

KEYPOINTS

DOWN'S SYNDROME- OPHTHALMIC PROBLEMS

(Based on DSMIG guidelines for basic essential medical surveillance)

Refractive errors (including hypermetropia) very common from early childhood. If untreated cause secondary handicap. Cataract and/or glaucoma overrepresented in infancy and later. Blepharitis and nystagmus common. Keratoconus overrepresented at older ages.

- **Newborn and 6 weeks** - check for cataract.
- **1st year** - visual behaviour to be monitored by a paediatrician.
- **18m – 2yrs** –Full ocular/visual assessment to include orthoptic assessment, refraction and fundus examination. One third will have refractive error. Majority will have defective accommodation.
- Follow up as required for those with problems.
- **2 yearly** full assessment (hospital or high-street) for others throughout life.
- By age **4 years** **50%** have refractive error
- Consider near correction or bifocals at all ages
- If pain, and/or changing vision, and/or red eye, refer for immediate specialist opinion.