



ci

convergence insufficiency



Convergence Insufficiency (CI) is a type of eye coordination problem, characterized by a difficulty or inability to effectively converge or align both eyes together to perform near oriented visual tasks.

symptoms /// CI may occur in children and adults. Symptoms often include difficulty reading and concentrating on reading tasks, avoidance of near work, double vision (overlapping words) while reading, eye strain, headaches and rubbing or closing of one eye when reading.

**ci at school** /// Studies have shown that children with reading or learning problems have a significantly greater risk of having CI. The symptoms of CI can directly impact reading performance as well as attention and concentration. Once treated, reading, attention and other school performance problems often dramatically improve.

**ci at work** /// CI can cause tired eyes and headaches while doing office work and significantly reduce productivity on the job. This occurs especially when the job calls for extended “close-up” visual tasks such as computer work, reading or written reports.

cause /// The causes of CI vary from patient to patient. It can be based on a hereditary predisposition, delays in normal childhood development or the result of an acquired brain injury, among other possibilities.

diagnosis /// The child with CI will not be identified by the standard “eye sight” screening performed in the pediatrician’s office or at schools. These vision screenings routinely only test distance eye sight, and the patient with CI often has 20/20 sight measured on a distance eye chart. CI can only be diagnosed through a comprehensive vision examination.

importance of treating correctly /// In 2008 the National Eye Institute released the results of a major multicenter research study designed to look at methods of treatment for Convergence Insufficiency. Based on scientific evidence, the research has proven that office-based vision therapy is the only successful treatment for CI when compared to all other common methods used by doctors to treat this condition.

Proper eye teaming skills (binocular coordination) are a visual prerequisite for reading. Whether a child, teen or adult, the individual who suffers from the symptoms of CI will not respond effectively to tutoring, special education services or extra help from teachers. Therefore, individuals with CI must receive treatment to properly respond to educational methods.

Adults with CI who work in jobs that have extended computer or reading requirements will under-perform or experience symptoms such as headaches and abnormal fatigue, until the CI is effectively treated.

Wow Vision Therapy is recognized as one of the leading vision therapy specialty practices in the United States. Our doctors and staff have extensive training and experience in treating patients with CI.

Our approach is to utilize both skill and technology coupled with a concerned and caring attitude for each patient. In addition, Wow Vision Therapy provides doctor supervised, one-to-one (therapist to patient), office-based vision therapy treatment programs, which is the most effective way to treat CI. This style of care results in consistent therapeutic effectiveness.

**dr. fortенbacher** /// Dan L. Fortenbacher O.D, FCOVD, received his Doctor of Optometry from the Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University in 1979. He has lectured extensively on binocular, developmental and rehabilitative optometry and has served in several leadership positions for the profession on the state and national level. In 2007-2008 he served as President of the College of Optometrists in Vision Development.

wow vision therapy /// Founded by Dr. Fortenbacher, Wow Vision Therapy is a vision practice dedicated to binocular, developmental and rehabilitative vision care. It was established with the mission of helping each patient reach their own personal goals through the attainment of an improved visual system.

wowvision.net

† /// 269.983.3309 f /// 269.983.0846

2908 division street saint joseph, mi 49085

