Home Visual Acuity Testing

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be performing telehealth visits. An important part of an eye examination is measuring vision—how well your child can see on an eyechart.

Prior to your telehealth appointment, please check and record your child’s vision in their right eye and their left eye. If they have glasses, please ensure they are wearing them during the test.

# Method used:

HOTV Snellen

# Glasses on?

# Yes No

# Vision: Reliability:

Right eye: 20 / 1 2 3 4 5

Low Medium High

Left eye: 20 / 1 2 3 4 5

A screenshot of a cell phone

Description automatically generatedA close up of a sign

Description automatically generatedPlease follow these directions:  
  
**1) Print a full sized visual acuity chart:**   
- Children < 6 (or if they do not know their letters):  
 Download children’s eye test at https://www.safeeyesamerica.org/home-eye-test  
 Confirm that the distance between lines is 2.5 inches (guide on sheet)  
- Fold chart so letters are on outside, and secure with a paper clip  
- Print matching guide for younger children  
   
- Children > 6 (or children that know their letters)  
 https://www.safeeyesamerica.org/home-eye-test  
  
**2) Set up testing area**HOTV chart:  
- Give your child the matching guide (if needed) and practice the test   
- Find a room that is at least 15 feet long  
- Place chair for child at the end of the room  
- Measure 10 feet from the back of the chair   
 Tape measure  
 “Measure” app on iOS or Android   
 Lay 11 printer pages (8.5” x 11”) end to end   
Snellen chart:  
- Tape chart on a wall   
- Measure 10 feet from the wall (methods as above)

**3) check your child’s vision**- if you have a patch, patch your child’s left eye  
- if your child wears glasses, put them on  
HOTV: (child can point to the matching letter or state the letter out loud)  
- Stand 10 feet away and randomly spin the chart and point to the first letter under the black line (20/40). If they can identify this letter, move to the next smallest letter. If they cannot read it, go up a line. Find the size of letters your child can read at least 3/4. Record this number. (20/\_\_) Record how reliable you think the vision test was.  
 video guide: <https://vimeo.com/398735742>  
Snellen:  
- Have your child stand 10 feet away from the eyechart on the wall  
- Ask your child to read the lowest line of letters they can.   
- identify the lowest line of letters your child can read at least half the letters. Record this number (20/\_\_). Record how reliable you think the vision test was.   
  
Patch the right eye and repeat the test.

General tips:  
No cheating!   
 Make sure your child’s eye is patched or completely covered and they are not peeking.   
 Do not give your child any hints.  
Practice first  
 Especially for the HOTV test, stand close to your child and practice. Make sure they  
 understand the “game”.