

TWOP

World Prematurity Day



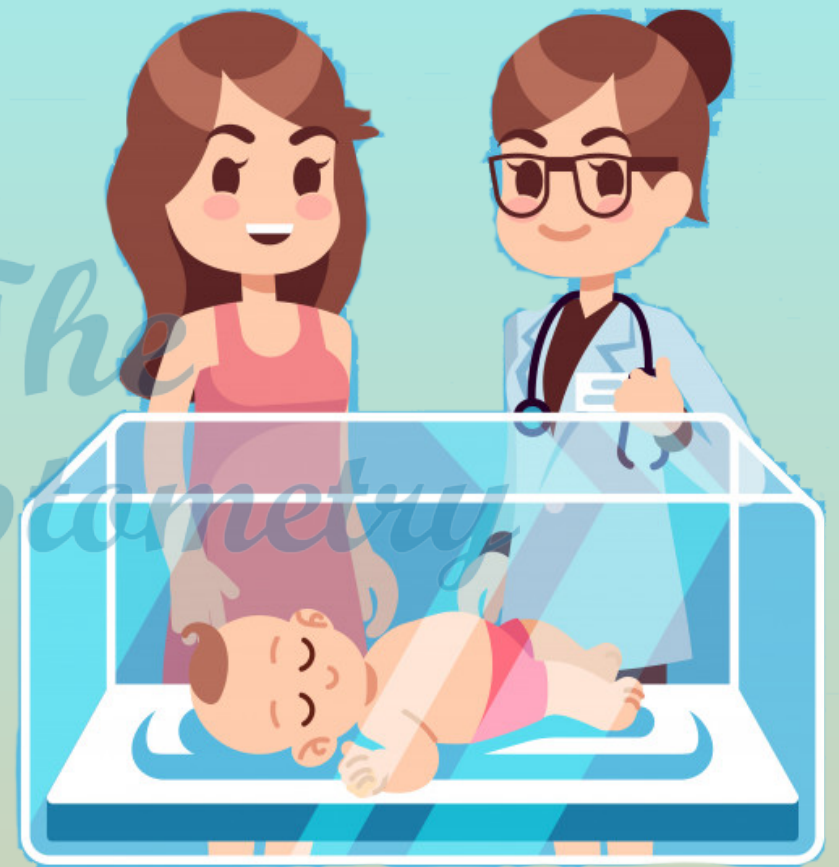
*The
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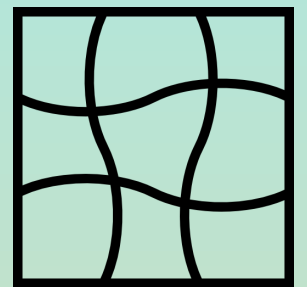
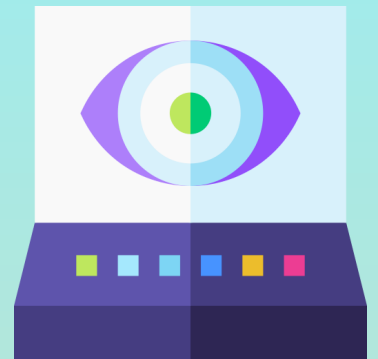
Definition of Prematurity

A premature birth is one that occurs before the start of the 37th week of pregnancy.



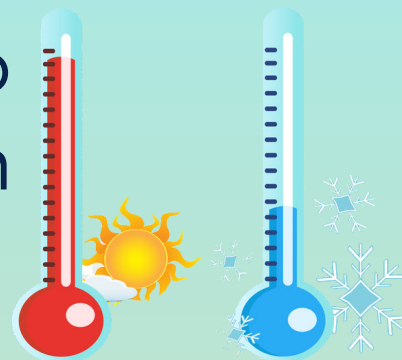
Ocular Conditions Due to Prematurity

- Retinopathy Of Prematurity (ROP)
- Cerebral visual impairment
- Color Vision defects
- Visual Field defects
- Reduced Contrast Sensitivity
- Decreased Vision Acuity
- Infantile Esotropia
- High Risk of Glaucoma



What is ROP?

- ROP, a potentially blinding disease caused by abnormal development of retinal blood vessels in premature infants.
- Blood vessels which feed the retina fail to stop growing in children who are born prematurely.
- Infants who are born early exposed to:
 - Medicine
 - Oxygen
 - Bright lights & Temperature changes
- These might also affect how an eye's blood vessels develop.



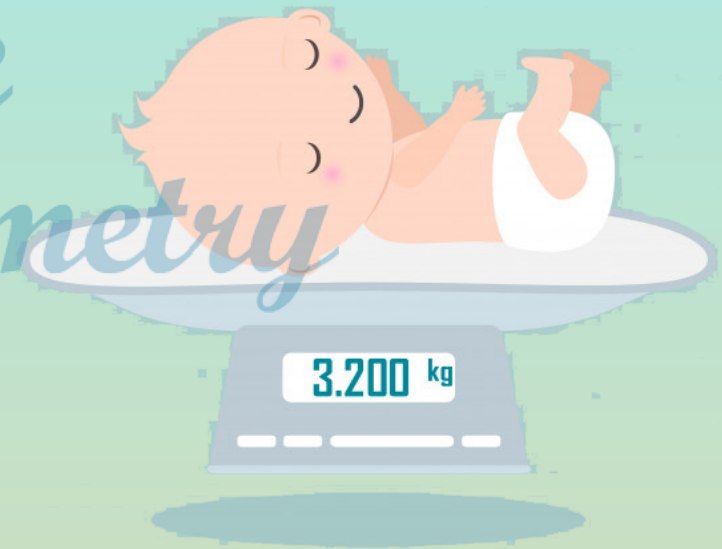
Risk factors

Mainly:

- (1) Babies with 1250 grams or less wieght
- (2) Born before 31 weeks gestation
- (3) Exposed to high concentration of oxygen

Other Risk Factors Include:

- (1) Anemia
- (2) Poor weight gain
- (3) Blood transfusion
- (4) Difficulties in breathing
- (5) Ethnicity: more common in Caucasians
- (6) The overall health of the infant



Signs and Symptoms

Early:

- No symptoms

Late:

- Unusual eye movements
- White pupils
- Vision loss

ROP is described by:

- Zone: Location in the eye
- Stage: Severity of the disease
- Plus Disease: Appearance of the retinal vessels.



Treatment & Complications

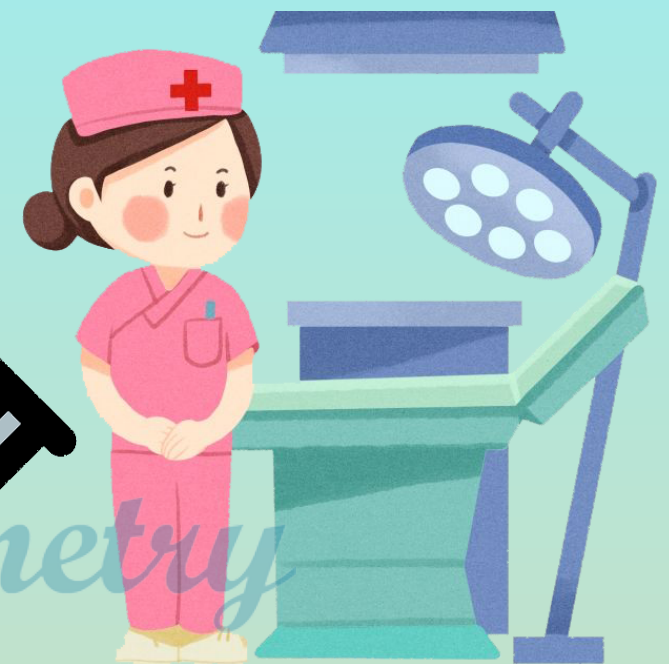
Treatment of ROP:

The Pediatric Ophthalmologist may treat ROP in one or more of the following ways:

- Laser
- Freezing (cryotherapy)
- Eye injections
- Surgery in severe cases

Complications of ROP:

- Myopia of Prematurity
- Cataracts
- Glaucoma
- Retinal Detachment
- Strabismus
- Blindness



Prevention & Screening

There is no **prevention** but;

1. Parental care reduces the likelihood of premature birth
2. Early Diagnosis through effective screening and timely Treatment when indicated can prevent its harmful effects



A Pediatric Optometrist can examine the infant's eyes. **Screening** should be done in all infants with:

1. Gestational age of equal or less than 30 weeks
2. Birth weight of equal to or less than 1500g
3. Unstable clinical course

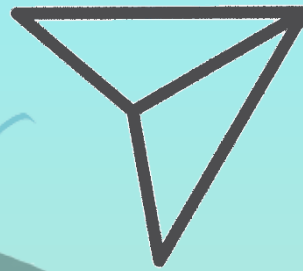




Wow, what a cool content



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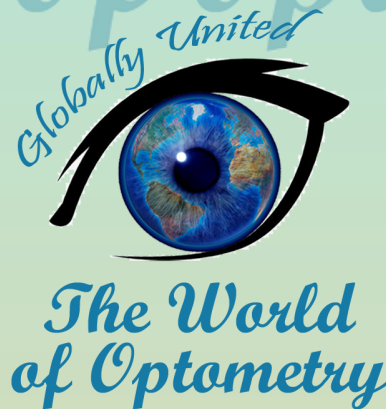


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