



# KNOW<sub>THE</sub> GLOW<sup>SM</sup>

## Disorders Related to the Glow

Most parents don't know that a white glow reflected by a camera flash in their child's eye could be a sign of serious eye disease. There are several disorders related to the glow, including:

- Amblyopia
- Cataract
- Choroidal
- Coats' Disease
- Coloboma
- Congenital Cataract
- Norrie's Disease
- PHPV
- Refractive Error
- Retinal Detachment
- Retinal Dysplasia
- Retinopathy of Prematurity
- Retinoblastoma
- Strabismus
- Toxocariasis
- Trauma

## Coats' Disease and Retinoblastoma

**Coats' Disease** is a rare eye disorder involving abnormal development of the blood vessels of the retina, which lines the interior chamber of the eye. As various components of blood leak into the retina, fluid accumulates under the retina. The result may be loss of vision, particularly central vision, and detachment of the retina from other layers of the eye.

**Retinoblastoma** is a childhood cancer arising from immature retinal cells in one or both eyes and can strike from the time a child is in the womb up to 5 years of age. This cancer is curable if caught early enough.

## How to Detect the Glow

Many times, parents are the first to notice a white or golden glow reflected back from their child's eye in a photograph. Below are a few steps to help you detect the glow.

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- Take a few flash photographs of your child in different lighting
  - Look through the photos to see if you detect a white glow in either or both eyes.
  - Alternatively, you may ask your pediatrician to perform a red reflect screening.
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**If you believe you see a glow, you should obtain a referral immediately to a pediatric ophthalmologist for diagnosis and treatment.** Pediatricians can easily screen for Coats' Disease, Retinoblastoma, and a host of other serious vision disorders using a simple red reflex test. This test is generally performed by a child's pediatrician at a well-child exam, preferably within the first two months.