# Treating Macular Degeneration

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#### **Outline**

- Introduction to Eye Care Center of Northern Colorado
- How the eye works
- What is macular degeneration
- · How is macular degeneration treated
- Questions







#### **Eye Care Center of Northern Colorado**

- Region's Leading Eye Care Group
- Diagnosis, Management, Medical and Surgical care of all eye care problems including:
  - Cataracts
  - Glaucoma
  - Diabetes
  - Macular Degeneration
- ■LASIK / Refractive
- Eyelid and facial surgery
- Dry Eye Management
- Comprehensive Eye **Evaluations**



#### Retina Consultants of Northern Colorado

- Practice and based in Boulder County
- Perform surgeries locally
- All emergency care local
- Easy access to care





Surgical and Medical Retinal



Surgical and Medical Retina



Matthew Manry, M.D.







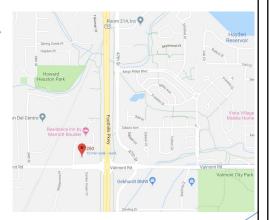


#### Eye Care Center of Northern Colorado

- **Boulder Office** 
  - 3000 Center Green Drive
    - Suite 250
- Longmont Office
  - 1400 Dry Creak Drive
- Lafayette Office
  - 300 Exempla Circle
    - Suite 120
- 303-502-5365

Boulder Community Health

www.eyecaresite.com







#### Advanced Vision Surgery Center

- Brand new surgery center exclusively for eyes
- Two state of the art operating rooms and specially trained nurses and staff only for eyes





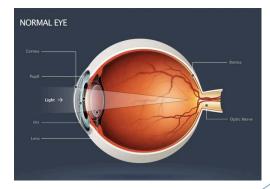


## Justin Kanoff, MD

- B.A. from University of Pennsylvania
- M.D. from University of Texas Southwestern **Medical School**
- Internship, Residency, Chief Residency and Retina Fellowship at Harvard Medical School
- Specializes in treatment of all medical and surgical retinal conditions

# How the Eye Works

- Light enters the eye through the cornea, pupil and lens.
- Light is focused onto the retina, the light-sensitive tissue lining the back of the eye.









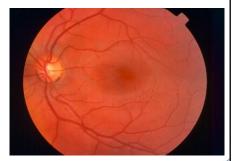


#### Retina

The retina, made of many layers sandwiched together into a smooth surface, consists of two areas, the *macula* and *peripheral retina*.

#### Macula

- Small area in center of retina that allows you to see fine details clearly.
- Allows activities like reading small print and recognizing a face.







www.eye

#### Eye as a Camera

- <u>Cornea</u> is the clear window in the front of the eye that you look through
- <u>Lens</u> is in the middle of the eye and focuses the light
- Retina is a thin tissue that lines the back of the eye like wallpaper and functions like film in a camera
- Optic nerve carries information to the brain like a cable links a digital camera to a computer







#### Common causes of vision loss

- Many kinds of eye disease can affect your sight; vision changes are not always evident right away.
- Cataracts
- Diabetic Eye Disease
- Macular Degeneration
- Glaucoma











# Macular Degeneration

- A leading cause of severe vision loss in people over 65 years of age.
- Not a part of the natural aging process
- Almost always in both eyes, but only one may have symptoms



With AMD, dark areas may appear in your central vision.





### How big is the problem?

- Prevalence
  - Age 65 => 2.5%
  - Age 70 => 6.7%
  - Age 75 => 10.8%
- Patients often feel its their biggest health problem





ORMAL VISIO

MACULAR DEGENERATION





#### **Risk Factors**

Established Risk Factors	Possible Risk Factors
Older age (> 60 years)	Female sex
Family history	Light-colored iris
Cigarette smoking	Cardiovascular disease
Low dietary intake or plasma concentrations of anti-oxidant vitamins and zinc	Obesity, High Cholesterol and Lipids, Hypertension
	•Sun exposure





# **AMD** and Cataract Surgery

- Cataract surgery is not a risk factor
- Cataract surgery is beneficial for patients with macular degeneration
- Be careful of "premium" or "presbyopia correcting lenses"





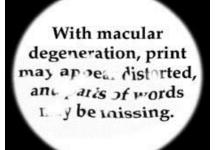
### Symptoms of AMD

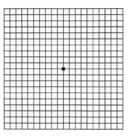
- Initially asymptomatic
- Decreased acuity
- Metamorphopsia (wavy lines in vision)
- Central or pericentral scotoma
- Loss of color vision
- Loss of contrast sensitivity
- "I need more light to read"

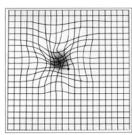




#### **Distortions in Vision**











# Difficulty in Recognizing Faces





# Diagnosing AMD

- Regular eye exams very important
- Dilated examination of back of eye
  - Do not blame vision loss on cataract without looking at the back of the eye
- Visits with retina specialist
  - Treatment and monitoring by a retina specialist
- Genetic Testing









# 

# Types of AMD Macular Degeneration

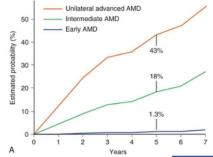
- Dry (atrophic) Macular Degeneration
- Wet (exudative/neovascular) Macular Degneration







# Who will get worse?



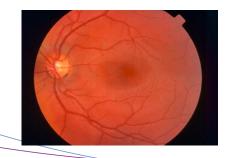
Simple	Year									
Scale Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
0	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.8	1.2	1.5
1	0.5	1.7	2.4	3.1	4.1	4.7	5.1	6.3	7.2	8.4
2	1.1	3.2	5.8	7.5	9.4	14.0	17.1	21.5	23.6	27.6
3	2.7	8.8	15.8	21.9	26.2	30.4	36.2	42.1	46.9	52.7
4	2.8	14.2	27.6	35.6	44.5	49.3	54.1	62.0	67.5	71.4





# **Dry Macular Degeneration**

- Most common form
- Vision loss is gradual
- Thinning and atrophy of tissues





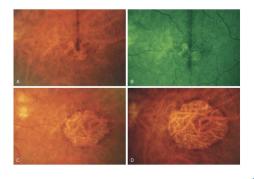




## **Dry Macular Degneration**

• Early vs. Intermediate vs. Late

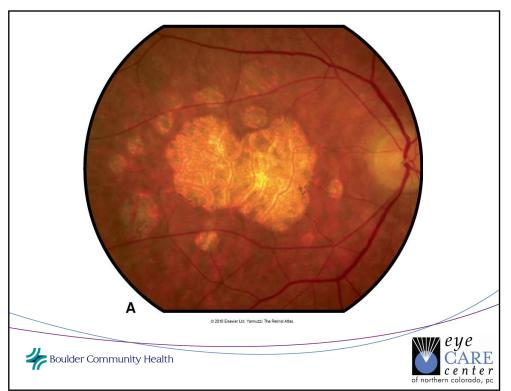




PreserVision.









- Vitamin Supplements
  - AREDS 2
    - Vitamin C and E
    - Lutein
    - Zeaxanthin
    - Minerals Zinc and Copper
- Can vitamins make me worse?
  - Genetic Testing





Note: Pregnant or lactating women should consult a health care professional before taking this product. Keep out of reach of children.

Doctor's Suggested Use: Take 4 capsules once daily with a meal.













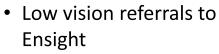
### **Treating Dry AMD**

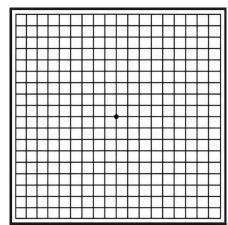
- Atorvastatin is medication used for high cholesterol
- Some early data suggest it can help make large drusen resolve
- Need more study



## Treating Dry AMD

Use Amsler Grid





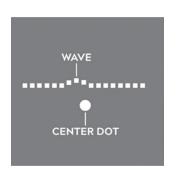




#### Boulder Community Health

# **Home Monitoring**

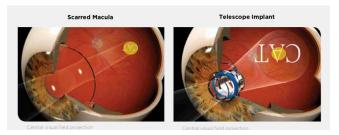
Foresee Home

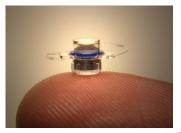






# Implantable Telescope





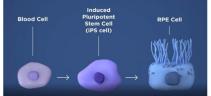




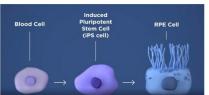


#### **Future Directions**

- Multiple drugs in clinical trials
  - None approved and many have failed
- Stem Cell Transplants
  - RPE cells vs. Photoreceptors
  - Dangers of unregulated clinics
  - London trial with 2 patients









# Wet Macular Degeneration

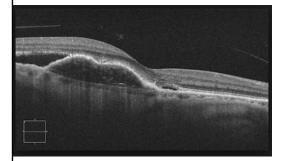
- Caused by abnormal blood vessels that grow under the retina
- · Leaking of blood and fluid lead to loss of central vision
- Sudden, severe and rapid vision loss
- 10% of macular degeneration patients will convert to the wet form

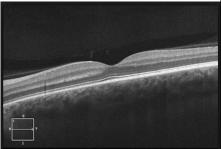






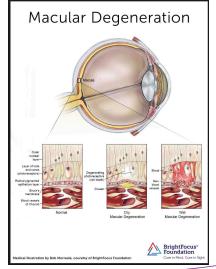
## Wet Macular Degeneration







# Wet Macular Degeneration









## Will it spread to my other eye?

- 35% of people with Wet AMD in one eye will get Wet AMD in the other eye
- Higher risk with high blood pressure

#### eye CARE center

#### **Treatment**

#### Thermal laser therapy

- High-energy, focused light beam treats tiny area of retina by "burning" it; destroys abnormal underlying blood vessels.
- Rarely, if ever, used anymore



Laser Treatment of



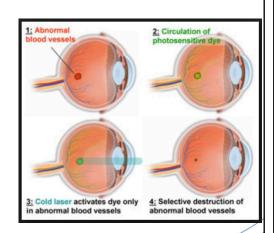


Macular degeneration



#### **Treatment**

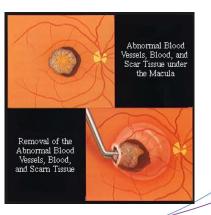
- Photodynamic Therapy (PDT)
- Currently used only in selected cases
- Light sensitive dye injected into veins
- "Cold laser" activates medicine and destroys abnormal blood vessels





## Surgery

- Submacular surgery to remove blood vessels
- Rarely done currently



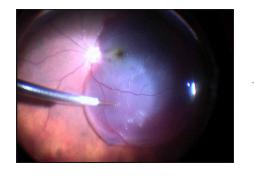






## Surgery

 Can successfully do surgery for "massive" bleeding under retina









#### **Treatment**

- Injections of "Anti-VEGF"
- Avastin or Lucentis or Eylea
- 95% chance of maintaining vision
- 30-40% chance of improving vision







#### **Treatment**

- Which medication should be started?
- How often will I need the medications?
- How long will I need the medications?
- Will the injection hurt?

#### **Future Treatments**

- Medications by mouth or eye drops
- Less frequent injections

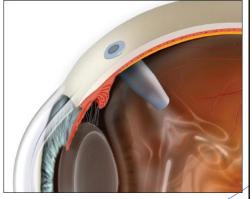






#### **Future Treatments**

- Sustained release system
- Surgically implanted
- Refilled in the clinic





- Multiple new injections are in clinical trials
- Goal is to give injections less frequently



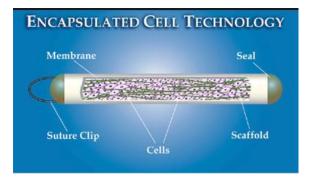






#### **Future Treatments**

- Encapsulated Cell Therapy
- Device that "makes the drug" implanted in eye

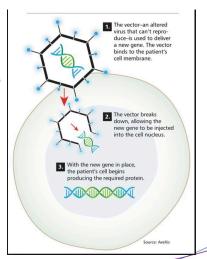






#### **Future Treatments**

- Gene therapy
- Virus injected into eye, new gene inserted into cells and allows eye to make "its own drug"







# Thank You!

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