

This material will help you understand leukocoria.

## **What is leukocoria?**

Leukocoria means “white pupil.” The pupil is a small area surrounded by the brown, blue or green part of the eye. The pupil changes size depending on lighting conditions. A white pupil can be present all the time or just noted occasionally in photographs. The appearance of leukocoria is usually produced by a camera flash but occasionally it can be a sign of serious eye conditions.

## **What causes leukocoria?**

Many conditions can cause leukocoria including:

- Cataracts
- Retinal detachments
- Retinopathy of prematurity
- Retinal malformation
- Intraocular infection
- Coat’s Disease
- Retinoblastoma or other intraocular tumor

Some of these conditions affect vision or can be life threatening. If you notice this sign, it is important that your child’s eyes are carefully examined by an eye doctor.

## **How is leukocoria treated?**

The treatment for leukocoria depends on the cause. Talk to your child’s eye doctor about treatment options.

**For more information, scan these codes with your smartphone or visit the websites listed.**



<http://www.aapos.org/terms/conditions/67>

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