



**Dr Kate
Gibson**

Clinical Geneticist
Genetic Health Service
NZ, Children's Specialist
Centre, Christchurch
Hospital, Christchurch



**Dr Antony
Bedggood**

Ophthalmologist
Children's Specialist
Centre, Christchurch



**Dr Fiona
Leighton**

Paediatric Dietitian
Christchurch



**Dr Melanie
Souter**

Otolaryngologist/Otologist
Christchurch Public
Hospital, Specialists @nine,
Christchurch



**Professor
Spencer
Beasley**

General and Paediatric
Surgeon
Clinical Director,
Department of Paediatric
Surgery, Christchurch
Hospital, Christchurch



**Professor
Andrew
Day**

Paediatric
Gastroenterologist
Christchurch



**Dr Paul
Shillito**

Child and Adolescent
Neurologist
Christchurch
Hospital,
Christchurch



Dr Colin Watt

Child & Adolescent
Psychiatrist
Christchurch

FULLY BOOKED

Friday, August 12, 2016

(Room 6)

16:30 - 18:30 WS #52: Paediatric Forum (120mins - not repeated)



'SQUINTS' ~~DEMYSTIFIED~~ MYTHIFIED





WILL THIS 'SQUINT' RESOLVE?

Who would be comfortable to observe, or refer?



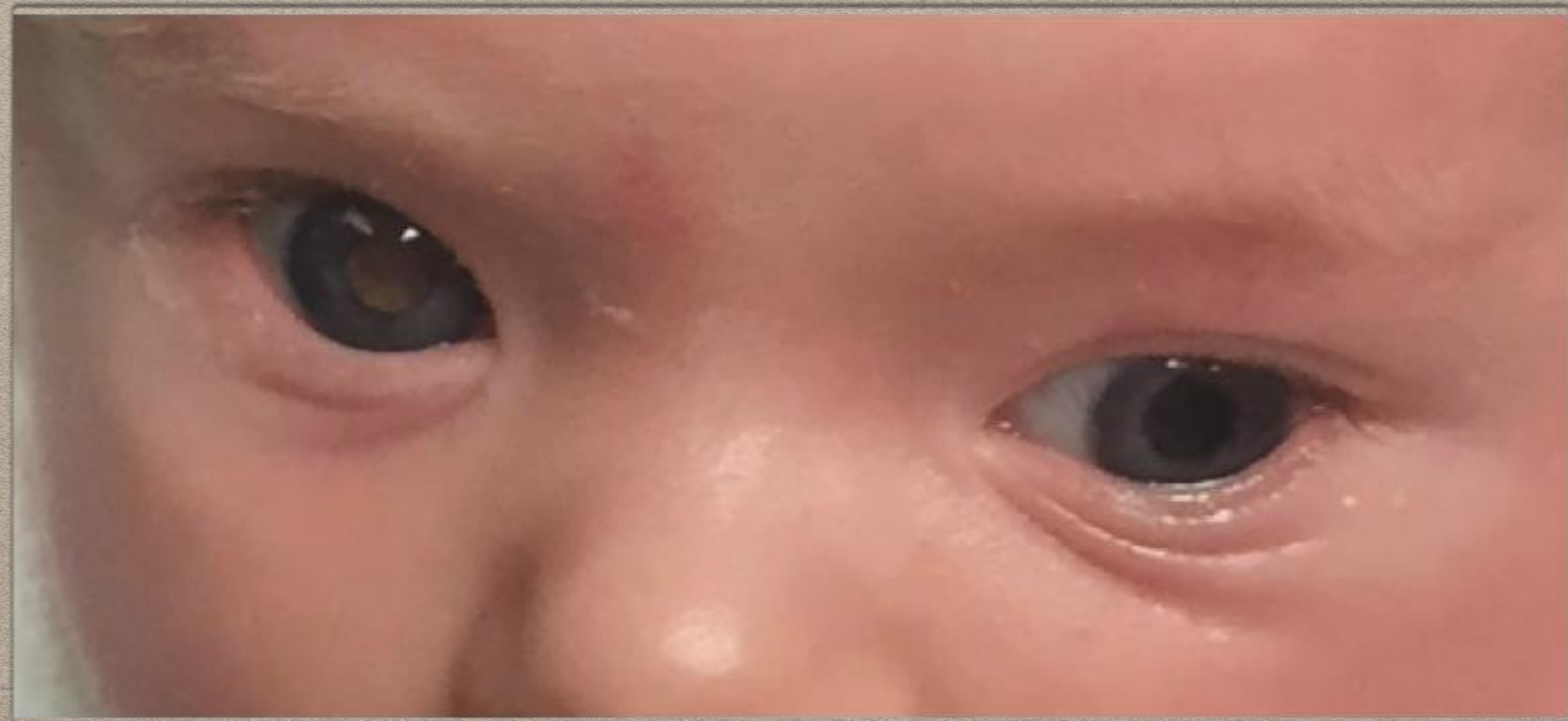
SHOW OF HANDS

Is a real strabismus present? Which eye?

MYTH

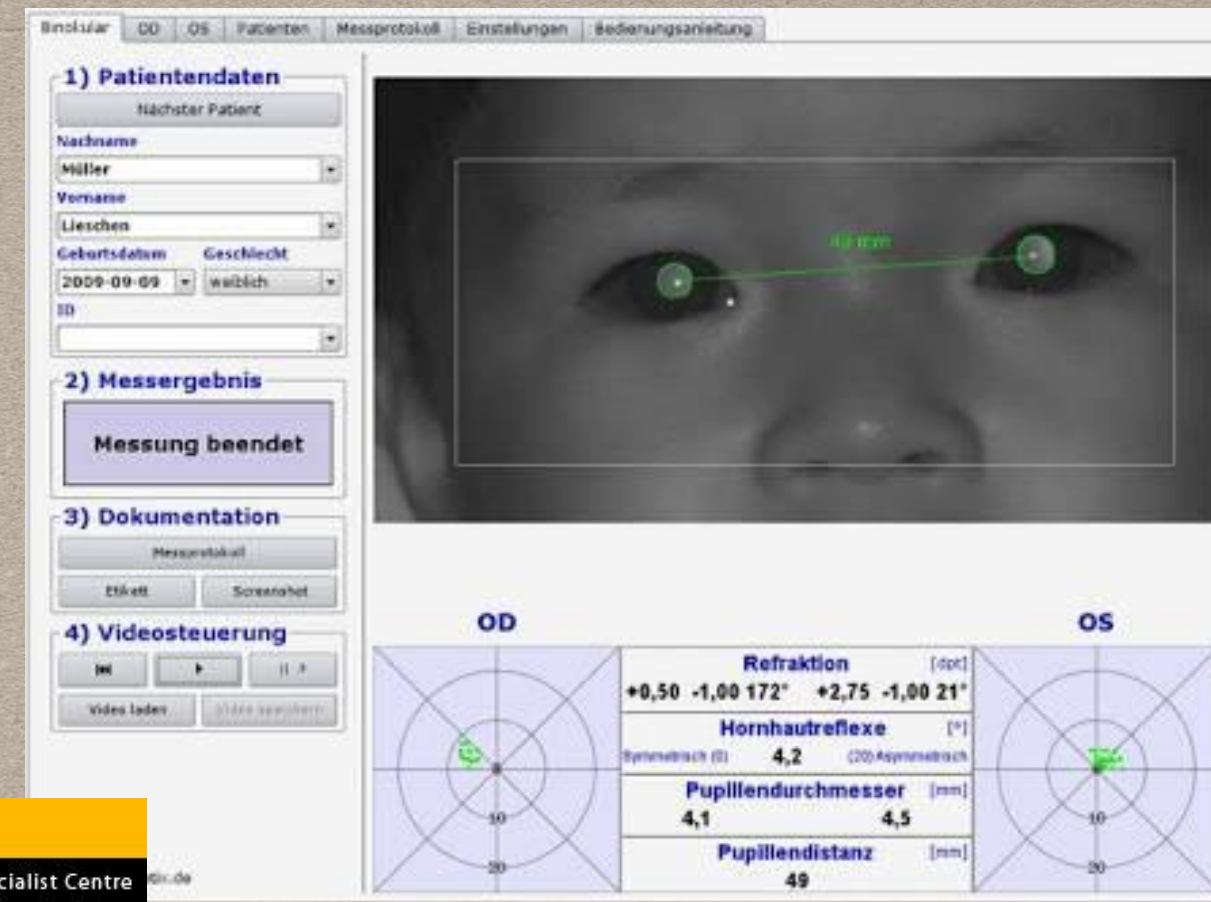
An eye possibly turning.....

"Wait before referring
young children as some
resolve"



ISSUE

*It can be difficult to know whether there is a squint present
& many cases begin intermittently or with a smaller angle*



Technology makes screening & accurate diagnosis easy - done outside the hospital system:

Free, & any required specialist management -

Free for CSC card holders <16

Test & expert management (100s of cases/yr)





BABIES WITH WIDE NASAL FOLDS

SMALL FACE, CLOSE SET EYES
PARENTS THINK AN EYE IS TURNED



INFANTILE ESOTROPIA

Constant, large, many lose vision in 1 eye

Surgery must be done by 12 months to get normal vision



FOCUS DRIVEN ESOTROPIA

Start 1 to 3 yrs old, ~100% poor vision 1 eye if not referred & treated early. Easy to miss - need high tech screen

MYTH

- "Surgery is done when children older"
- general myth: squint outcomes not dependent on how quickly and well the child is treated
- * Normal, or good vision, is totally dependent on treating promptly/expertly

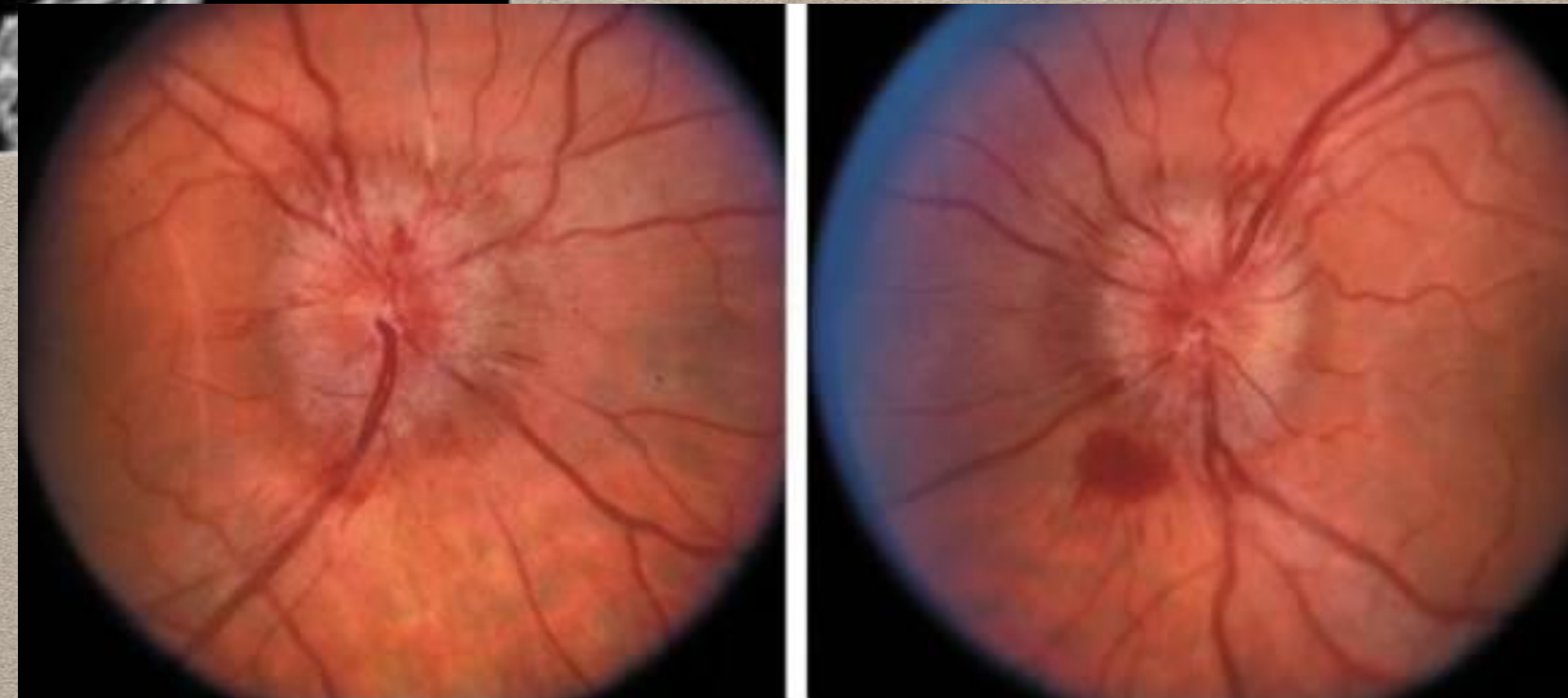
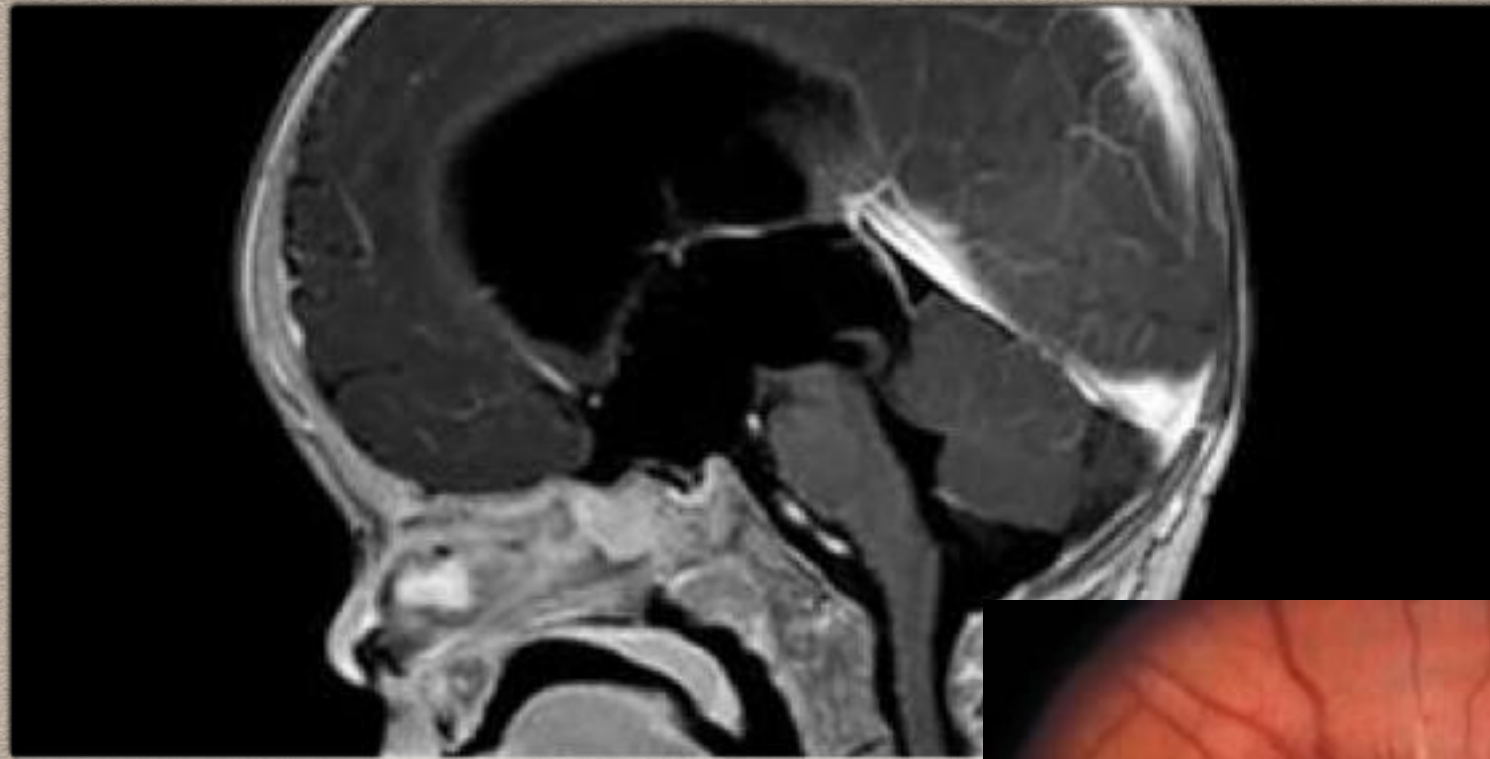




EXOTROPIA

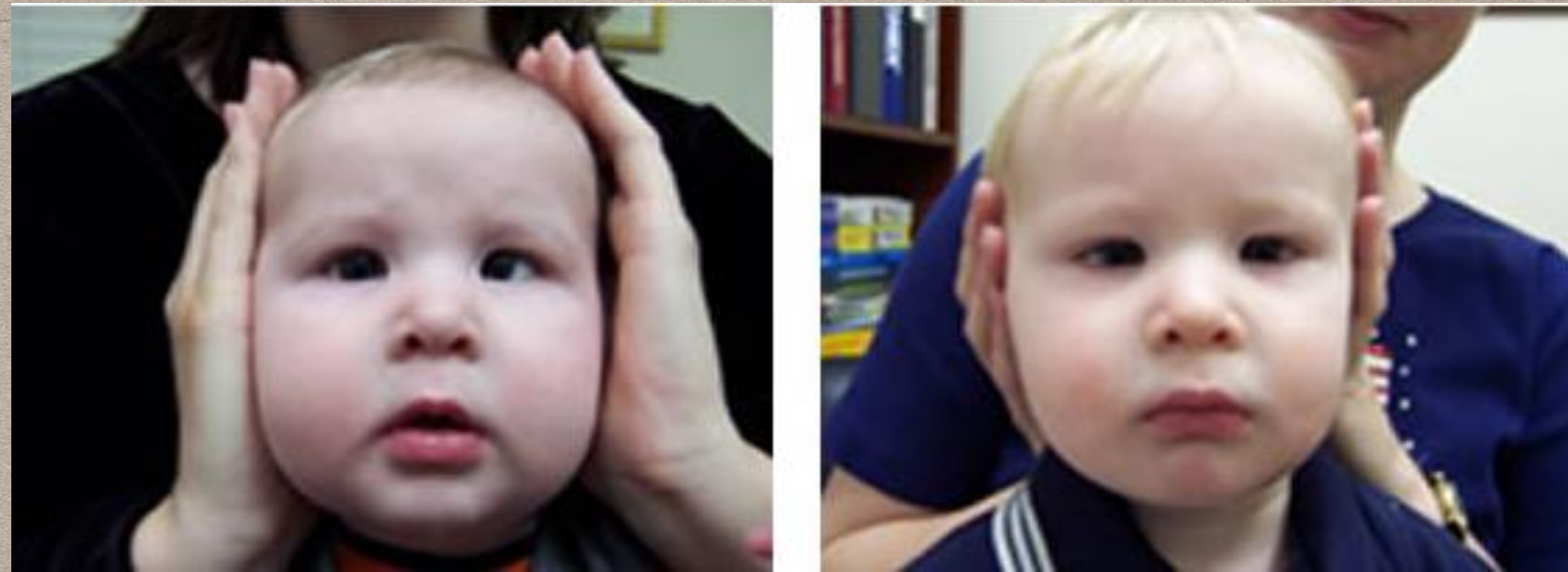
Often intermittent, visual development can be normal

A constant outward turn needs urgent referral and treatment



ACQUIRED DOUBLE VISION
ALWAYS NEEDS REFERRAL

MYTH



- *"Strabismus surgery is a largely cosmesis issue"*
 - Function is *the* key indication
 - Unless blind in 1 eye (large, disfiguring squint)
- *"Surgery often needs 2 or 3 attempts"*
 - My 2nd surgery rate is 5%
 - 3 or more <1%

SUMMARY

SHOULD YOU REFER A 'SQUINT?'

- Always do so: at least to screen
- Don't observe/delay

But usually not *urgent unless absent red reflex*

Warning signs: older onset, diplopia, headache



WHAT TO TELL PARENTS

- Common & fixable, must be seen
- To eye Dept: will be accepted, takes 6 weeks

Children's Specialist Centre: ease of access,
free care with Community services card,
including glasses

Screening free to all, ASAP, confirms diagnosis

- screen all children with parent/sib affected,
prems, systemic illness, sensory/neuro
disorders, & developmental delay



Thankyou for your attention