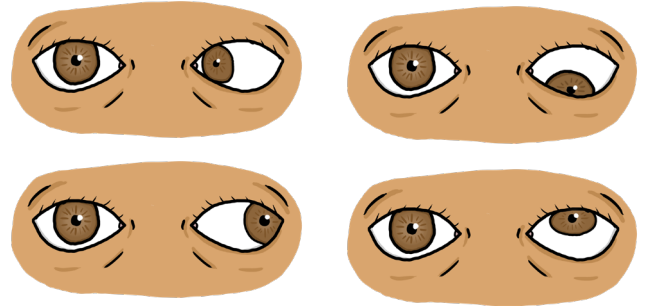




# Strabismus

(Strah– biz- mus)

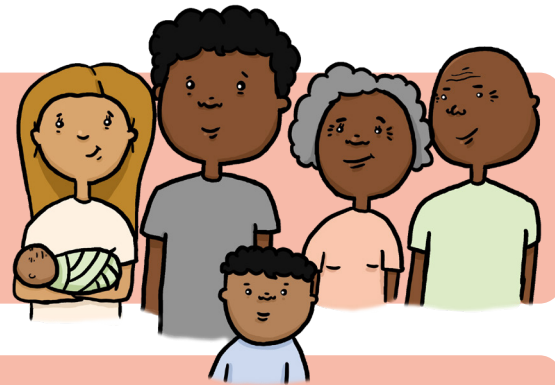
Strabismus is when one eye is looking straight ahead, and the other eye is looking in a different direction. It can come and go and often happens around ages 2 to 4, the eye turns in.



### How can it happen?

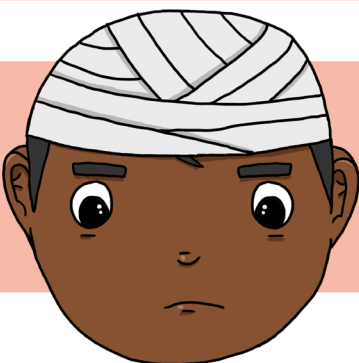


Passed on through the family (hereditary)



Eyes don't develop normally in the womb (not sure why)

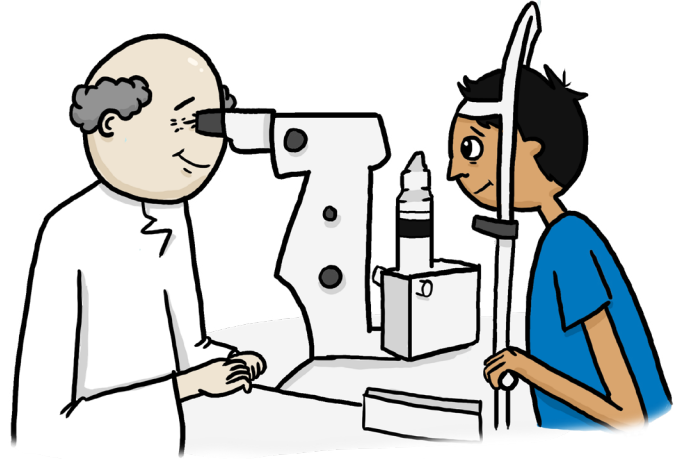
Sometimes we don't know why



After a head or eye injury

## What will the Dr do?

- To work out what is happening with bub's eyes an orthoptist, and an eye doctor will look at bub's eyes. An orthoptist is a specialist in eye movement problems. They will check bub's vision and see how the eyes "works together".
- The doctor uses equipment to look inside the eye to check it's healthy. They will use eye drops to make the pupil go big, this helps the doctors see inside the eye better. The drops might make bub's vision blurry for a while. They may not like it.
- Sometimes, a strabismus can be a sign of a more serious health or eye problem.
- Glasses can help bub see properly but will not help straighten their eyes.



## Surgery and treatment

- Not every child will need surgery.
- Surgery moves one or more of the eye muscles attached to the outside of the eye. **The eye is not removed!**
- The surgery is done with a general anaesthetic. It is usually done in a day, so no overnight stay.
- The doctor will talk to you about what treatment bub will need. Please ask any questions.



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This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with a disability.

**Disclaimer:** This publication is for general education and information purposes. Contact a qualified healthcare professional for any medical advice needed.

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