

## **Allied Eye Physicians and Surgeons, Inc.**

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### **Flashes and Floaters**

A change in floaters or flashes of light in your vision is usually associated with a shift or movement of the vitreous jelly in your eye. Often, there is a sudden change called a "posterior vitreous separation" which precipitates these new floaters or flashes of light. When a change in the vitreous occurs, it can cause a hole or tear to develop in the retina. This, in turn, usually results in a retinal detachment, if not treated.

You came to the office today because you either developed new floaters or flashes of light in your vision, or had a sudden change in pre-existing floaters or flashes. We performed a dilated examination to look for holes in your retina. Since we found no holes, no treatment is necessary. Your present floaters/flashes will usually get better after a few weeks. But, they occasionally remain unchanged permanently. If so, a repeat examination is not necessary, and no treatment is possible. However, **if you have additional new changes in floaters or flashes of light in your vision, or if you develop a curtain or shadow or a bubble-like effect blocking out part of your vision, it is very important to call us urgently, and have a dilated examination again.**