Blurred Vision

You have been seen today complaining of blurred vision. This means you have a loss of ability to see small details.

CAUSES

Blurred vision can be a symptom of underlying eye problems, such as:

- Aging of the eye (*presbyopia*).
- Glaucoma.
- Cataracts.
- Eye infection.
- Eye-related migraine.
- Diabetes mellitus.
- Fatigue.
- Migraine headaches.
- High blood pressure.
- Breakdown of the back of the eye (*macular degeneration*).
- Problems caused by some medications.

The most common cause of blurred vision is the need for eyeglasses or a new prescription. Today in the emergency department, no cause for your blurred vision can be found.

SYMPTOMS

Blurred vision is the loss of visual sharpness and detail (*acuity*).

DIAGNOSIS

Should blurred vision continue, you should see your caregiver. If your caregiver is your primary care physician, he or she may choose to refer you to another specialist.

TREATMENT

Do not ignore your blurred vision. Make sure to have it checked out to see if further treatment or referral is necessary.

SEEK MEDICAL CARE IF:

You are unable to get into a specialist so we can help you with a referral.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION IF:

- You have severe eye pain, severe headache, or sudden loss of vision.

MAKE SURE YOU:

- Understand these instructions.
- Will watch your condition.
- Will get help right away if you are not doing well or get worse.

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