



OPTOMETRISTS

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KERATOCONUS



What is Keratoconus?

Keratoconus is a progressive eye disorder where the cornea, the clear outer layer of the eye, thins and gradually bulges into a cone-like shape. This irregular curvature of the cornea leads to distorted vision, including blurred vision, sensitivity to light, and difficulty seeing clearly, particularly at night.



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FAQS

- **At what age does keratoconus typically start?** Keratoconus often begins during adolescence or early adulthood, but it can develop at any age. It tends to progress gradually over several years.
- **How is keratoconus diagnosed?** Diagnosis involves a comprehensive eye examination, including tests such as corneal topography, which maps the curvature of the cornea, and corneal pachymetry, which measures corneal thickness.
- **What causes keratoconus?** The exact cause is not fully understood, but it's believed to involve a combination of genetic factors and environmental triggers. Rubbing the eyes vigorously, chronic eye irritation, and certain conditions like hay fever or asthma may contribute to its development.
- **Can keratoconus be treated?** Yes, treatment options aim to improve vision and slow down the progression of the condition. These may include eyeglasses or soft contact lenses in the early stages, rigid gas permeable (RGP) contact lenses for more advanced cases, corneal cross-linking to strengthen the cornea, and in severe cases, corneal transplant surgery.
- **How long will the comprehensive assessment take?** 30 minutes for the work up. Where possible the report and treatment plan will be devised and discussed in that time, however some cases will require longer depending on complexity.

Dr Ally Stevens

Dr Mark Hinds

