

World Sight Day – 11 October

World Sight Day is an annual day of awareness to focus global attention on blindness and vision impairment.

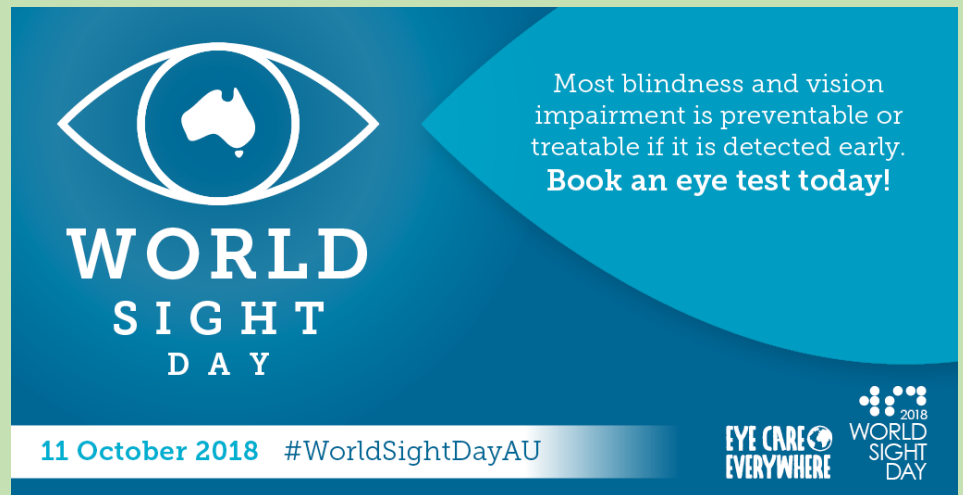
Established by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2000, World Sight Day is the main advocacy event for raising awareness about blindness and vision impairment for VISION 2020: The Right to Sight, a global initiative created by WHO and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness.

This year World Sight Day will be on Thursday 11 October 2018 and the international theme for World Sight Day 2018 is Eye Care Everywhere.

Vision 2020 Australia is the national peak body working in partnership to prevent avoidable blindness and improve vision care in Australia.

They represent around 45 member organisations involved in local and global eye health and vision care, health promotion, low vision support, vision rehabilitation, eye research, professional assistance and community support.

Their vision is the elimination of preventable blindness and vision loss and the full participation of people who are blind or vision impaired in the community.



OSCAR

Hospitality

The majority of eye conditions have no symptoms or pain in the early stages. Regular eye examinations are essential to ensure early detection and treatment of many eye conditions to prevent avoidable blindness and vision loss.

Eye health and the elderly in Australia

As the population in Australia ages, the number of people who are blind or have vision loss is expected to be over 800,000 by 2020.

The good news is around 90 per cent of vision loss is preventable or treatable.

Around 80 per cent of vision loss in Australia is caused by five conditions, all of which become more common as we get older (in alphabetical order):

- [age-related macular degeneration](#) (AMD)
- [cataracts](#)
- [diabetic retinopathy](#)
- [glaucoma](#)
- [refractive error](#)

Resources:

<http://worldsightday.org.au/about/>

<http://www.vision2020australia.org.au/our-work/key-initiatives/world-sight-day>

<http://www.visioninitiative.org.au/eye-health-in-australia>

