

Can all eyes be aligned?



EYE ALIGNMENT PROCEDURES





Can a cosmetic procedure also be functional?

No matter your age, severity of condition or previous diagnosis – even if that diagnosis came from an eye doctor — the specialists at Northwest Eye can align your eyes. That’s right, almost all eyes – even yours – can and should be aligned not only for cosmetic reasons, but to also improve your vision. What’s more, this corrective procedure is almost always covered by insurance.

Misaligned eyes, known in medical terms as strabismus, are correctable. And while your initial reasons for aligning your eyes may be cosmetic, you should know the procedure delivers improved eye function by eliminating issues you might have come to consider normal.

The majority of patients who put off correcting their strabismus condition ultimately regret doing so once they see the difference. There’s no need to live with misaligned eyes. So *Be Eye Wise*, schedule an appointment and learn more about getting your strabismus corrected at Northwest Eye – because the more you know, the better you will see.



Is strabismus correction common?

While strabismus is a very common condition, strabismus surgery is not offered in every state. That's why Northwest Eye attracts patients seeking eye alignment from across the five-state region. Our doctors perform two to three times more strabismus surgeries annually than most practices. So yes, strabismus is a common condition and Northwest Eye is most commonly the place for one to correct it.

What is strabismus?

Strabismus is not lazy eye. Rather, it is the misalignment of one or both eyes. For example, as one eye looks forward, the other stares in a different direction. Correcting strabismus involves adjusting one or more of the six muscles that control eye alignment.

Strabismus Correction



Before



After

What is most interesting to strabismus patients is that in most cases, neither eye is truly straight. When viewed in a resting position, both of a patient's eyes are misaligned. However, the patient overcompensates one eye by manipulating the muscles to pull it into a straight position. When Northwest Eye corrects strabismus, we often deliver an improved field of vision as well as reduced fatigue and eye muscle strain.



Can you confidently look a person in the eye?

Beyond the obvious functional benefits associated with strabismus correction, there are additional reasons for aligning your eyes. Numerous studies show that adults with strabismus often struggle in the areas of employment, dating, earning the trust of others and self-confidence. Undoubtedly, first impressions make an impact. What wasn't clear before these studies, however, was the significant role your eyes play in how the world judges you.

COMMON ISSUES RELATED TO STRABISMUS:

- DECREASED CONFIDENCE
- DOUBLE VISION
- EYE STRAIN
- NECK FATIGUE
- GLARE
- SHIFTING IMAGES





How is strabismus treated?

Most Northwest Eye patients have their strabismus issues treated over the course of two or three appointments. After which, there is a series of follow-ups to track progress and assess overall success. Speaking of outcomes, the success rate for strabismus procedures at Northwest Eye may approach as high as 90%. We often see patients who had their strabismus corrected years ago, but need a readjustment. Thanks to improved techniques, re-dos and corrections on today's procedures are uncommon, but can be addressed by our doctors.

APPOINTMENT ONE:

A Northwest Eye doctor begins the appointment by listening. They want you to describe your condition. What's wrong, what might have caused it, how it impact daily life and your expectations of treatment. With this knowledge, your Northwest Eye doctor can help you understand what strabismus is, how it affects people and what outcomes can be achieved. Once a solid understanding is in place, your Northwest Eye doctor and his or her team will take anywhere from 30 to 130 measurements pertaining to your field of gaze and sensory functions. This is done to assess the extent of your condition and provide a basis for your unique medical plan.

Be Eye Wise



continued

How is strabismus treated?

APPOINTMENT TWO: (if needed)

Your Northwest Eye doctor will discuss the measurements from the first appointment and work with you to develop a medical plan. Northwest Eye offers various procedures for correcting strabismus, including one and two possible muscle adjustments. Your Northwest Eye doctor will discuss the merits and reasons for your particular procedure before arriving at a decision regarding the best course of action. It's at this point you'll decide if you want to proceed with corrective surgery or not.

APPOINTMENT THREE:

Surgery day has arrived. Most patients take great relief in knowing they will be completely sedated for the procedure. Because of this, you will need a ride to and from the procedure. Total time for the procedure is commonly one hour and upon waking, you'll be able to go home with minimal discomfort. In the event of minor pain, Tylenol or prescribed pain medications may be used.

AFTER THE SURGERY:

You will be instructed to keep your eye and/or eyes dry by avoiding pools, showers, rain and snow for 7 days. Also, you shouldn't lift any items weighing 25 pounds or more. Depending on the procedure type you and your doctor decide on, you will have a follow-up visit either the day after or within a week of your procedure. While some results will appear quickly, the final assessment cannot be made for 90 days while the eye muscles heal and adjust.



Straight answers from dedicated doctors.

Strabismus is a common issue, but the expertise and volume of procedures Northwest Eye handles is entirely uncommon. *Be Eye Wise* and see how the doctors of Northwest Eye are an unrivaled resource in the five-state region for correcting strabismus.



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Be Eye Wise



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