

Carolinas Rehabilitation Low Vision Rehabilitation

Low Vision Facts

Despite remarkable advances in medical treatment, more than 11.4 million Americans live with partial or total vision loss. It is a condition that affects people of all ages and backgrounds, often robbing them of their independence. Vision impairment is among the 10 most prevalent causes of disability in the United States (National Eye Institute, 2004).

Common Causes of Low Vision

- Macular degeneration
- Glaucoma
- Diabetic retinopathy
- Stroke or brain injury

Occupational Therapy

Occupational therapy is a profession that specializes in reducing the impact of disabilities and promoting the highest level of independence and quality of life in children and adults who have functional limitations (AOTA fact sheet, 2005).

“The main focus of occupational therapy is to have people of all ages with low vision or visual impairment participate in activities that are meaningful and contribute to the quality of their life” (AOTA fact sheet, 2005).

Adults with low vision may have difficulty using their remaining vision efficiently and effectively enough to complete needed activities. They may benefit from occupational therapy, utilizing compensatory strategies to increase independence on all aspects of activities of daily living. These may include self care (dressing, bathing, toileting), reading, writing, medical management, meal preparation, financial management, household management, function and community mobility.

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For Referrals, call 704-355-4300 or fax to 704-355-7873