

# Vision Loss

**Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI)** is caused by any ischemic event - *where the brain doesn't receive enough oxygen or blood.*

## Symptoms:

- Initially appear blind (Doesn't respond when object is presented close to the face)
- Tends to see objects when held closer to the face
- Tends to look at an object and then look away
- Has a harder time with looking at visually cluttered objects/environments
- Depth perception may be affected

## How does vision affect development:

- It is not possible to determine comparisons for sighted vs. visually impaired children
- Motor is most commonly affected
- Object permanence is a key milestone
- Language delays may not be evident at first
- Self help skills need to be taught
- Social skills and play behavior are unique

## Prevention Ideas:

- CVI cannot be prevented once the child is born, so focus on maximizing the function
- Be aware of signs
- Refer when in doubt
- Learn from local experts - Ophthalmologist vs. Vision Specialist
- Talk to parents
- Be creative with toys - start by closing your eyes

