

SELF TESTING FOR FLASHES AND FLOATERS

There are a number of symptoms that may indicate you are at risk of suffering a retinal tear, hole or detachment. Typically, only one eye will be affected.

1. Cover One Eye
2. Check for the following;
 - **New Floaters** - The sudden appearance of 'floaters' can be a warning. Floaters are dark spots or shapes that suddenly appear in your field of vision. These may show as a little more than flecks or they could be large rings or a **cobweb** effect of lots of floaters.
 - **Change** in shape size or number of floaters in your vision
 - **Flashes** - Another common symptom of retinal detachment is seeing flashes of light in one eye. These will only be short (no more than a second).
 - **Reduced vision** - There is also a chance of your vision blurring or becoming distorted.
 - **Shadow, curtain or veil** coming across your vision - Once the detachment reaches a certain stage, you may experience a dark curtain or shadow spreading across your field of vision.
3. Repeat test for the other eye

Should you experience any of these issues, it is important that you see an eye specialist immediately. Without treatment, there will be ongoing deterioration of vision and you can become completely blind.

If you have noted any of the above symptoms or have any concerns, contact us on 02 9635 0663 or if after hours talk to the eye registrar at Sydney Eye Hospital on 02 9382 7111.

Please contact us directly on 02 9635 0663 for general queries - for any urgent or After-hours Emergencies please contact Sydney Eye Hospital 9382 7111 and speak to the eye registrar.