

**GLOSSARY**

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## GLOSSARY

- Accommodation:** The adjustment of the eye for seeing at different distances, accomplished by changing the shape of the crystalline lens through action of the ciliary muscle.
- Amaurosis fugax:** Transient recurrent unilateral loss of vision.
- Amblyopia ex anopsia:** Uncorrectable blurred vision due to disuse of the eye with no organic defect.
- Aniseikonia:** A condition in which the image seen by one eye differs in size from that seen by the other.
- Anisometropia:** Difference in refractive error of the eyes, e.g., one eye hypermetropic and the other myopic.
- Anophthalmos:** Absence of a true eyeball.
- Anterior chamber:** Space filled with aqueous bounded anteriorly by the cornea and posteriorly by the iris.
- Aphakia:** Absence of the lens.
- Aqueous:** Clear, watery fluid that fills the anterior and posterior chambers.
- Astigmatism:** Refractive error which prevents the light rays from coming to a single focus on the retina because of different degrees of refraction in the various meridians of the cornea.
- Binocular vision:** The ability of a person's 2 eyes to focus on one object and to fuse the 2 images into one.
- Blind spot:** "Blank" area in the visual field, corresponding to the light rays that come to focus on the optic nerve.
- Buphthalmos:** Large eyeball in infantile glaucoma.
- Canaliculus:** Small tear drainage tube in inner aspect of upper and lower lids leading from the puncta to the common canaliculus and then to the tear sac.
- Canthus:** The angle at either end of the eyelid aperture; specified as outer and inner.
- Cataract:** A lens opacity.
- Chalazion:** Granulomatous inflammation of a meibomian gland.
- Choroid:** The vascular middle coat between the retina and sclera.

**Ciliary body:** Portion of the uveal tract between the iris and the choroid. It consists of ciliary processes and the ciliary muscle.

**Cones and rods:** Two kinds of retinal receptor cells. Cones are concerned with visual acuity and colour discrimination; rods are concerned with peripheral vision and vision under decreased illumination.

**Conjunctiva:** Mucous membrane which lines the posterior aspect of the eyelids and the anterior sclera.

**Convergence:** The process of directing the visual axes of the eyes to a near point.

**Cornea:** Transparent portion of the outer coat of the eyeball forming the anterior wall of the aqueous chamber.

**Cycloplegic:** A drug that temporarily puts the ciliary muscle at rest, paralyzes accommodation, and dilates the pupil.

**Dacryocystitis:** Infection of the lacrimal sac.

**Ectropion:** Turning out of the eyelid.

**Emmetropia:** Absence of refractive error.

**Enophthalmos:** Abnormal retrodisplacement of the eyeball.

**Entropion:** A turning inward of the eyelid.

**Enucleation:** Complete surgical removal of the eyeball.

**Epiphora:** Watering.

**Esophoria:** A tendency of the eyes to turn inward.

**Esotropia:** A manifest inward deviation of the eyes.

**Exenteration:** Removal of the entire contents of the orbit, including the eyeball and lids.

**Exophoria:** A tendency of the eyes to turn outward.

**Exophthalmos:** Abnormal protrusion of the eyeball.

**Exotropia:** A manifest outward deviation of one or both eyes.

**Field of vision:** The entire area which can be seen without shifting the gaze.

**Floaters:** Small dark particles in the vitreous.

**Fornix:** The junction of the palpebral and bulbar conjunctivae.

**Fovea:** Small depression in the macula adapted for most acute vision.

**Glaucoma:** Abnormally increased intraocular pressure.

**Gonioscopy:** A technique of examining the anterior chamber angle, utilizing a corneal contact lens, magnifying device, and light source.

**Hordeolum, external (stye):** Infection of a lash follicle or the glands of Moll or Zeis.

**Hordeolum, internal:** Meibomian gland infection.

**Hyperopia, hypermetropia (farsightedness):** A refractive error in which the focal point of light rays from a distant object is behind the retina.

**Hyperphoria:** A tendency of the eyes to deviate upward.

**Hypertropia:** A manifest upward deviation of the eyes.

**Injection:** Congestion of conjunctival blood vessels.

**Ishihara colour plates:** A test for colour vision based on the ability to trace patterns in a series of multicoloured charts.

**Keratoconus:** Cone-shaped deformity of the cornea.

**Lacrimal sac:** The dilated area at the junction of the nasolacrimal duct and the canaliculi.

**Limbus:** Junction of the cornea and sclera.

**Microphthalmos:** Abnormal smallness of the eyeball.

**Meiotic:** A drug causing pupillary constriction.

**Mydriatic:** A drug causing pupillary dilation without affecting accommodation.

**Myopia:** A refractive error in which the focal point for light rays from a distant object is anterior to the retina.

**Nystagmus:** An involuntary, rapid movement of the eyeball.

**Pannus:** Infiltration of the cornea with blood vessels.

**Photophobia:** Abnormal sensitivity to and discomfort from light.

**Posterior chamber:** Space filled with aqueous anterior to the lens and posterior to the iris.

**Presbyopia ("old sight"):** Physiologically blurred near vision, commonly evident soon after age 40.

**Pterygium:** A triangular fold of tissue which extends from the conjunctiva over the cornea.

**Ptosis:** Drooping of the eyelid.

**Retina:** Innermost coat of the eye, formed of light-sensitive nerve elements.

**Sclera:** The white part of the eye, a tough covering which, with the cornea, forms the external coat of the eye.

**Scotoma:** A blind or partially blind area in the visual field.

**Synechia:** Adhesion of the iris to cornea (anterior synechia) or lens (posterior synechia).

**Tonometer:** An instrument for measuring intraocular pressure.

**Uvea (uveal tract):** The iris, ciliary body, and choroid.

**Uveitis:** Inflammation of one or all portions of the uveal tract.

**Vitreous:** Transparent, colourless mass of soft, gelatinous material filling the eyeball behind the lens.

**Zonule:** The numerous fine tissue strands which stretch from the ciliary processes to the lens equator ( $360^{\circ}$ ) and hold the lens in place.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to acknowledge the help of the Department of Ophthalmology, University of Wisconsin, and Mr. Ian Strachan, University of Sheffield. I am grateful to Miss Rosemary Lynch for typing the manuscript.

D. B. Archer

I would like to thank my colleagues in the Department of Ophthalmology, Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast for their assistance in the revision of this book and both Mrs. J. Gallagher and Mrs. L. Steer for the typing of the manuscript.

C. Myra L. Sloper  
August 1991



