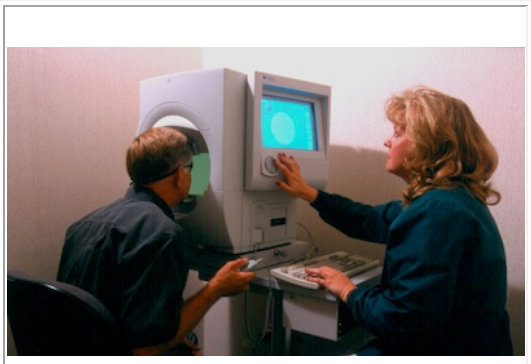
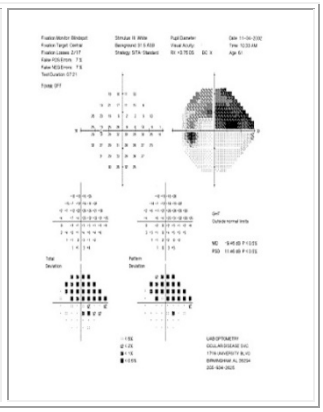
Visual Field

The visual field exam tests your peripheral vision and central vision. In glaucoma, peripheral vision is often affected first, so the field exam reveals vision loss you may not notice. Areas in which visual loss occurs are marked in black. When you do the visual field, you will be instructed to look straight ahead. Every time you see a light flashing from your peripheral vision, you will press a button. If you look at the peripheral lights, instead of focusing at the target straight ahead, the exam will be inaccurate -- the peripheral vision cannot be determined reliably. This test takes approximately 20 to 30 minutes to complete, and does require you to focus for that period of time.