Frequently Asked Questions

With Dr. Rachel Young

WHAT KIND OF TREATMENTS OR DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE?
After determining an appropriate eyeglass prescription and other factors such as contrast sensitivity, I discuss with the patient which device or assistive technology would be best suited to enhance their ability to perform daily tasks. I prescribe aids such as magnifiers or telescopes, and recommend assistive technologies like cell phones or tablets. USC Roski Eye Institute has a long-standing relationship with many visual aid partners and community organizations to offer additional tools.

ARE THERE CHANGES WE CAN MAKE NOW TO IMPROVE OUR QUALITY OF LIFE WITH LOW VISION?
There are many things you can do to navigate and perform tasks on a daily basis. You can find several tips on our website, but here are a few things to try:
1. Improve lighting, never work in a dark room
2. To reduce glare use shades or covers for shiny surfaces
3. Color code bottles for better identification
4. Use pill organizers for medication
5. Order large print labels from the pharmacy, financial statements or checks

To see complete list, visit: eye.keckmedicine.org/low-vision-faqs/

WHO QUALIFIES FOR VISION REHABILITATION SERVICES?
Generally, patients who have a visual acuity of 20/70 or worse in the better seeing eye, have restricted visual fields, and no longer find improvement in vision with prescription glasses, contact lenses or medical intervention.

WHAT DOES QUALITY OF LIFE MEAN?
Quality of life is an indicator of how well an individual is able to effectively and independently carry out daily activities such as driving, reading, cooking and cleaning. It is not just about reading the small print, those who suffer from low vision can experience depression and anxiety without some form of intervention.

WHAT IS LOW VISION REHABILITATION?
At the USC Roski Eye Institute we believe in a personalized care approach. Each patient will have a customized plan according to his or her own unique lifestyle and needs. General components such as determination of difficulties in activities of daily life, functional vision and visual field assessments are all a part of the initial evaluation. Based on the results, we will devise a plan that is best suited for you, which may include visual aids, counseling or training to improve quality of life.

(323)442-6335
Call us today!

USC Roski Eye Institute
Vision Rehabilitation Service
Our Vision Rehabilitation Service can provide a complete comprehensive vision evaluation of your vision to determine which treatments and devices are best. Schedule a consultation with us today to learn more!

WHO QUALIFIES FOR VISION REHABILITATION SERVICES?
Generally, patients who have a visual acuity of 20/70 or worse in the better seeing eye, have restricted visual fields, and no longer find improvement in vision with prescription glasses, contact lenses or medical intervention.

WHAT DOES QUALITY OF LIFE MEAN?
Quality of life is an indicator of how well an individual is able to effectively and independently carry out daily activities such as driving, reading, cooking and cleaning. It is not just about reading the small print, those who suffer from low vision can experience depression and anxiety without some form of intervention.

WHAT IS LOW VISION REHABILITATION?
At the USC Roski Eye Institute we believe in a personalized care approach. Each patient will have a customized plan according to his or her own unique lifestyle and needs. General components such as determination of difficulties in activities of daily life, functional vision and visual field assessments are all a part of the initial evaluation. Based on the results, we will devise a plan that is best suited for you, which may include visual aids, counseling or training to improve quality of life.

(323)442-6335
Call us today!

WHO QUALIFIES FOR VISION REHABILITATION SERVICES?
Generally, patients who have a visual acuity of 20/70 or worse in the better seeing eye, have restricted visual fields, and no longer find improvement in vision with prescription glasses, contact lenses or medical intervention.

WHAT DOES QUALITY OF LIFE MEAN?
Quality of life is an indicator of how well an individual is able to effectively and independently carry out daily activities such as driving, reading, cooking and cleaning. It is not just about reading the small print, those who suffer from low vision can experience depression and anxiety without some form of intervention.

WHAT IS LOW VISION REHABILITATION?
At the USC Roski Eye Institute we believe in a personalized care approach. Each patient will have a customized plan according to his or her own unique lifestyle and needs. General components such as determination of difficulties in activities of daily life, functional vision and visual field assessments are all a part of the initial evaluation. Based on the results, we will devise a plan that is best suited for you, which may include visual aids, counseling or training to improve quality of life.

(323)442-6335
Call us today!

WHO QUALIFIES FOR VISION REHABILITATION SERVICES?
Generally, patients who have a visual acuity of 20/70 or worse in the better seeing eye, have restricted visual fields, and no longer find improvement in vision with prescription glasses, contact lenses or medical intervention.

WHAT DOES QUALITY OF LIFE MEAN?
Quality of life is an indicator of how well an individual is able to effectively and independently carry out daily activities such as driving, reading, cooking and cleaning. It is not just about reading the small print, those who suffer from low vision can experience depression and anxiety without some form of intervention.

WHAT IS LOW VISION REHABILITATION?
At the USC Roski Eye Institute we believe in a personalized care approach. Each patient will have a customized plan according to his or her own unique lifestyle and needs. General components such as determination of difficulties in activities of daily life, functional vision and visual field assessments are all a part of the initial evaluation. Based on the results, we will devise a plan that is best suited for you, which may include visual aids, counseling or training to improve quality of life.
What is Low Vision?

1 in 28 Americans over the age of 40 suffer from low vision, according to the National Federation of the Blind. Low vision is comprised of decreased visual acuity, contrast sensitivity, and/or visual field which creates an impingement on an individual’s ability to effectively and independently carry out activities of daily living such as cooking, cleaning, reading the newspaper or watching television. Vision rehabilitation is considered when patients no longer find improvement with prescription glasses, contact lenses, surgical or medical treatment. Those who suffer from low vision experience a dramatic decrease in their overall quality of life.

Who Can Benefit from Vision Rehabilitation Services?

- Moderate to Advanced Stage Glaucoma
- Intermediate/Advanced Dry and Wet Age-Related Macular Degeneration
- Macular Edema secondary to Diabetic Retinopathy
- Retinitis Pigmentosa or Stargardt’s Disease
- Stroke patients with residual visual field defects
- Ocular surface diseases
- Vision loss from injury

What Does a Low Vision Evaluation Consist of?

1. Determination of distance, intermediate and near goals
2. Determination of difficulties in activities of daily life
3. Fundamental vision evaluation
4. Distance and near visual acuity
5. Visual field assessment
6. Trial frame refraction
7. Assessment for distance and near magnification
8. Tint and filter assessment
9. Address need for mobility aids and other services

What Vision Rehabilitation Treatments and Devices are Available?

- Hand held and pocket magnifiers
- Stand magnifiers
- Monocular and binocular telescopes
- Portable electronic magnifiers
- Applications for smart phones and tablets
- Solar shields/Fit overs
- Lighting recommendations
- Rehabilitation treatment plans