

## Strabismus in Pediatric Patients

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### Introduction

#### What is strabismus

Strabismus, also known as crossed eyes, is a common eye condition among children of all ages. It is when the eyes are not lined up properly and they point in different directions, also considered misaligned. One eye may look straight ahead while the other eye will turn in, out, up, or down. It is not necessary for the misalignment to occur in one eye more than the other and can shift between the eyes.

We have six muscles that allow movement to occur within the eye, known as the inferior oblique, superior oblique, inferior rectus, superior rectus, medial rectus, and lateral rectus. One muscle moves the eye right, one moves it to the left, and the other four muscles allow the eye to move up, down, and at an angle.

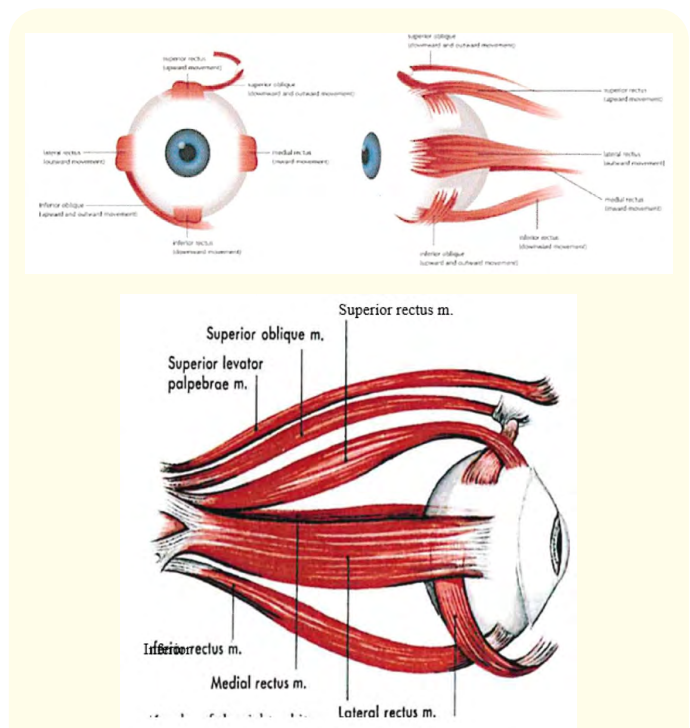
Strabismus can be categorized by the direction of the turned or misaligned eye:

- Inward turning (esotropia)
- Outward turning (exotropia)
- Upward turning (hypertropia)
- Downward turning (hypotropia)

### Materials and Methods

### Results and Discussion

In order to focus on a single image, all six muscles must work together otherwise a distortion in vision can be present. The brain



**Figure 1:** Muscles of the right orbit as viewed from the side.

Citation: Azretina.sites.arizona.edu. 2022. Eye Muscles: The True Body Builders of the Body/Arizona RETINA Project. [online] Available at: <<https://azretina.sites.arizona.edu/content/eye-muscles-true-bodybuilders-body-0>>.

controls and commands these muscles, most strabismus is not caused due to any associated medical problems but however may be related to children who have disorders causing an impact on their brain.

Some but not all those problems may include having; cerebral palsy, down syndrome, prematurity at birth and brain tumors. Family members with strabismus or a strong history of strabismus can increase the chances of a child developing signs themselves.

### Conclusion

- **Eyeglasses or Contact lenses:** This treatment option is mainly used in patient with uncorrected refractive errors. With corrective lenses, the eyes will need less focusing effort and may remain straight.
- **Prism Lenses:** Special lenses that can bend light entering the eye and help eliminate double vision that may be caused by strabismus.
- **Patching:** Covering the better seeing eye with an eye patch allows the weaker eye to improve control of misalignment. This can also help treat amblyopia; also known as lazy eye.
- **Eye Muscle Surgery:** Surgery changes the length or position of the eye muscles so that they are aligned correctly. This is performed under general anesthesia with dissolvable stitches. Occasionally as adult's patient may be offered adjustable strabismus surgery, where the eye muscle positions are adjusted after surgery.