

DRY EYES

WHY ARE TEARS IMPORTANT?

Tears are important to the overall health of our eyes and our vision. Each time we blink, a protective coating of tears is spread like a film over the front of our eye. This film has three layers.

1. The outer oily layer is the first "lens" or optical surface that light passes through when entering the eye.

2. The middle watery layer keeps the eye moist and flushes away foreign debris.

3. The inner mucus layer serves as a reservoir for the external eye's natural defenses against infection and inflammation.

contribute to your eyes experiencing more symptoms. You may also notice increased symptoms in windy, dry environments, office buildings or when on an airplane.

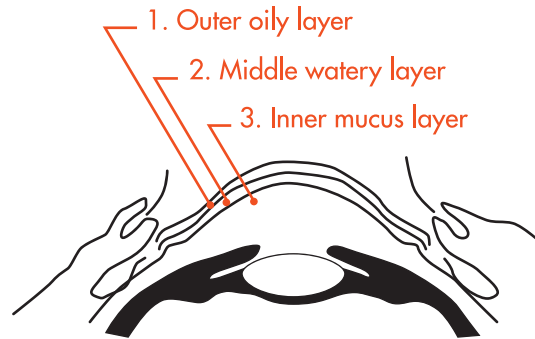
eyes. Patients can benefit from the use of humidifiers in their home or office, and side shields on their eyeglasses.

Spectacle lenses should be treated to protect the surface of the eye

from harmful ultraviolet and infrared radiation.

In many cases, temporary or permanent closure of the tear drains helps preserve the natural moisture layer of the eye. In severely dry eyes, combinations of all these treatment options may be necessary.

TEAR FILM



EXCITING NEW TREATMENT FOR DRY EYES.

Recently introduced, the punctal plug, also

known as tear duct plug or lacrimal plug, is a small medical device that is inserted into the tear duct (puncta) of an eye to block the duct. This prevents the drainage of liquid from the eye. This can aid in the treatment of dry eye. Artificial tears are usually still required after punctal plug insertion.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF DRY EYES?

A multitude of symptoms can affect patients with dry eyes. Some of these include burning sensations and redness; a feeling of sandiness or gravel in the eyes; vision that fluctuates with blinking; contact lens intolerance; excessive tearing.

No matter what kind of symptoms you have, they're typically worse later in the day. They can also worsen during reading, computer use, driving at night and watching television. Any activity that involves focusing your eyes can

WHAT CAUSES DRY EYES?

Dry eyes occur when too few tears are produced or when the tears produced do not function normally. In either case, dry spots form on the outer surfaces of the eye. In most cases, there is no underlying disorder behind the dry eye. In some cases, dry eyes are associated with allergies, thyroid disease, arthritis and other connective tissue disorders.

HOW ARE DRY EYES TREATED?

Although dry eyes cannot be cured, artificial tears in drop or ointment form are frequently effective in treating dry

SEE THE DIFFERENCE.

The doctors at MidWest Eye Center are experienced in the medical and/or surgical treatment for cataract, glaucoma, laser, refractive and cosmetic surgeries.



MIDWEST EYE CENTER

Main Office: 4452 Eastgate Blvd • Suite 305 • Cincinnati, OH 45245 (513) 752-5700

6779 Colerain Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45239 (513) 752-5700 • 2865 Chancellor Dr, Ste 215, Crestview Hills, KY 41017 (859) 331-5600
7510 U.S. Route 42, Florence, KY 41042 (513) 752-5700 • 8760 Union Centre Blvd, West Chester, OH 45246 (513) 752-5700
8044 Montgomery Rd, Ste 155, Cincinnati, OH 45236 (513) 791-7967 • 12124 Sheraton Ln, Springdale, OH 45246 (513) 671-5500

A Division of Tri-State Centers for Sight, Inc.