

# ASTIGMATISM

Normal cornea



Cornea with astigmatism



In the normal eye, the cornea is round, like a soccer ball, allowing light rays to focus evenly on the retina at the back of the eye.

## **What is Astigmatism?**

It simply means that your eye is shaped more like a football than a soccer ball. In the astigmatic eye, the cornea is oval, like an egg, preventing light from correctly focusing on the retina.

## **How does it affect my sight?**

Astigmatism stretches or distorts what you see in one direction, depending on the position of your 'foot ball.'

## **How is it corrected?**

GLASSES OR CONTACT LENSES FIX THIS PROBLEM.

If left uncorrected, it can cause amblyopia in children (LAZY EYES) which means they do not correct to 20/20. Patching is then needed to strengthen the eyes. In adults, it causes eye strain, head aches and night vision problems.

**ALL FAMILY MEMBERS SHOULD BE TESTED FOR IT.**

Amblyopia, commonly called lazy eye, is a condition in children when vision does not develop properly in one or both eyes. If it's left untreated, a child's vision will never develop correctly. Vision impairment becomes permanent because as the child's brain matures, it will "ignore" the image coming from the poorly seeing eye. That's why it's essential to have a child with amblyopia regularly tested by an eye doctor.