

## Glimpsing glaucoma: The silent eye threat

### ANCHOR LEDE

The eye is like a mini camera. And when the cable from the camera to the brain is damaged, glaucoma results. The disease usually does not have symptoms, so that's why it's important to stay on top of your eye health.

### TAKE VO

Doctor David Solá Del Valle performs eye surgeries at OSF HealthCare. He says regardless of age, see an eye doctor if you have issues – even something as simple as wearing glasses or contacts. If you're over 40, see your eye doctor regularly.

Glaucoma treatment could include eyedrops or outpatient laser therapy.

\*\*\*SOT\*\*\*

Dr. David Solá Del Valle [SOE-lah // DELL // VALL]  
ophthalmologist at OSF HealthCare

**"It used to be, 20 years ago, everyone got started on eye drops. But I think there's more evidence that doing laser therapy first is the right way to go. And I'm a huge proponent of that. Eye drops have preservatives and side effects. Once you start them, you have to continue them the rest of your life unless you switch treatment." (:20)**

### VO TAG

More advanced cases of glaucoma or people who don't respond to other treatment may require surgery. Doctor Sola says there are several surgical options, including placing a stent or drainage device in the eye.