



Quick Facts About Droopy Eyelids (Ptosis)



What is a droopy eyelid (ptosis)?

- Eyelid ptosis is the medical term to describe a droopy upper eyelid
- It can occur due to the natural aging process
- It can also occur due to neurologic diseases

What causes ptosis?

- Age-related eyelid ptosis typically affects both upper eyelids equally
- Frequent eyelid manipulation (e.g., putting in contact lenses) can also lead to ptosis
- Some systemic diseases, such as myasthenia gravis, can cause ptosis
- Some neurologic emergencies, such as aneurysms, can cause ptosis – prompt evaluation in the emergency room is recommended if other symptoms occur

What associated symptoms can be worrisome?

- If you develop sudden headache, neck pain, facial droop, eye pain, blurred vision, double vision, changes in pupil size, or difficulty speaking, breathing or swallowing, you should go to the emergency room immediately

What should I do if I develop ptosis?

- If you suddenly develop ptosis, you should go to the emergency room immediately
- Emergent testing may include CT, MRI and blood tests
- Once emergent conditions are ruled out, you should see a neurologist or neuro-ophthalmologist to determine next steps which may include medical or surgical treatments

<https://www.nanosweb.org/droopyeyelid>



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