

Module: **Visual Conditions and Functional Vision:
Early Intervention Issues**

**Session 1: Working With Families and
Eye Care Professionals**

Handout C: Resources for Learning More About Visual Impairments

Rosenblum, L.P. (2003). *Resources for learning more about visual impairments*. Chapel Hill, NC: Early Intervention Training Center for Infants and Toddlers With Visual Impairments, FPG Child Development Institute, UNC-CH.

Web Sites Specific to Eye Diseases

The Achromatopsia Network. This is a network of individuals who have achromatopsia, are family members of someone with this condition, or are professionals. The organization has a newsletter and information on its Web site. The URL is <http://www.achromat.org/>

Association of ROP and Related Disorders (ROPARD). This organization's Web site contains information for parents, a bulletin board for discussion, and information about their newsletter, videos, and workshops. The URL is <http://www.ropard.org/>

International Foundation for Optic Nerve Disease. This site provides information about optic nerve diseases. It has links to information and other Web sites and also has an extensive dictionary within the site. The URL is <http://www.ifond.org/>

Leber's Links. This site is a central arena for families and professionals to share information relating to Leber's congenital amaurosis. It is designed to provide a coordinated approach in helping to understand this disorder better, by allowing those with Leber's and their families to access and share related information, new research, experience, and ideas. The URL is <http://leberslinks.freeyellow.com/index.html>

National Organization for Albinism and Hypopigmentation (NOAH). This Web site provides information for individuals with albinism, their families, and professionals. Information about the NOAH conference is also available. The URL is <http://www.albinism.org/>

Web Sites for Medical Professionals That Have Information for Families and Professionals

American Association For Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus. The AAPOS Web site is primarily for medical personnel, though there is a wealth of information of interest to parents and teachers, especially through the Public Information link. The Journal of the AAPOS is available online through the site with abstracts and some articles free, while others require a paid subscription. The Web site is accessible through Internet Explorer only. The URL is <http://med-aapos.bu.edu/>

American Academy of Ophthalmology. The AAO Web site is primarily for medical personnel but includes a link for finding an eye doctor. Latest treatments for eye disease are available on this Web site. Other issues related to the eye care, including legislation, news about careers in the field, and where the most recent ophthalmic convention will be held, can also be located on this Web site. The URL is <http://www.aao.org/>

American Academy of Optometry. The AAOPT Web site includes databases for topics of interest, a directory of optometrists, and news about forthcoming conventions. The organization issues position statements about the practice of optometry and the subspecialties with the field. The URL is <http://www.aaopt.org/>

Prevent Blindness America. Founded in 1908, Prevent Blindness America is the nation's leading volunteer eye health and safety organization dedicated to fighting blindness and saving sight. Focused on promoting a continuum of vision care, Prevent Blindness America touches the lives of millions of people each year through public and professional education, certified vision screening training, community and patient service programs and research. Together with a network of affiliates, divisions, and chapters, it is committed to eliminating preventable blindness in America. Their phone number is 1-800-331-2020 and their Web site is <http://www.preventblindness.org>

American Association of Certified Orthoptists. This organization represents an ophthalmic field pertaining to the evaluation and treatment of patients with disorders of the visual system with an emphasis on binocular vision and eye movements. Orthoptists are uniquely skilled in diagnostic techniques, clinical interpretation, and therapeutic modalities. They have been respected members of the allied health care in ophthalmology for more than fifty years. The URL is <http://www.orthoptics.org/>

Other Web Sites

Early Intervention Training Center for Infants and Toddlers With Visual Impairments. The Resources section of this Web site has extensive information about many organizations, books, articles, videos, and Web sites. Within the Resources section is an area that focuses on eye conditions and visual functioning. The URL is <http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~edin/index.htm>

Lea Hyvärinen. This site contains information about visual development, disorders of the eye, vision assessment, and much more. The site has a translator and is available in several languages, including Spanish. The URL is <http://www.lea-test.fi/> with specific information about eye conditions at <http://www.lea-test.fi/en/eyes/index.html>

Visual Impairment Scotland. This organization of medical professionals, educators, parents, children, and community leaders aids children with visual impairments and their families. The goal of the organization is to provide the appropriate services and opportunities to these families. The URL is <http://www.viscotland.org/uk>

Correspondence Courses

Available from:

The Hadley School for the Blind
700 Elm Street
Winnetka, IL 60093-2554
Phone: 800-323-4238
Fax: 847-446-0855
E-mail: Info@Hadley-School.org
Web site: <http://www.hadley-school.org/>

The Human Eye. Gain a better understanding of the eyes: their anatomy, how they see, and how they are examined. Lessons focus on particular parts of the visual system, along with diseases and treatments.

Introduction to Low Vision. Take an active role in the rehabilitation of a family member who has recently experienced vision loss. This course describes the comprehensive eye exam, optical aids, common feelings that attend vision loss, and community resources that are available to help. This course focuses on having an adult family member experiencing vision loss, however, many of the concepts introduced in the course go across the age span.

Videos

Available from:

AFB Press
Publication/Video Orders
11 Penn Plaza, Suite 300
New York, NY 10001
Tel: 800-232-3044 or 412-741-1398
Fax: 412-741-0609
E-mail: afborder@abdintl.com
Web site: <http://www.afb.org>

What Can Baby See?: Vision Tests and Intervention Strategies for Infants with Visual Impairments and Multiple Disabilities. This video illustrates some of the common vision tests used with infants during the clinical eye exam. It addresses components of the functional vision assessment and environmental adaptations. Two children are highlighted in the video as a way to illustrate key points.

Vision Tests for Infants. This video provides a step-by-step demonstration of what occurs during the clinical eye exam for a young child. The instrumentation and is explained and demonstrated.

Available from:

Visual Impaired Program
Attention: Dr. Roberta Heaven
Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children
3644 Slocan Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V5M 3E8 Canada
Phone: (604) 434-1331

Cortical Visual Impairment in Young Children. This video provides background information on cortical visual impairment. It illustrates intervention strategies for working with children who have cortical visual impairment.

Help your child see. Promoting the vision development of young children with ocular visual impairment. This video discusses some of the common causes of ocular visual impairments. It demonstrates strategies, including environmental adaptations that promote the child's use of vision.

Available from:

Visually Impaired Preschool Services, Inc. (VIPS)
229 Garvin Place
Louisville, KY 40203
Phone: 888-636-3207
Fax: (502) 636-0024
Email: Info@vips.org
Web site: <http://www.vips.org/>

Through Their Eyes: An Introduction to Low Vision. This video discusses several common causes of low vision, how they affect visual functioning, and adaptations that can be incorporated simply into home and classroom to meet the special needs of children who have low vision.

Available from:

Erhardt Developmental Products
2379 Snowshoe Court
Maplewood, MN 55119
Phone 651-730-9004
Web site: http://home.att.net/~rperhardtdp/vision_videos.html

Normal Visual Development Birth to Six Month. Through close up shots of five infants visual behaviors (e.g., pupillary response, Doll's eye reflex, fixation) are illustrated.

Available from:

BVD Promo Services
PO Box 930182
Verona, WI 53593-0182
Phone: 800-438-9832

Functional Vision: Learning to Look. This video provides an overview of how children use their vision in every day activities. It discusses strategies to promote a child's use of vision.

Readings

Dictionary of Eye Terminology. The dictionary provides definitions on terms associated with the eye. It is very comprehensive and a valuable tool when reading about eye conditions or interpreting medical records. Available from:

Triad Publishing Company
1110 NW 8th Ave
Gainesville, FL 32601
Phone: 800-525-6902
Fax: 800-525-4947
Web site: www.triadpublishing.com

Fact Sheets. This collection of Fact Sheets contains information on six common visual diagnoses, as well as information on eye specialists and vision assessments. Content topics such as "Visual and Behavioral Characteristics," "Myths," and "Teaching Strategies" make the fact sheets useful to families, therapists, and medical and educational professionals who work with children with visual impairments. All Fact Sheets are available in Spanish, and the CVI Fact Sheet is available in Japanese as well. Available from:

Blind Babies Foundation
5016 Mission St
San Francisco, CA 94112
Phone: (415) 586-6140
Fax: (415) 586-6279
Email: bbfinfo@blindbabies.org
Web site: <http://www.blindbabies.org/>

Hoyt-Akeson Readings in Pediatric Ophthalmology. This 2-volume set is a comprehensive collection of articles from medical journals related to pediatric ophthalmology. Available from:

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5016 Mission St
San Francisco, CA 94112
Phone: (415) 586-6140
Fax: (415) 586-6279
Email: bbfinfo@blindbabies.org
Web site: <http://www.blindbabies.org/>