

Macular Degeneration

Also called: Age-related macular degeneration, AMD

Macular degeneration, or age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is a leading cause of vision loss in Americans 60 and older.

It is a disease that destroys your sharp, central vision. You need central vision to see objects clearly and to do tasks such as reading and driving.



AMD affects the macula, the part of the eye that allows you to see fine detail. It does not hurt, but it causes cells in the macula to die.

In some cases, AMD advances so slowly that people notice little change in their vision. In others, the disease progresses faster and may lead to a loss of vision in both eyes.

Regular comprehensive eye exams can detect macular degeneration before the disease causes vision loss. Treatment can slow vision loss. It does not restore vision.

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Last reviewed 2009