

This material will help you understand ocular myasthenia and how it is treated.

What is ocular myasthenia?

Ocular myasthenia is a weakness of the muscles around the eye. The weakness may cause your eyelid (one or both) to droop. It may also cause you to have double vision.

What causes ocular myasthenia?

Ocular myasthenia is an autoimmune disorder. This means that the body's immune system, which protects the body from disease, accidentally attacks healthy tissue. In ocular myasthenia specifically, the signal from the brain that keeps the eye muscles working correctly gets blocked by an antibody. An antibody is a protein that is made by the immune system. You may notice that your symptoms of ocular myasthenia come and go. They may also seem worse if you are tired or sick. This occurs because sometimes the signal can get through and other times it can't.

How is ocular myasthenia treated?

Treatment for ocular myasthenia depends on the severity of your symptoms. Your doctor may suggest using eyelid tape or wearing a patch over one eye. These options may help treat mild symptoms. If

your symptoms are more bothersome, your doctor may prescribe medicine for you.

Will I develop other symptoms?

About half of the people with ocular myasthenia develop muscle weakness in other parts of their bodies. This condition is known as generalized myasthenia gravis. If you do not have any other muscle weakness within two years, then the chance of developing this condition is very low. Talk to your doctor right away if you have new symptoms like difficulty swallowing or trouble breathing.

For more information, scan this code with your smartphone or visit the website listed.



<http://www.myasthenia.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=uT52jMdiL6I%3d>

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Ocular Myasthenia