

## **EYEvisor**<sup>sm</sup>

Wellness Management

## 5 HEALTH ISSUES DETECTED BY AN EYE EXAM



Your eyes can reveal to your eye doctor underlining health issues.

Getting a comprehensive eye exam not only may detect a change in vision but it can determine your overall health. The eye is the only place in the body where a doctor has a clear view of your blood vessels, nerves and connecting tissue without the need of surgery. This unobstructed view allows eye doctors to see what's going on in other parts of your body not just your eyes.

Here are 5 health issues that may be discovered during an eye exam:

- 1. DIABETES: Change or damage in the blood vessels of the retina. If the blood vessels are leaking blood or a yellowish fluid you may have diabetic retinopathy. Diabetes is the leading cause of blindness among adults in the US.
- 2. HYPERTENSION: Blood vessels in the eyes are normally straight, if they narrow, bend, kink, or tear the likelihood of high blood pressure exists.
- 3. HIGH CHOLESTEROL: The cornea may have a yellowish appearance or yellow ring around it. Also plaque found in the blood vessels of the retina is another indication of high cholesterol. High cholesterol can lead to fat build-up blocking blood flow to the eye which can cause vision loss.
- 3. THYROID DISEASE (GRAVE'S DISEASE): Protruding, bulging eyes are an indication of thyroid disease.
- 4. STROKE: A microscopic clot in the blood vessels of the retina could put someone at risk for a stroke.
- 5. TUMOR OR ANEURYSM: Pupils of different sizes and droopy eyelids or a change in the appearance of the retina may reveal a tumor or aneurysm.

If your eye doctor detects any of the above health conditions, you should seek immediate attention from your healthcare professional for further investigation.

## **RESOURCES & REFERENCES**

The American Academy of Ophthalmology, "Your Eyes Could Be the Windows to Your Health." https://www.aao.org/eye-health/tips-prevention/diagnosing-systemic-diseases-eye-exams (last accessed 5.5.17)

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