

Vision Screening Skill Assessment: Unilateral Cover Test

Purpose: The unilateral cover test (at near and at distance) screens for eye alignment.

NOTE: If the child wears glasses or contacts, there is no need to perform this screening procedure.

Name _____ Date Trained _____

Observed by _____ Date Observed _____

Equipment Needed	Yes	No	Comments
1. Screener has equipment needed to perform the screening at near and at distance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plastic lollipop occluder ▪ Small object for child to focus at near (eg; hand-held toy, tongue blade with sticker) ▪ Object/picture/poster for child to focus at distance of 10 feet 			

Procedure at Near (for children ages 6 months through 20 years)	Yes	No	Comments
2. Child is positioned in front of the screener			
3. Screener holds a small object about 15" in front of the child and ensures the child is looking at the object			
4. Screener covers the child's left eye with the occluder moving vertically from the forehead towards the cheek; screener watches the uncovered eye (right eye) for movement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Screener uncovers the eye and ensures the child's vision is fixated on the object again ▪ Repeat this procedure 2 to 3 times 			
5. Screener covers the child's right eye with the occluder moving vertically from the forehead towards the cheek; screener watches the uncovered eye (left eye) for movement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Examiner uncovers the eye and ensures the child's vision is fixated on the object again ▪ Repeat this procedure 2 to 3 times 			

UNILATERAL COVER TEST

Procedure at Distance (for children ages 3 through 20 years)	Yes	No	Comments
6. Screener stands in front of and to the side of the child's eye that is being covered			
7. Screener asks child to focus on object at approximately 10-14 foot distance			
8. Screener covers the child's left eye with the occluder moving vertically from the forehead towards the cheek; screener watches the uncovered eye (right eye) for movement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Screener uncovers the eye and ensures the child's vision is fixated on the object again ▪ Repeat this procedure 2 to 3 times 			
9. Screener covers the child's right eye with the occluder moving vertically from the forehead towards the cheek; screener watches the uncovered eye (left eye) for movement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Examiner uncovers the eye and ensures the child's vision is fixated on the object again ▪ Repeat this procedure 2 to 3 times 			

Documentation of Screening Procedure	Yes	No	Comments
10. Screener clearly identifies PASS criteria: No movement detected in the uncovered eye			
11. Screener clearly identifies REFER criteria: Repeatable movement noted with one or both eyes when uncovered or resistance to occlusion by the child for one eye but not the other			

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