

CHARACTERISTICS OF CORTICAL/CEREBRAL VISUAL IMPAIRMENT (C/CVI) CHECKLIST

Children with other types of visual impairments may exhibit some of these characteristics.

CHILD'S NAME _____	AGE _____	DATE _____
RESPONDENT'S NAME & RELATION TO CHILD _____ A child may be suspected of having a C/CVI when the extent of visual loss is unexplained by ocular abnormalities. Etiologies may include cerebral palsy, asphyxia, intra-cerebral hemorrhage, and meningitis.		

Please check any areas below that pertain to the child.

APPEARANCE

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Does not look blind | <input type="checkbox"/> Blank facial expression |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of visual communication skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Eye movements smooth, but aimless |

VISION FUNCTION

- Visual function varies from day to day or hour to hour
- Limited visual attention and lacks visual curiosity
- Aware of distant objects, but not able to identify
- Spontaneous visual activity has short duration
- Visual learning tiring
- Closes eyes while listening
- Balance improved with eyes closed
- Look away from people and objects
- Consistently look to either side when visual looking
- When visually reaching looks with a slight downward gaze
- Turns head to side when reaching, as if using peripheral fields
- Uses touch to identify objects
- Trouble spotting a favorite toy in a group of toys, or a parent in a crowded area*
- Difficulty recognizing family members in person or in photos*
- Problems understanding facial expressions appropriately, reading "body language"*

MOBILITY SKILLS

- Occasionally "sees" better traveling in a car
- Difficulty seeing moving objects like balls, dogs, cars.*
- Difficulties with depth perception, inaccurate reach
- Misjudges distances, looks down when walking in unfamiliar area, bumps into things/door frames*
- Difficulties with spatial interpretation, *doesn't notice finger food placed on one side of the tray.*
- Avoids obstacles, but unable to use vision for close work
- Problems walking when having to cross over the line between a carpet and a plain floor, etc*

IMPROVED VISUAL PERFORMANCE

- When in familiar environments and when using familiar objects
- When told "what" to look for and "where" to look
- When objects are held close to eyes when viewing
- When objects are widely spaced
- When looking at one object verses a group of objects
- When color is used to assist in identification of objects or shapes
- When objects are against a plain background and paired with movement and sound

K. Appleby's compiling information from article by: Jan, J.E., Groenveld, A., Sykanda, A.M., Hoyt, C.S. (1987) "Behavioral Characteristics of Children with Permanent Cortical Visual Impairment." *Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology*, 25,755-762. *Italics from Dr. G. Dutton's Professional CVI Inventory.*