



## DOCTOR DISCUSSION GUIDE

# Managing Wet AMD

Wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is a common eye disease that you're more likely to develop as you age. If you have wet AMD, you'll want to discuss the diagnosis and your options for treatment with your regular doctor, as well as a specialist who treats eye diseases (ophthalmologist). Asking the right questions during your conversation will help you know what to expect and how to better navigate your condition. Familiarize yourself with these common terms before your appointment to help facilitate your discussion.

## Vocabulary to Know

Your doctor might mention these common terms. Here's what they mean.

<b>Macula of the Retina</b>	A highly sensitive spot in the middle of the eye that helps the retina detect light, see clearly, and see color.
<b>Degeneration</b>	As it relates to AMD, degeneration refers to weakening or breaking down of the tissue in the macular layer of the eye. In turn, the vessels in the eye also get weak, which allows fluid to escape and damage vision.
<b>Drusen</b>	Fatty deposits (lipids) in the eye that can occur with age. If a person has drusen, they may be more likely to develop AMD.
<b>Amsler Grid Test</b>	A small square of paper with a chart and a solid black dot in the middle. When people with wet AMD look at the image, it appears warped. The test is a quick, non-invasive way to detect AMD early and patients can use it outside the doctor's office.
<b>Atrophy</b>	When a layer of the eye has degenerated enough to affect vision and change the appearance of the eye (for example, discoloration from drusen deposits or fluid).
<b>Neovascular/Non-neovascular</b>	Wet AMD is sometimes called "neovascular" and dry AMD is sometimes called "non-neovascular." These terms are used to denote whether new blood vessels are growing in the eye where they should not be.
<b>Exudative</b>	Wet (or "neovascular") AMD can also be referred to as exudative AMD, which refers to the fluid leaking into the eye.
<b>Central Vision</b>	When looking at something, your eyes take in light to create a clear picture of what's in front of you. AMD usually affects your central vision and can lead to its loss.
<b>Peripheral Vision</b>	You use your peripheral vision to see things that are on either side of you without needing to turn your head to look. AMD doesn't usually affect your peripheral vision.
<b>Visual Acuity</b>	How clearly or sharply you can see the things you're looking at. If your visual acuity is damaged or weakened by disease or an eye injury, things may look blurry to you. Visual acuity can be affected by different conditions of the eye, including AMD.

