus & Eye movement

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# Extraocular muscles of orbit

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	N. supply	action			Clinical testing <small>Direction to move eye when testing muscle</small>
				1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
<b>Superior rectus</b>	common tendinous ring	Superior surface of eyeball	<u>Oculomotor</u> <u>3<sup>rd</sup></u>	Elevation	Intorsion	Adduction	 <b>Look laterally and upward</b>
<b>Inferior rectus</b>	common tendinous ring	Inferior surface of eyeball	<u>Oculomotor</u> <u>3<sup>rd</sup></u>	Depression	Extorsion	Adduction	 <b>Look laterally and downward</b>
<b>Medial rectus</b>	common tendinous ring	Medial surface of eyeball	<u>Oculomotor</u> <u>3<sup>rd</sup></u>	Adduction	_____	_____	 <b>Look medially</b>
<b>Lateral rectus</b>	common tendinous ring	Lateral surface of eyeball	<u>Abducent</u> <u>6<sup>th</sup></u>	Abduction	_____	_____	 <b>Look laterally</b>
<b>Superior oblique</b>	Posterior wall of orbital cavity	attached to superior surface beneath <b>SR</b>	<u>Trochlear</u> <u>4<sup>th</sup></u>	Intorsion	Depression	<u>Ab</u> duction	 <b>Look medially and downward</b>
<b>Inferior oblique</b> 🖱️	Floor of orbital cavity	Lateral surface of eyeball deep to <b>LR</b>	<u>Oculomotor</u> <u>3<sup>rd</sup></u>	<u>Extorsion</u> <b>X</b>	Elevation	<u>Ab</u> duction	 <b>Look medially and upward</b>
<b>Levator palpebrae superioris</b>	Back of orbital cavity	Anterior surface and upper margin of superior tarsal plate	<u>Striated muscle</u> <u>oculomotor nerve, smooth muscle</u> <u>sympathetic</u>	Elevation of upper eyelid	_____	_____	

## Agonist muscles

The primary muscle that moves an eye in a given direction

## Antagonist muscles

Muscle in the same eye that moves the eye in the opposite direction of the agonist

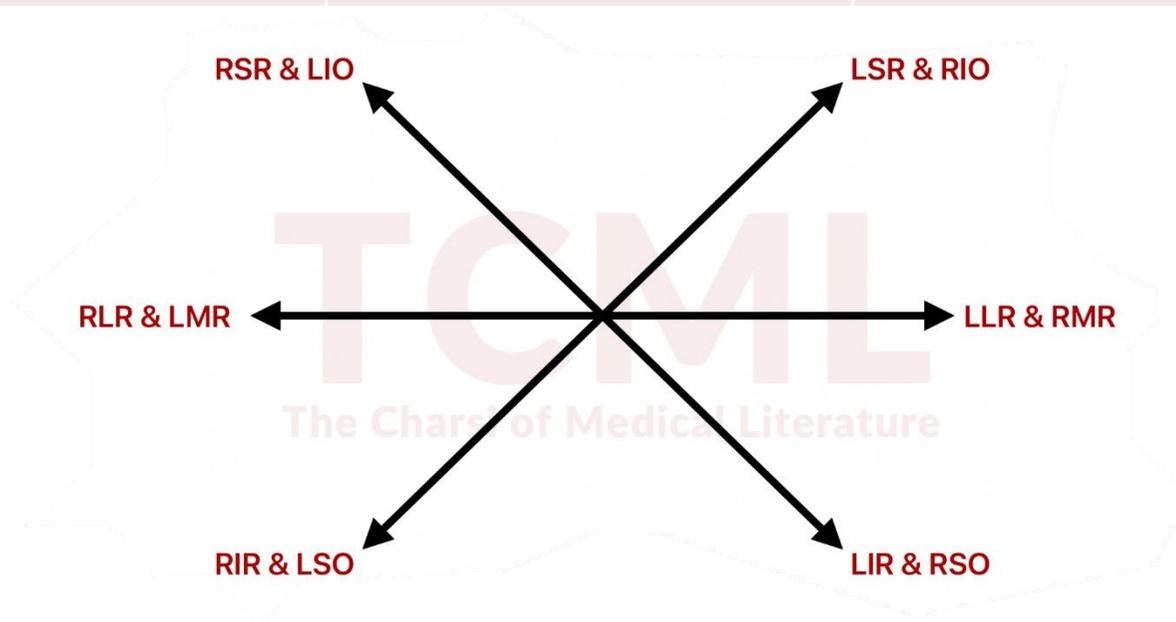
## Synergists muscles

A muscle in the same eye that moves the eye in the same direction as the agonist

## Yoke muscles

muscles in each eye that accomplish a given version (contralateral synergists)

Muscle	Synergist	Antagonist
Medial rectus	S\I. rectus	L.rectus + S\I. oblique
Lateral rectus	S\I. oblique	M\S\I. rectus
Superior rectus	I.oblique\M.rectus	I.rectus + S.oblique
Inferior rectus	S.oblique\M.rectus	I.Oblique + S.rectus
Superior oblique	I\L. rectus	I.Oblique + S.rectus
Inferior oblique	S\L. rectus	I.rectus + S.oblique



## HERING'S LAW

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an equal and simultaneous innervation flows from the brain to a pair of muscles which contract simultaneously (yoke muscles) in different binocular movements.

**e.g:**

- i. During convergence, both medial recti get equal innervation.
- ii. During dextrolevation, right superior rectus and left inferior oblique receive equal and simultaneous innervation.

### Dextrolevation

Right superior rectus  
Left inferior oblique



### Supraversion

Right superior rectus  
Left superior rectus



### Levoelevation

Right inferior oblique  
Left superior rectus



### Dextroversion

Right lateral rectus  
Left medial rectus



### Levoversion

Right medial rectus  
Left lateral rectus



### Dextrodepression

Right inferior rectus  
Left superior oblique



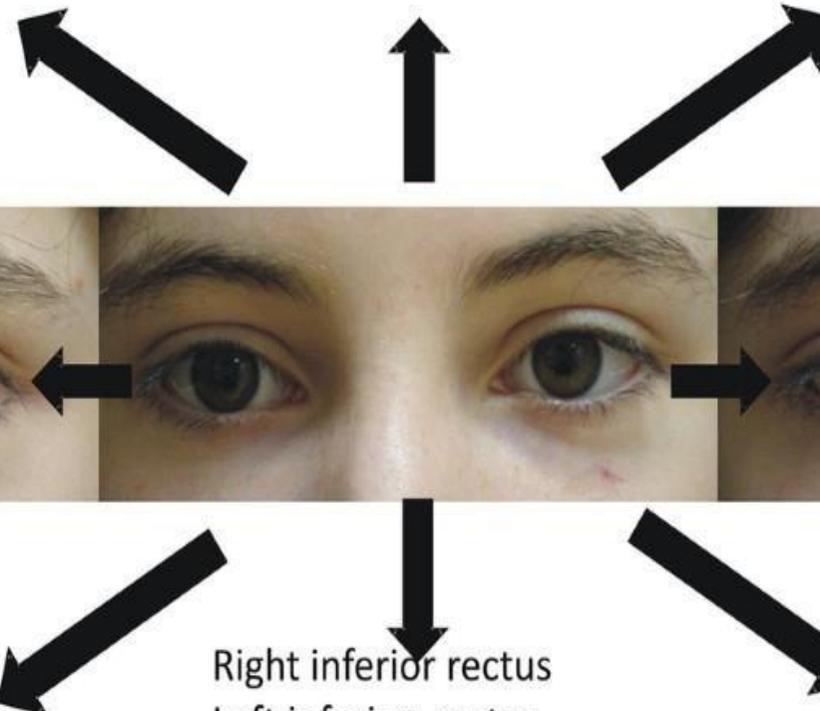
Right inferior rectus  
Left inferior rectus



### Infraversion

### Levodepression

Right superior oblique  
Left inferior rectus



## Sherrington's law of reciprocal innervation

- This law states that during ocular motility an increased flow of innervation to the contracting agonist muscle is accompanied by a decreased flow of innervation to the relaxing antagonist muscle.

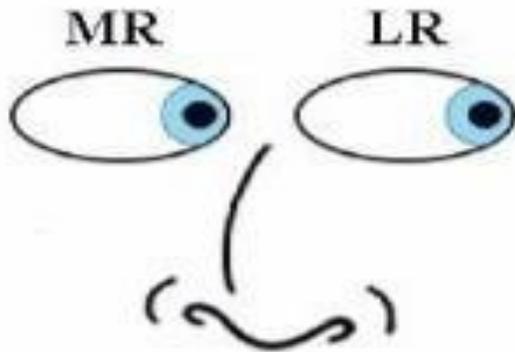
> During levoversion, an increased innervational flow to the right medial rectus and left lateral rectus, accompanied by decreased flow of innervation to right lateral rectus and left medial rectus

> But in certain pathological condition, co-contraction of antagonistic muscles instead of relaxation antagonist muscle occurs. For e.g Duane's retraction syndrome, limits the amount of movement achievable

# Clinical application of Sherrington's law

Looking Patient Left

Agonists

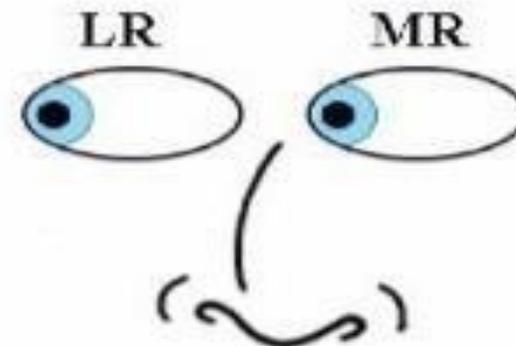


Antagonists



Looking Patient Right

Agonists



Antagonists



**Squint** is misalignment of the visual axes.

It is a failure of the co-ordination of binocular alignment. It leads inevitably loss of binocular single vision. Fusion of the two images is replaced either by diplopia or suppression of one image. Strabismus may be caused by orbit, muscle, motor nerve, or brainstem pathology.

### **Binocular single vision (BSV):**

Normally both eyes are directed towards the same object. Eye movement is coordinated so the retinal image falls always on a corresponding points of each retina. These corresponding points are fused centrally as one.

### **Stereopsis:**

the perception of depth produced by the reception in the brain of visual stimuli from both eyes in combination; binocular vision. (3D image)

**If both eyes are not aligned BSV is not possible this will result in:**

Diplopia: single object is seen in two different places.

Confusion: two separate and different objects appear to be at the same point.

-Constant non-alignment will lead to a defense to avoid diplopia and confusion

-Suppression of the deviating eye will lead to AMBLYOPIA

-Intermittent deviation will not lead to amblyopia but stereopsis may not developed

## Investigating a squint

The following steps are taken in investigating a squinting child:

- History
- Determination of acuity
- Check for pseudostrabismus
- Detection of any abnormality in eye movement
- Measurement of stereopsis
- Detection and measurement of the squint
- Determination of any refractive error
- Careful examination of the eyes, including a dilated fundus view
- Head postures

### Motor tests:

- 1 Corneal reflection test
- 2 Cover/uncover test
- 3 Prism cover test
- 4 Synaptophore
- 5 Maddox rod
- 6 Maddox wing
- 7 Diplopia testing
- 8 Hess charting

### Sensory tests:

- 1 Worth's four dot test
- 2 Bagolini's test
- 3 Test for stereopsis
- 4 After images test

# History

A careful history is important in the diagnosis

Age of onset of deviation

Is the deviation constant or intermittent?

Is the deviation present for distance, near or both?

Is it unilateral or alternating?

Is it present only when the patient is inattentive or fatigued?

Is it associated with trauma or physical stress?

History of patching

Refractive errors history

Old photographs

Birth history

Is there a family history of strabismus?

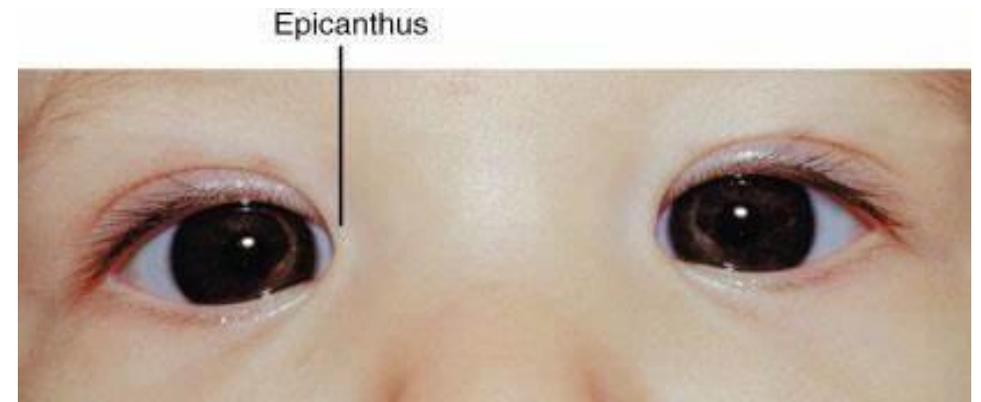
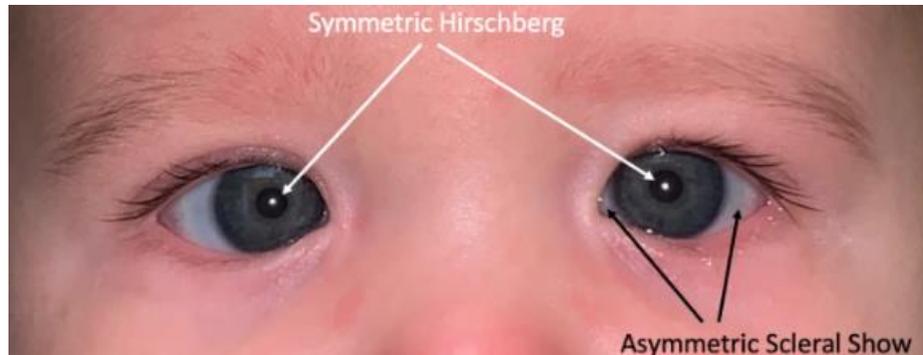
Are there any other medical problems?

Headaches, diplopia, vertigo

## Pseudosquint

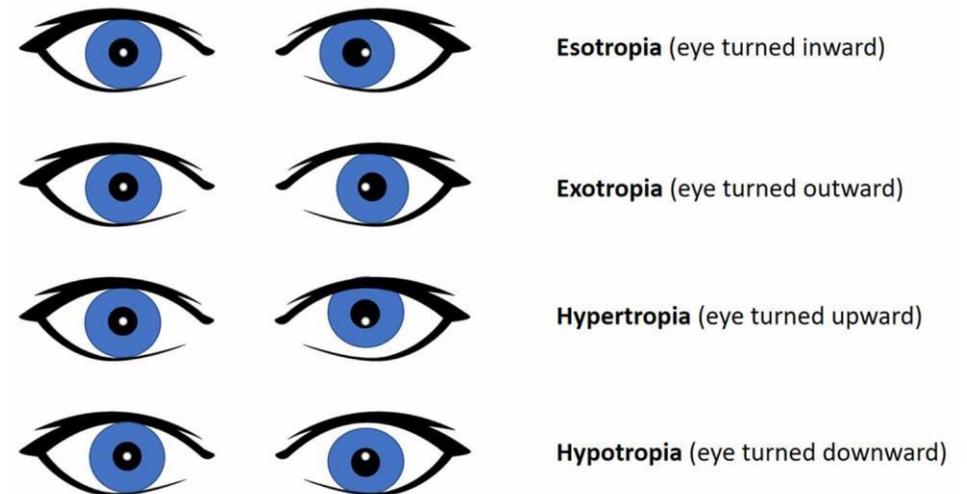
The patient is examined for external features that may simulate a squint (pseudo-squint) such as:

- Epicanthus (a crescentic fold of skin on the side of the nose that incompletely covers the inner canthus) or telecanthus (increased distance between the inner canthi) which simulate a convergent squint.
- Facial asymmetry



## Corneal reflection test (Hirschberg test)

The alignment of the eyes is tested using a pen torch. The corneal reflection of a torchlight, held 33 cm in front of the subject, is a guide to eye position. If there is no squint, the light reflex will be central in both eyes. If the child is squinting, the reflection will be central in the fixating eye and deviated in the squinting eye.



Strabismus can be:

- 1 Tropia (manifest)
- 2 Phoria (latent)

### Cover/uncover test

Test consists of two parts:

**Cover test:** to detect heterotropia

the patient is asked to fixate on a point light. Then, the normal looking / fixating eye is covered while observing the movement of the uncovered eye.

In the presence of squint the uncovered eye will move in opposite direction to take fixation, while in apparent squint there will be no movement.

This test should be performed for near fixation (i.e., at 33 cm) distance

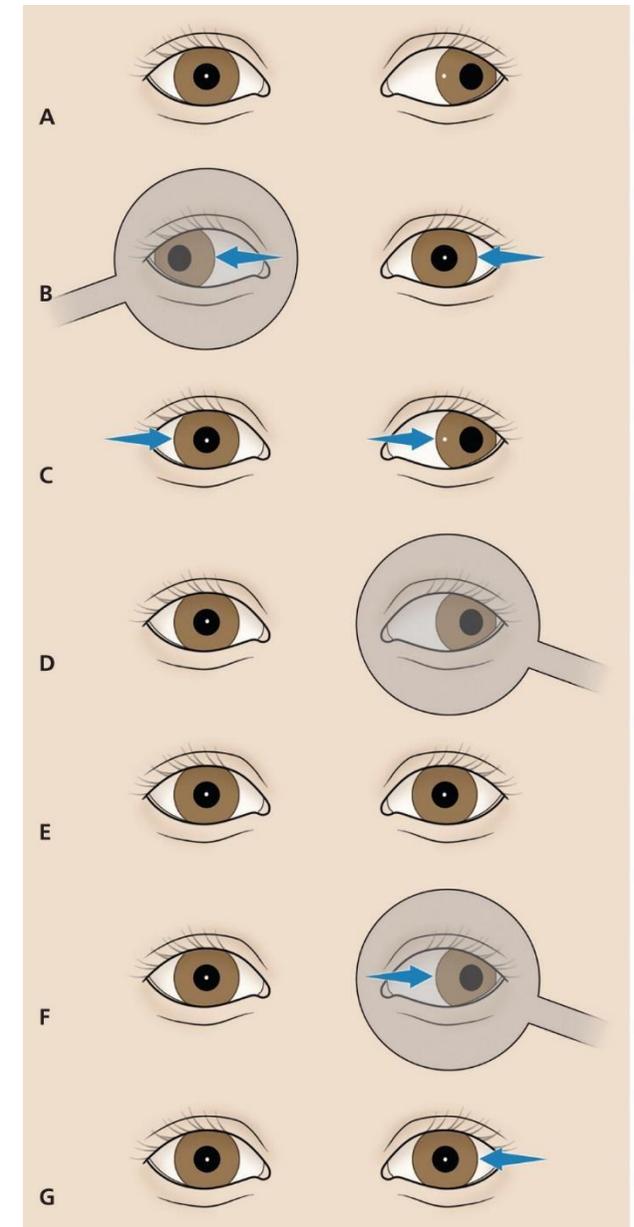
Fixation (i.e., at 6 metres)

**Uncover test:** to detect heterophoria

one eye is covered with an occluder and the other is made to fix an object. In the presence of heterophoria, the eye under cover will deviate.

After a few seconds the cover is quickly removed and the movement of the eye (which was under cover) is observed.

Direction of movement of the eyeball tells the type of heterophoria (e.g., the eye will move outward in the presence of esophoria).



## Alternate cover test

It is a dissociation test which reveals the total deviation when fusion is suspended.

Procedure - Suppose Rt eye is covered for several seconds. The occluder is quickly shifted to opposite eye for 2 seconds, then back and forth several times. After the cover is removed, the examiner notes the speed and smoothness of recovery as the return to their pre-dissociated state.

A patient with a well compensated heterophoria will have straight eyes before and after the test has been performed whereas a patient with poor control may decompensate to a manifest deviation. It reveals whether the squint is unilateral or alternate and also differentiates non paralytic squint from paralytic squint.

## Prism cover test

It measures angle of deviation on near or distance fixation and in any gaze position.  
It combines alternate cover test with prisms.

Procedure - Prisms of increasing strength with apex towards the deviation are placed in front of one eye and the patient is asked to fixate an object with the other. The cover-uncover test is performed till there is no recovery movement of the eye under cover.

It gives the amount of deviation in prism dioptres.

Both heterophoria as well as heterotropia can be measured by this test



# Infantile esotropia (congenital esotropia)

esotropia of one or both eyes with an onset before the age of six months, with a constant, large angle of strabismus ( $> 30$  PD), no or mild amblyopia, small to moderate hyperopia, latent nystagmus, dissociated vertical deviation

## **Treatment:**

### **Surgery**

Frequently, bilateral medial rectus recession is the initial surgery for infantile esotropia. Alternatively, recession and resection of horizontal eye muscles of the same eye may be preferred if there is amblyopia or an anatomic defect of one eye.

Botulinum toxin

Eye glasses

Eye patching



Infantile esotropia, before surgery



# Accommodative esotropia

Accommodative esotropia is an inward turning of one or both eyes that occurs with activation of the accommodative reflex.

It is also called refractive esotropia and it is one of the most common forms of esotropia (crossed eye) in children. Accommodative esotropia happens when one or both eyes cross while trying to focus. This happens in children who are typically more farsighted (hyperopic) than usual. This means that the eyes must work harder to see clearly, particularly when the object of regard is up close

Onset usually between 6 months and 7 years of age, averaging 2.5 years

averaging between 20 and 40 prism diopters

The average cycloplegic refractive error in refractive accommodative esotropia is +4.75 D,<sup>3</sup> but ranges between + 1.5 and +7.0 D.

## **Treatment:**

The mainstay of treatment is spectacle correction in refractive accommodative esotropia.

There is some urgency in initiation of treatment because delay could result in loss of fusion ability, development of amblyopia, and loss of stereopsis

should be worn full time



Accommodative esotropia can be divided into:

(1) refractive

caused by uncorrected or under-corrected hyperopia

(2) non-refractive

caused by excessive convergence of the eyes in response to accommodation for near focus, regardless of refractive error.

(3) partially accommodative or decompensated

No improvement with glasses

Needs surgery

# Alternating exotropia (intermittent exotropia)

Intermittent exotropia is the most common form of strabismus, characterized by an intermittent outward deviation of the eyes, affecting as much as 1% of the population. This condition most often presents in childhood and affects females more than males. Control of the intermittent deviation can vary throughout the day.

## **Treatment:**

Surgery: lateral rectus resection / medial rectus resection / Recession-Resection Procedure

Botulinum toxin

Patching

Over-minus glasses



## Paralytic (paralysis of one or more EOM)

## Non-paralytic

Incomitant

Concomitant

Occurs in childhood and adulthood

Typically in childhood (2-4 years old)

Squinting eye has restricted movement

Eye movement full and equal bilaterally

Angle of deviation varies through different gazes

Angle of deviation constant, regardless of gaze direction

Present with diplopia (usually not associated with amblyopia)

Present with visible squint and amblyopia

Secondary deviation more than primary

Secondary deviation equal to primary

Causes: Trauma, Vascular, Neoplasia, Inflammation, raised intracranial pressure

Causes: High refractive error, cataract, retinoblastoma

# Treatment

- **The aim of treatment:**

- 1) To restore the binocular single vision.

- 2) Anatomical alignment or improvement of cosmetic appearance.

- \* **Time of treatment:**

- Must be as soon as possible.

- Most cases of squint start between 2 - 5 years.

- After age of 10 years, treatment is difficult. Only cosmetic correction is possible

# Lines of treatments

## 1. Glasses:

- It improves the visual acuity.
- It treats the squint by adjusting the relation between accommodation and convergence.

## 2. Surgery:

### • Indications: |

- a) Non-accommodative concomitant squint.
- b) Residual angle of squint after correction of errors.

### • The aim of surgical treatment:

- to get anatomical alignment and balance,
- so the rules of surgical treatment in concomitant squint is to:
  - a) strengthen (shortening ) the weak muscle and / or
  - b) weaken (lengthening ) the strong muscle.

- Operations to strengthen the muscles:

- a) Resection: This shortens the muscle and makes it stronger.

- b) Recession: It means receding the insertion backwards to weaken the muscle.

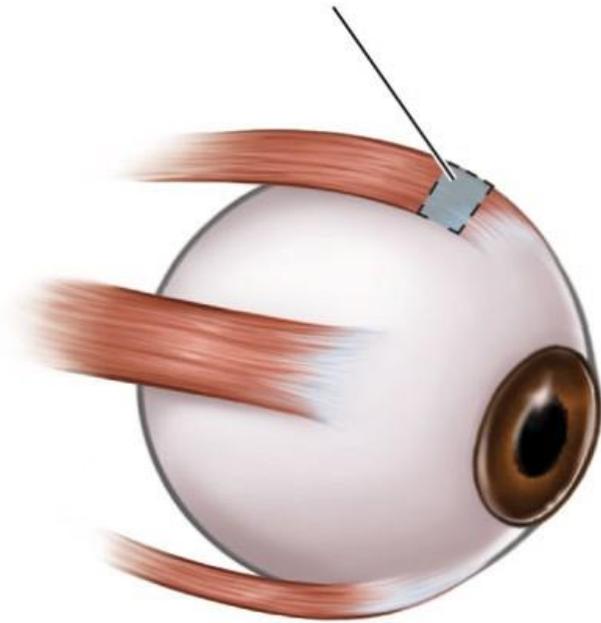
- Rules for surgery:

- c) 1 mm. recession or resection of M.R. corrects 3 degrees of deviation.

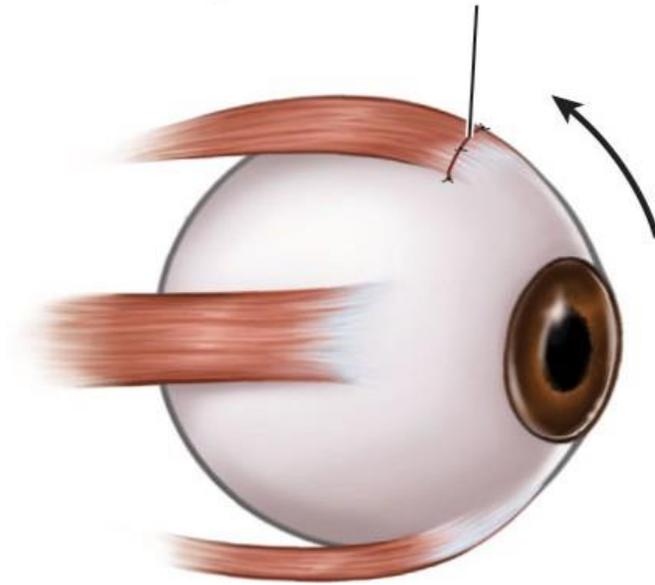
- d) 1 mm. recession or resection of L.R. corrects 1 degree of deviation.

# Resection

Portion of muscle removed

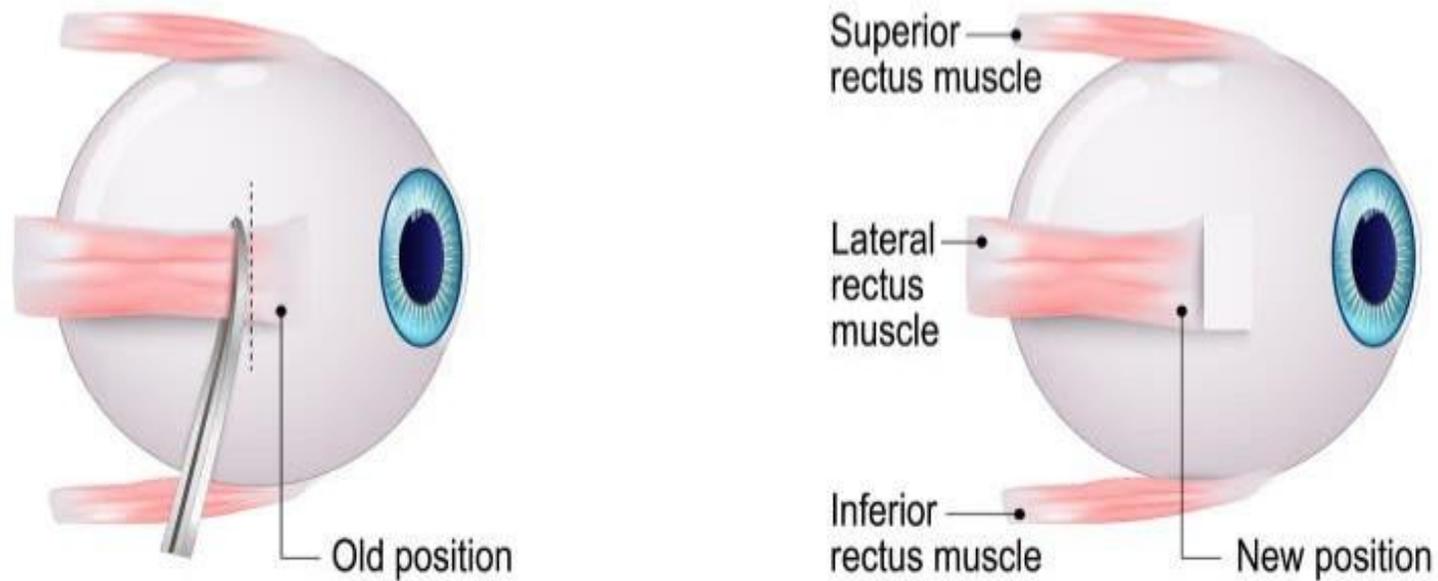


Tightened muscle



Following exposure of the muscle, the anterior tendon and muscle are resected, thus shortening them; the muscle is then reattached to its original position.

# Recession



The conjunctiva has been incised to expose the medial rectus muscle. The muscle is then disinserted and moved backwards on the globe.

## Paralytic squint

It is a true manifest deviation of the eye due to paralysis of one or more of the extraocular muscles in which the deviation differs in different directions of the gaze.

❖.... in which the deviation differs in different directions of the gaze (Angle of deviation is not constant).



## | Causes

- Paralysis of extraocular muscles results from lesions in:  
{ the nucleus - the nerve - the myoneural junction - the muscle itself

### 1) Nuclear lesions:

1. Congenital: Aplasia.
2. Inflammatory: Encephalitis or neuro-syphilis.
3. Degenerative: Disseminated sclerosis.
4. Vascular: Aneurysm - thrombosis - hemorrhage or embolism.
5. Neoplastic: Brain stem tumors.

### 2) Nerve lesions:

1. Congenital: Rare.
2. Traumatic: Fracture skull base.
3. Inflammatory: Peripheral neuritis due to diabetes or herpes zoster.

### 3) Vascular:

1. Subarachnoid hemorrhage.
2. Cavernous sinus thrombosis.
3. Aneurysm.

### 4) Neoplastic: Meningioma - Orbital tumors.

### 5) Muscle & myoneural junction lesions:

1. Traumatic: contusion & hemorrhage in the muscle sheath.
2. Myasthenia gravis ( lesion in the myo-neural junction)

# Sign & symptoms

## 1. Deviation of the eye ( Squint):

- In opposite direction to the action of paralyzed muscle.

\* The angle of squint: is not constant .

> maximum on looking in the direction of action of the affected muscle

> minimum or even nil on looking to the opposite direction

• cover & uncover Test:

• interpretation:

> Secondary deviation is much greater than angle of primary deviation.

> 1ry angle of deviation: Angle of squint when the normal eye is fixing.

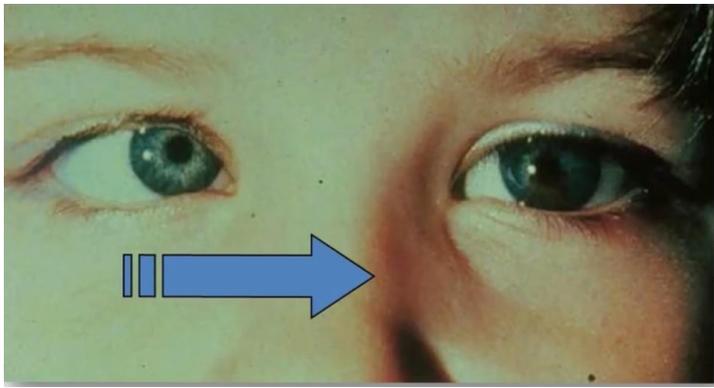
> 2ry angle of deviation: Angle of squint when the paralyzed eye is fixing.

• Mechanism:

> Excessive impulses reach the paralyzed muscle to contract and according to Hering

law, equal impulses reach the contralateral synergist ( synergistic muscle in the

sound eye ) → more deviation. ... { So, 2ry angle is > 1ry angle }



## 2. Binocular diplopia:

- It occurs in the direction of action of the paralyzed muscle and disappears when one eye is covered.

- Images fall on non-corresponding points of the retina resulting in 2 images:

- 1) True image: It falls on the fovea of the sound eye

- 2) False image: It falls on non-corresponding point ( outside fovea) in paralyzed eye

\* Diplopia may be:

- 1) Homonymous (uncrossed ) diplopia:

- when the false image is seen on the side of the paralyzed eye.

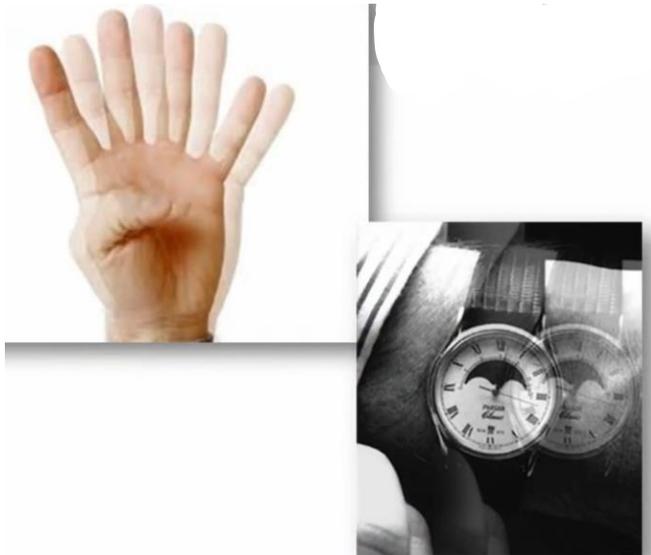
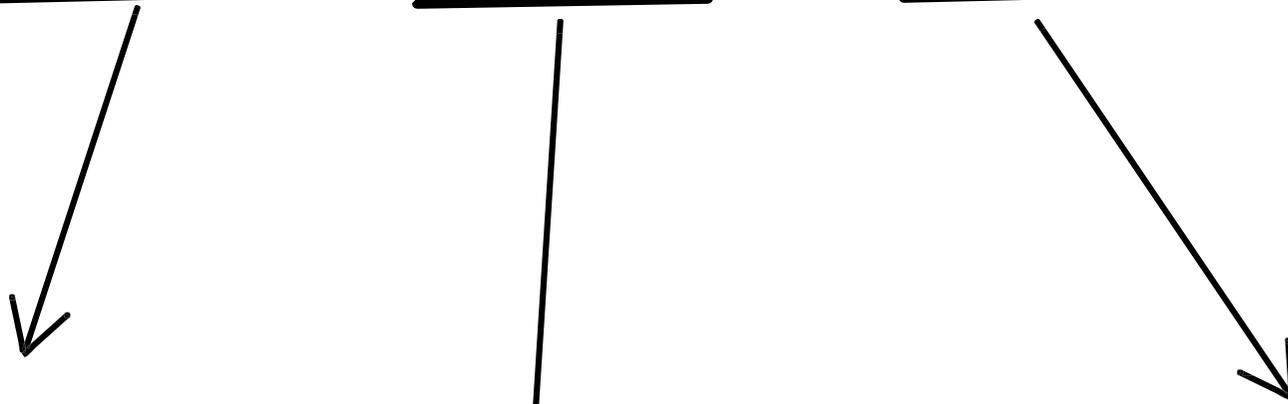
- It occurs in lateral rectus (abductor) paralysis.

- 2) Heteronymous ( crossed ) diplopia:

- When the false image is seen on the opposite side of the paralyzed eye.

- It occurs in medial rectus (adductor ) paralysis.

\* Horizontal, vertical or torsional diplopia



### 3). Limitation of the ocular motility:

- It occurs in the direction of action of the affected muscle.

### 4). Compensatory head posture (ocular torticollis):

- The patient tries to compensate his head posture to avoid diplopia.
- The head deviates in the direction of action of paralyzed muscle.

➤ MR & LR paralysis → Face turn.

➤ SR & IR paralysis → Chin elevation or depression.

➤ SO & IO paralysis → Head tilt.



## 5. False projection:

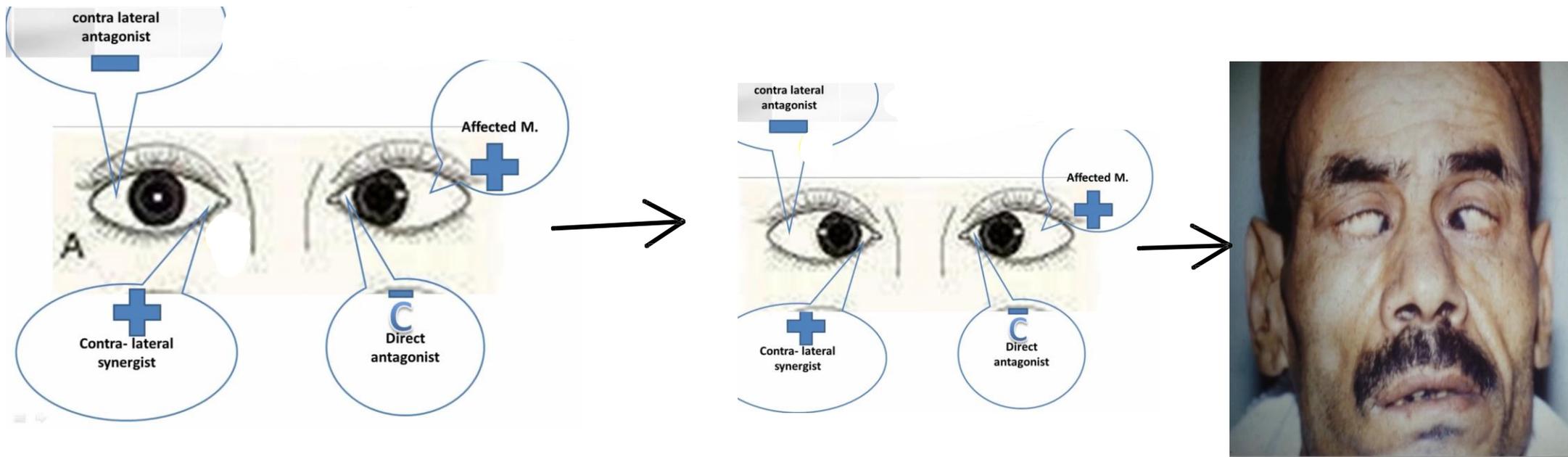
- If we cover the normal eye of the patient and instruct him to point to an object, his finger will be directed away from the object in the direction of action of the paralyzed muscle.
- False projection is due to excessive nervous impulses needed to move the paralyzed muscle.



6. Headache - vertigo - dizziness - uncertain gait - Nausea & Vomiting

## ❖ Muscle changes\*

- Contracture of the direct antagonist.
- Over action of the contra lateral synergist due to excessive impulses it receives.
- Under action (secondary palsy) of contra lateral antagonist.



# Diagnosis

❖ Diagnosis of the muscle paralyzed.

❖ Diagnosis of the cause refer for neurologist

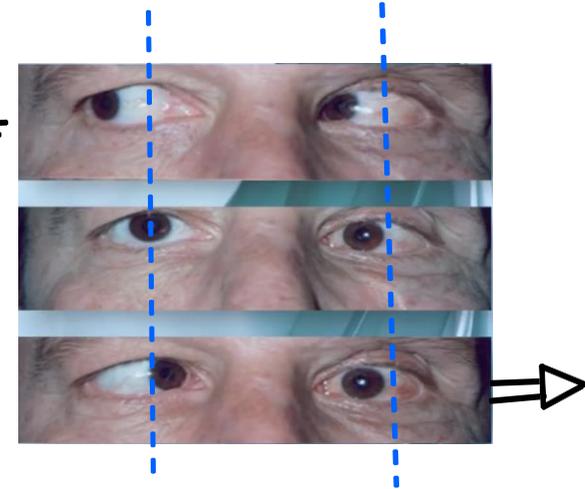
➤ Examination of the ocular motility: 6 cardinal directions

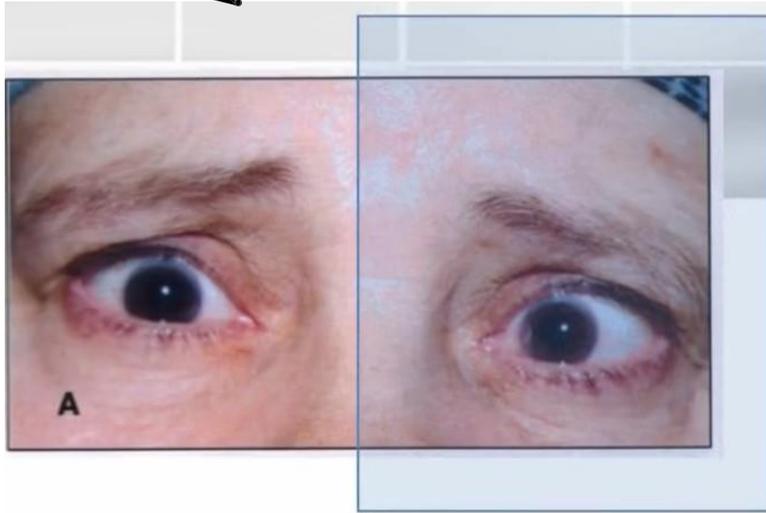
❖ Cover-uncover;

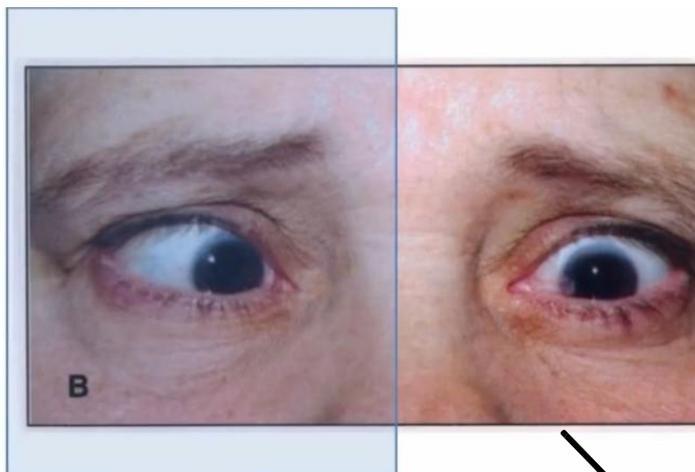
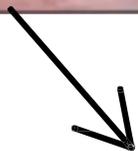
➤ If the squinting eye (paralyzed) is covered or uncovered nothing happens.

➤ If the fixing eye is covered the paralyzed eye moves to fix the object and the fixing eye (under the screen) squints to bigger angle i.e. secondary deviation is greater than primary deviation.

➤ When the cover is removed, the good eye resumes fixation.







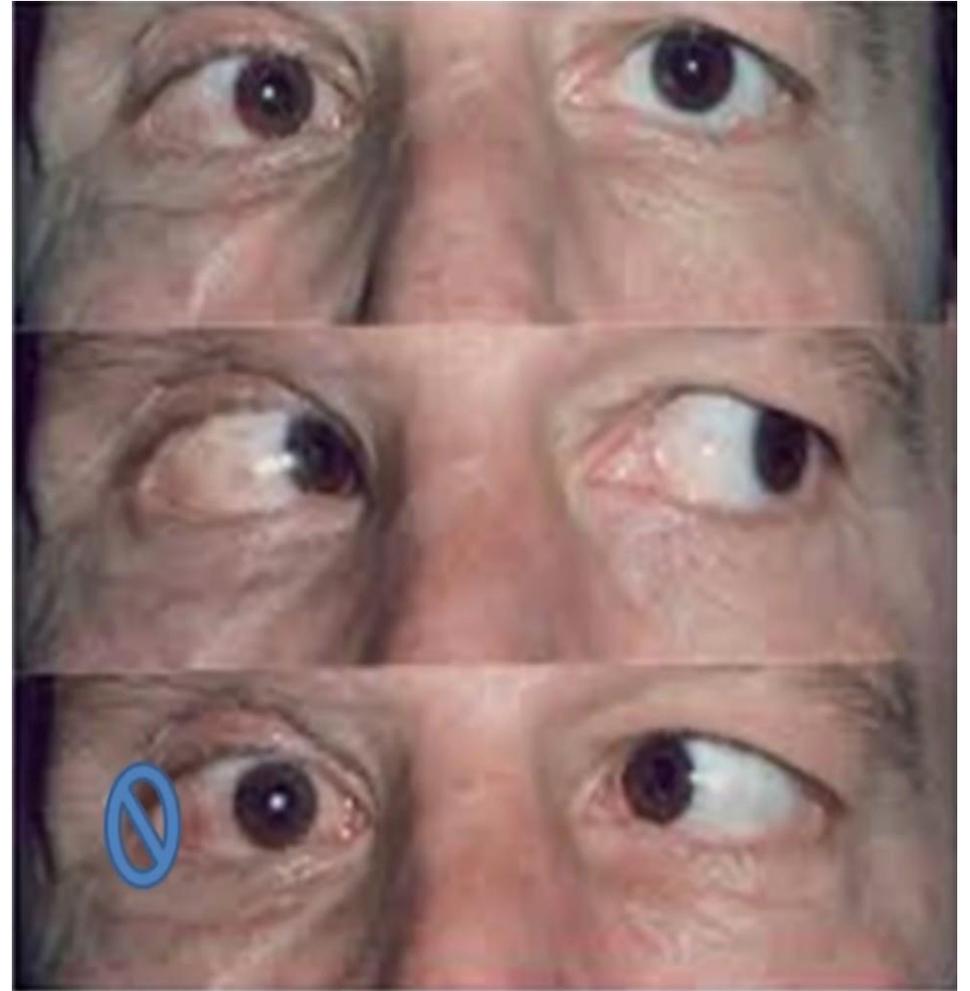
## I Treatment

- 1) Treatment of the cause.
- 2) Surgical treatment: If no recovery occurs within 6 months surgery will be recommended

## Sixth nerve palsy

- Here the lateral rectus becomes paralyzed.
- If the right side is affected the clinical picture will be:

- 1) Convergent squint in right eye.
- 2) Limitation of abduction of the right eye.
- 3) The angle of squint is large when the patient looks to the right.
- 4) The angle of squint is larger when the right eye attempts fixation  
{ angle of secondary deviation is greater }
- 5) Diplopia is most marked when the patient looks to the right. Diplopia is uncrossed.
- 6) False projection occurs to the right side.
- 7) The patient turns his face to the right to avoid diplopia

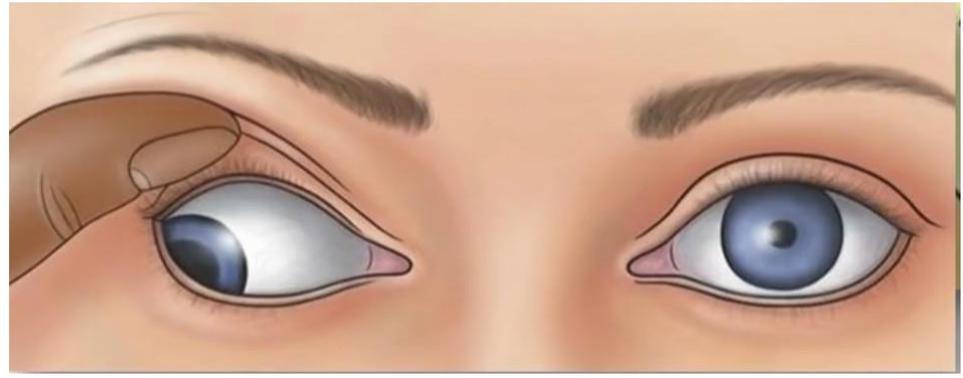


## Third nerve palsy

- 1) Ptosis ( levator paralysis )
- 2) Deviation of eye out ( lateral rectus ).
- 3) Superior oblique is a depressor in adduction and the eye cannot be adducted but it can only intort the eye on attempt downgaze.
- 4) Limitation of movement in the direction of involved muscles.
- 5) Diplopia does not occur due to Ptosis.
- 6) Dilatation of pupil and paralysis of accommodation.
- 7) Proptosis is mild due to loss of the tone of the paralyzed muscles.

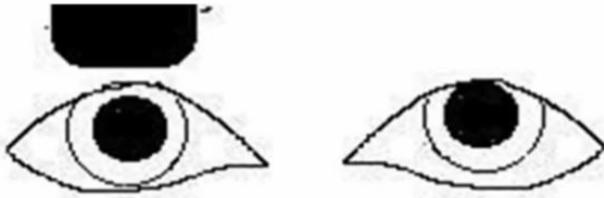


Rt. MR paralysis



# Forth nerve palsy

❖ The is deviated up (hypertropia).



❖ Uncrossed binocular diplopia is marked when the eyes looks down

# Positive Bielschowsky test in right fourth nerve palsy



Increase in right hyperdeviation on ipsilateral head tilt



Absence of right hyperdeviation on contralateral head tilt

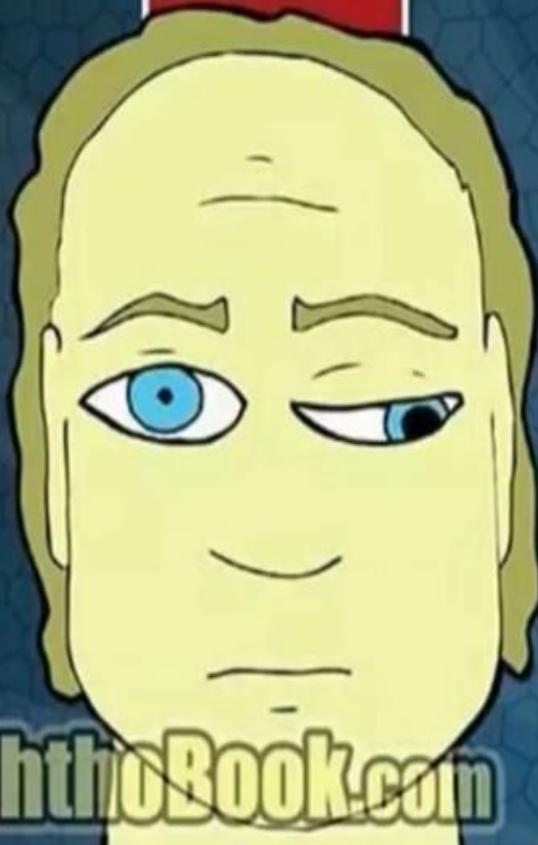


**THIRD**

vasculopathic

tumor

aneurysm



**FOURTH**

vasculopathic

tumor

congenital

trauma



**SIXTH**

vasculopathic

tumor

cranial pressure

