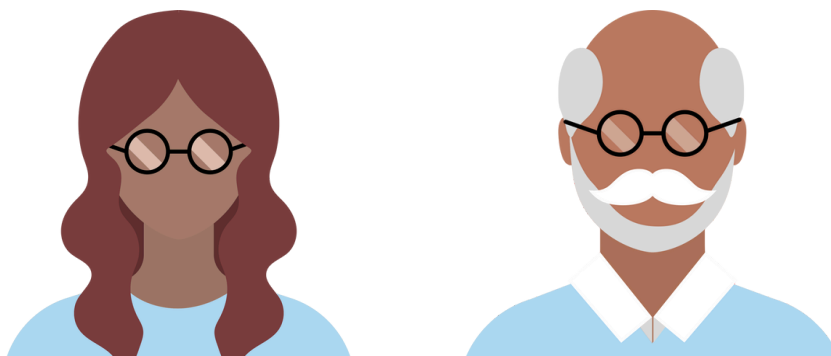


THE EARN TRIAL



Reading glasses are an essential and normal part of life for many adults. Yet globally it is estimated that up to **800 million people need spectacles** for close work but do not have them.

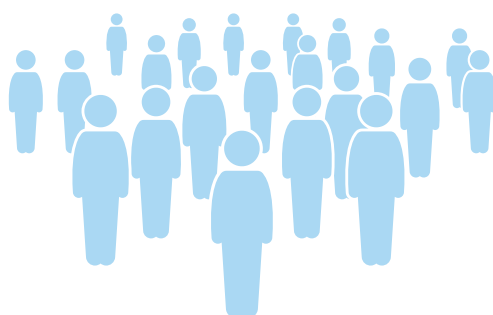
Typically beginning around age 35, **near vision impairment**, or presbyopia, results from the eye's lens losing flexibility, which makes it more difficult to focus on objects close up. Left uncorrected, near vision impairment can hinder daily tasks such as reading, using digital devices, and performing work that requires precision.



OUR STUDY

The **Economic Advantage of Readers for Near vision (EARN)** study is a randomised controlled clinical trial that will investigate to what extent providing reading glasses can lead to improvements in economic wellbeing and quality of life for people with near vision impairment.

The five-year programme will enrol **20,000 people** across India and Kenya to measure the impact in adults 35-65 after being provided with glasses.

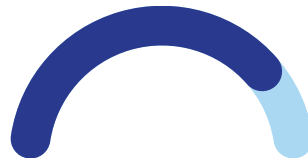


MEASUREMENTS

Household
consumption



Quality of life



We'll collect data at baseline, one and two years to assess the impact of the glasses on those who were and were not given them, through household consumption (how much people have spent on goods like food), quality of life, and other factors like employment, productivity and income.

IMPACT

The overall economic productivity losses due to unaddressed vision impairment are around \$411bn each year worldwide, of which presbyopia is a major component. Ensuring that people who need them can get reading glasses, or 'readers', could bring huge potential gains to society, economies and lives.

Through this work we aim to give governments and donors a mandate to improve lives at scale in a simple and cost-effective way, giving millions the opportunity to see, work and thrive.



The trial will be carried out by the International Centre for Eye Health at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Dr Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital in India, and Kenya Medical Research Institute in Kenya. We thank GiveWell, Founders Pledge and the Livelihood Impact Fund for their support in funding this project. Icon credit: Phil Swan from <https://thenounproject.com/browse/icons/term/balding-man-wearing-glasses> Noun Project (CC BY 3.0)

