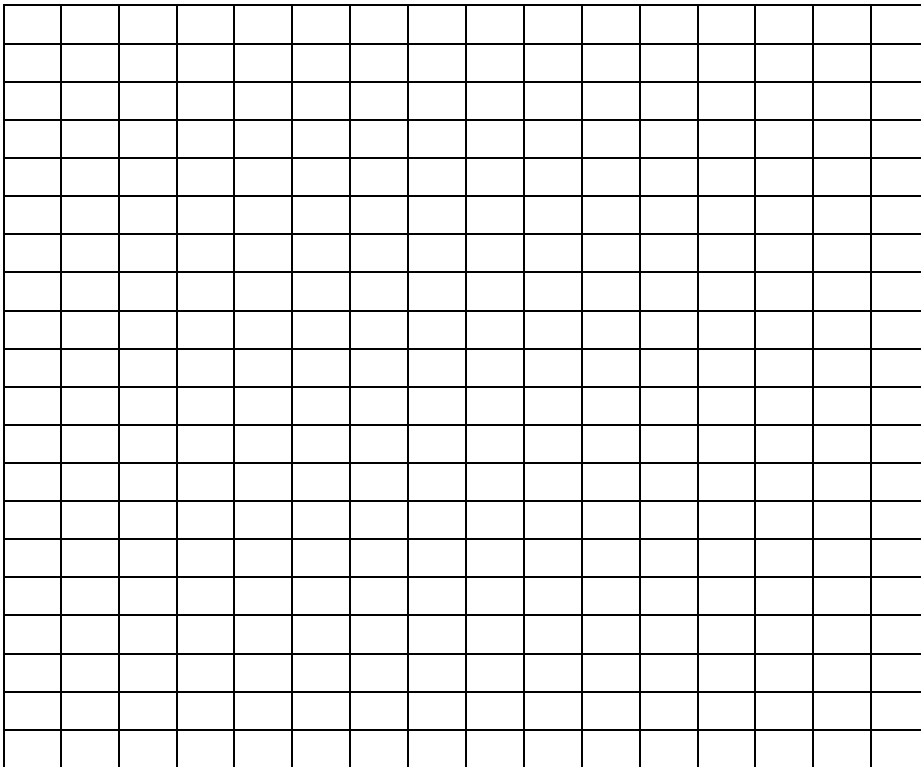


Plaquenil Use and Your Eyes

Your physician has asked you to have an eye examination because you take the drug *Plaquenil* (hydroxychloroquine). This drug is commonly used for arthritic and dermatological diseases. While it is generally a very safe and effective therapy, significant visual changes that may be permanent and progressive, even after stopping the drug, are possible. Certain characteristics help to identify patients at higher risk for visual loss- these include dosages > 6.5 mg/kg of body weight, duration of therapy greater than 5 years, higher body fat content, presence of kidney and/or liver disease and age > 60 years. We will perform computerized central visual field testing and color vision testing in the office to detect any early visual changes, but you can also monitor your vision, as we will instruct you, with an amsler grid. We will generally ask you to return at yearly intervals for examination and testing but the frequency of exams may vary according to the above outlined risk factors. At the conclusion of your exam please feel free to ask any questions and please also report any visual changes you may detect promptly by calling our office at (928) 855-5026.



Instructions for use:

1. Use the grid in a well-lit area and wear your reading prescription.
2. Hold the grid at your normal reading distance and cover your left eye.
3. While looking directly at the black dot in the center of the grid with your right eye, notice if any of the lines appear wavy, distorted or missing, or if any of the lines change shape.
4. Repeat these steps with your left eye.
5. If there are any changes on either eye from the previous time you looked at the grid, make a note of where the changes appear.
6. Call our office immediately if you notice any changes. – **928-855-5026**