

# KERATOCONUS

Keratoconus is a rare vision condition in which the cornea – the clear, dome-shaped front of the eye – becomes thin and coned shape. The condition prevents light from hitting the retina correctly and distorts one's vision. Keratoconus is a chronic disease that affects approximately one in 2,000 people.

## What are the symptoms of keratoconus?



Blurred or distorted vision



Light sensitivity



Poor night vision



Sudden clouding of vision

## Who is at risk for keratoconus?

Factors that can increase one's risk of keratoconus include:

- Family history of keratoconus
- Aggressive or frequent eye rubbing
- History of retinitis pigmentosa, Ehlers-Danlos syndrome and Down syndrome
- Chronic eye inflammation

## How is keratoconus diagnosed?

Ophthalmologists and optometrists can diagnose keratoconus during a routine eye exam by examining the cornea and measuring its curvature. An ophthalmologist, a medical doctor who specializes in the medical and surgical treatment of eye diseases, can provide treatment for keratoconus.

Early diagnosis and treatment can help patients manage the disease before it leads to vision loss.

## Are there treatment options for keratoconus?

Vision correction can often be achieved with glasses or soft contact lenses in the early stages of keratoconus.

The FDA has approved a treatment for corneal cross-linking, a procedure that can improve vision and slow the progression of keratoconus.

There are also several promising treatments for the treatment of keratoconus going through the FDA clinical trial process.

**Innovation and treatment access for rare vision conditions, like keratoconus, are imperative to ensure patients have treatment options available to slow, or even prevent, irreversible vision damage.**