Definition: A genetic disorder of the brain affecting balance and coordination. There are two types of the disorder (either with or without involvement of the retina).

Visual Effects: Almost all cases include abnormal eye movement. The worse of the two types includes involves the retina. In this type, the patient cannot control their eye movement or could be completely blind.

Onset: The condition is present at birth and is very rare because it has to be a recessive trait in both parents. It occurs in both males and females, but there are twice as many males affected as females.

Visual Function: The abnormal functions of the brain cause the abnormal eye movement. The type which includes retinal involvement can range from inability to move eyes on command to complete blindness. Depending on the degree of severity, patients will have difficulty in both school and work settings due to difficulty with vision and concentration.

Additional Risks: The condition can be progressive, even though it is present at birth. Annual eye screenings can be taken to monitor the progression of the condition.

Treatments: There is no cure for the condition. The treatment focuses on the symptoms. Virtually all of the treatments are for symptoms that are not related to the eye. It might be possible to use physical or occupational therapy to improve control of the eyes. However, the severe type of the condition (which includes blindness) has no eye treatment.

Images:

References:
- Anatomy of the Eye (Michael Munro)