

Clinical Decision-making



DOUBLE VISION

Double Vision



A 58-year-old man attended the clinic. Two days previously he had become aware of horizontal double vision. The images were most widely separated on gaze to the right. Covering either eye caused one image to disappear. There was no significant past medical or ophthalmic history.

Double Vision



Q1: Most double vision in adults is caused by incomitant squint due to neurological or muscular dysfunction or mechanical restriction of the eye muscles. Using these headings, list some causes.

Double Vision



Double vision

Scenario 1

Scenario 2

Scenario 1



Cover testing in the primary position showed a moderate right convergent squint, worse for distance than near.

Scenario 1



There was limitation of abduction of the right eye. The eyes were otherwise normal, as was a general neurological examination.



Scenario 1



Q2: Which muscle is affected and what is its nerve supply?

Scenario 2



There were some additional symptoms: the eyes had been red and irritable for some months and had assumed a 'staring' appearance.

Scenario 2



Q3: What is the commonest cause of this condition?

Scenario 2



Q4: Why is there double vision?

Q5: Sight loss is a rare but preventable complication. How might it occur?



Thank You