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## **Hidden Deficiencies: The Role of Vitamins in Childhood Myopia**

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### **Introduction :**

One of the most frequent refractive visual defects in children, short-sightedness, or myopia is a pervasive problem that has grown rapidly across the globe. However, as the myopia epidemic is accelerating all over the world, researchers and healthcare professionals are feverishly uncovering an array of contributing factors, from genetics to screen time and environmental influences. But one factor that is often not well recognized is nutrition — namely, vitamin deficiency.

The Development and Functioning of the Eye: Proper intake of vitamins supports the development and functioning of the eye. Certain failures appear to correlate with an increased risk of Myopia, and if the correlation could be strong enough, we could expect it to alter the trajectory of the situation. Vitamin Deficiency: The Dowd and the Black Myopia: It is only after the event that it is only after the future vision of a proper nourishment.

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### **Understanding Myopia in Children :**

Myopia is also known as nearsightedness, and it is when there is a refractive error that causes objects in the distance to be blurry, while objects that are near them are clear. This occurs when the eyeball is too long or the cornea is too curved and the light doesn't focus directly on the retina.

Myopia onset during childhood typically occurs between ages 6 and 14 years, and may progress during growth. Not only screen time, and long time on the screen without outdoor intermission, but also inherit genetic tendency was reason; But new research shows that the role of nutritional deficiencies — particularly micronutrient deficiencies — in the extreme shortage of key vitamins has also been a significant contributor to the development and progression of myopia.

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### **The Role of Vitamins in Eye Health :**

a list of the critical vitamins trapped in Myopia and their associated deficiencies prevent myopia, since their deficiencies could cause none other than a shape loss in the eye, and in the end, function. The following is maintaining eye health and preventing vision issues. Some vitamins might be able to Vitamins play a vital role in

#### ***1. Vitamin A deficiency and myopia***

at low-light levels requires this pigment, which is made with the active form of vitamin A, retinol. cells work properly. Rhodopsin Vitamin A: Vision Vitamin A plays an essential role in eye health, supporting the retina and making sure that light-sensitive photoreceptor

#### **How Vitamin A deficiency contributes to Myopia:**

Vitamin A deficiency can lead to cause night blindness and other visual problems.

- Deficiency of vitamin A would lead to myopia progression. , Vitamin A is highly associated with the cornea and retina; halts normal growth of sclera (the binocular zone), resulting in over-expansion of eyeballs - a typical characteristic of myopia.

#### **Sources of Vitamin A:**

spinach, kel, and leafy greens , Carrots, sweet potato,

#### ***2. Vitamin D Deficiency and Myopia***

role in Myopia is being increasingly recognized. gained attention for its possible involvement in eye dynamics and general well-being. It is important in the regulation of fat soluble vitamins calcium as well as immune function, but its Vitamin D has

***How Vitamin D deficiency contributes to Myopia:***

Human vitamin D receptors are present in the retina, and the decline may aggravate normal ocular development. There is a Vitamin D deficiency associate with axial elongation of eyeball, which is the key factor of Myopia. Feeling potential, as vitamin D may decrease eye inflammation and oxidative stress that can contribute to progression of myopia.

**Sources of Vitamin D:**

- Exposure to Sunlight (min. 15-30 minutes/day)

Fatty fish, fortified dairy products, yolks and mushrooms

***3. Vitamin B12 Deficiency and Myopia***

Ocular Health from the perspective of safeguarding optic nerve and saves from retinal damage. function and red blood cell production. We are going to discuss its function in Vitamin B12 is needed for nerve

vitamin b12 deficiency causes Myopia: Here is how

Vitamin B12 Deficiency: Our bodily vitamin B12 are calcium and iron but very few people know, and low vitamin B12 can damage your optic nerve which can increase myopia.

It is associated with the making of myelin, protective cover on the veins, which in turn results in probable sight loss.

Vitamin B12 deficiency is associated with the increasing risk of degenerative myopia.

Sources of Vitamin B12:

Animal foods (animal products (meat fish chicken eggs and dairy)

Carved plants for vegetarians and vegetarians

***4. Vitamin E deficiency and Myopia***

Vitamin E is a powerful antioxidant that protects the eye from oxidative stress and free radical damage. This plays an important role in maintaining cell membrane and preventing degenerative conditions in the eye.

How Vitamin E deficiency contributes to Myopia:

- Oxidative stress has been linked to myopia progression, and antioxidant properties of vitamin E help in retaliation.
- Vitamin E deficiency can increase sensitivity to retinal damage, which deteriorates visually.

**Sources of Vitamin E:**

- Nuts, seeds, spinach and vegetable oil
- Full grains and stronghold grains

***5. Vitamin C deficiency and myopia***

Vitamin C is essential for collagen synthesis, which is important for maintaining the strength and elasticity of sclera. Since myopia involves excessive increase of eyeballs, a weak scleral structure may contribute to the deteriorating condition.

**How Vitamin C deficiency contributes to Myopia:**

- Collagen is important to maintain the size of the eye, and a deficiency can weaken the sclera, which can increase the myopia risk.
- Vitamin C acts as an antioxidant, protects the eye from prolonged screen exposure and damage caused by environmental pollutants.
- It supports blood vessel health in the eye, preventing possible complications associated with myopia progression.

**Sources of Vitamin C:**

- Citrus fruit, berries, bell chili and tomatoes
- Leafy greens, broccoli, and Brussels sprouts

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**Preventive Strategies and Nutritional Recommendations :**

Given the increasing evidence of vitamin deficiency in Myopia, it is important to maintain a good vision to ensure a balanced diet rich in essential vitamins. Parents and careful children can take the following steps to help prevent myopia progression:

**1. Encourage a balanced diet:**

- Insert a variety of colored fruits and vegetables to provide a broad spectrum of vitamins.
- Ensure that children consume protein -rich foods that provide vitamin B12 and other essential nutrients.

**2. Promoting external activities:**

- increases the level of vitamin D in contact with natural sunlight, reducing the risk of myopia.
- outdoor play is shown to slow down myopia progression.

**3. Limit screen time:**

- Prolonged contact for digital screens can contribute to eye stress and myopia development.
- Encourage regular breaks and external activities to excessively reduce the work.

**4. Consider nutritional supplements (if necessary):**

- If diet intake is inadequate, consult a pediatrician about proper vitamin supplements.
- vitamin D supplementation can be recommended for children with limited sun risk.

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**Conclusion :**

While myopia is a complex position affected by genetics and environmental factors, emerging research highlights the important role of vitamin deficiency in its development. Ensuring adequate intake of vitamins A, D, B12, E and C can help support the health of the eye in children and myopia progressive progress. By adopting a holistic approach, including proper nutrition, external activities and low screen exposure, parents can contribute to better vision results for their children.

Addressing vitamin deficiency not only benefits eye health, but also supports overall well -being. As -as awareness of myopia prevention increases, including nutritional strategies can become an essential part of childhood eye care, providing an active approach to deal with the increasing proliferation of Myopia worldwide.

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