

Plus Lens Screening

Once a child (who does not wear glasses) has passed the monocular visual acuity screening, a Plus Lens screening is performed.

Ages

Five years and older.

Purpose

To check for hyperopia (farsightedness).

Description

Visual acuity is checked in a linear fashion at the same 10-foot distance as for distance visual acuity (myopia, nearsightedness).

Equipment

A pair of +2.50 glasses.

Visual acuity chart.

Screener qualifications

Can be performed by screeners with recommended training.

Facilities

Same as checking for visual distance acuity, myopia.

Procedure

A pair of +2.50 glasses are placed over the child's eyes without occluding either eye. The child is asked to read the line (or the higher of the two lines) they passed on the eye chart at the 10 foot distance.

PASS

Blurring of vision with the +2.50 glasses.

REFER

Clear vision with +2.50 lens glasses.

This indicates the child has a high amount of farsightedness and needs to be referred for evaluation.

Explanation

If a child has an excessive amount of hyperopia (farsightedness), the child will still be able to see with the +2.50 glasses for distance screening. Referring this child for a complete exam will allow for evaluation of high hyperopia and a determination of whether glasses are needed.

Children with little to no refractive error will find the additional +2.50 lenses to be overwhelming and, therefore, blurry for distance viewing. They do not need to be referred.



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