

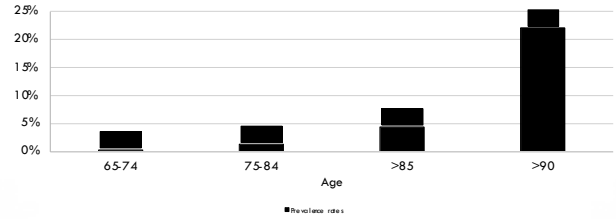
### HOT TOPICS IN RETINA!

- STEVEN FERRUCCI OD
- CHIEF, OPTOMETRY SEPULVEDA VA
- PROFESSOR, SCCO
- MARK DUNBAR, OD, FAO
- BASCOM PALMER EYE INSTITUTE

1

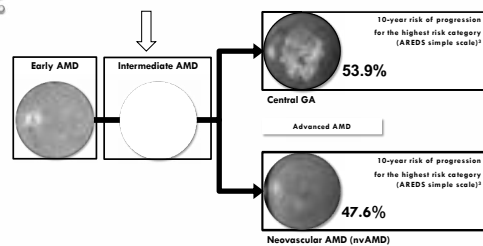
GA CURRENTLY AFFECTS >5 MILLION PEOPLE WORLDWIDE

### GLOBAL PREVALENCE OF GA



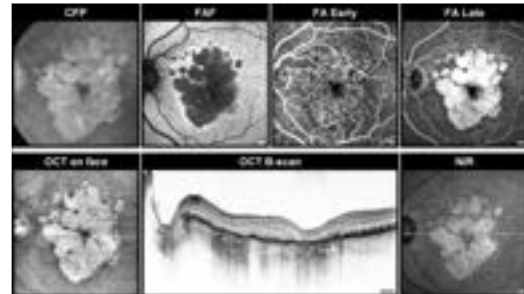
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### STAGING OF AMD



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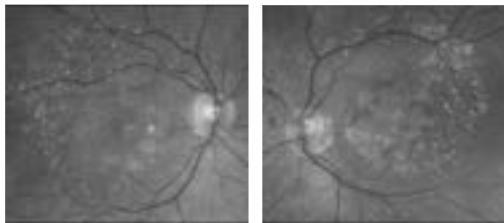
### MULTIMODAL IMAGING OF GA



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### GA IMAGING- COLOR FUNDUS PHOTOGRAPHY (CFP)

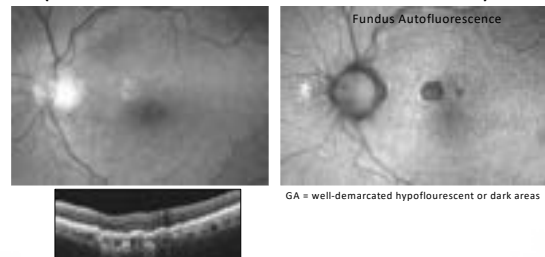
- A sharply demarcated, usually circular zone of partial or complete RPE depigmentation, typically with exposure of underlying large choroidal blood vessels
- Less sensitive in detecting early GA and NOT an ideal way track enlargement over time



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### GA IMAGING - FUNDUS AUTOFLUORESCENCE (FAF)

ONE OF THE PRIMARY METHODS USED TO DETECT & MONITOR GA LESIONS (SUPERIOR FOR EARLY GA DETECTION COMPARED TO CFP)!!!



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## GA IMAGING - FUNDUS AUTOFLUORESCENCE (FAF)

ONE OF THE PRIMARY METHODS USED TO DETECT,  
MONITOR, AND QUANTIFY GA LESIONS!!!

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## GA IMAGING - OCT ANGIOGRAPHY (OCTA) IMAGING OF GA

Highlights loss of the choriocapillaris!!! (allows for  
visualization of the deep/larger choroidal vessels)

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## GEOGRAPHIC ATROPHY FEATURES ON OCT

Zone of RPE loss/attenuation & overlying  
PR degeneration  $\geq 250\mu\text{m}$  in diameter



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## OCT En-Face ANALYSIS (Sub-RPE Slab) - GA

GA area enlarges over time  
Distance to center of fovea

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## PROGRESSION

FASTER PROGRESSION!!!

Extrafoveal  
Multifocal

Central  
Monofocal

Smaller lesions

Larger lesions



AREDS2 Report #16: Progression of GA in ARMD

Bilateral GA

Kennedy TD, et al. AREDS2 Research Group. Progression of GA in ARMD: AREDS2 Report #16. Ophthalmology 2014  
Thakurathan M, et al. The progression of GA: incidence in AREDS. Ophthalmology 2018

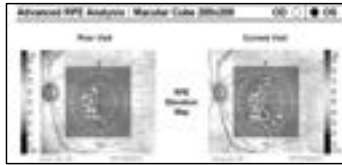
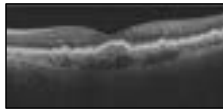
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## OCT BIOMARKERS MAY HELP PREDICT CONVERSION TO GA OR WET AMD

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### OCT BIOMARKERS MAY HELP PREDICT CONVERSION TO GA OR WET AMD

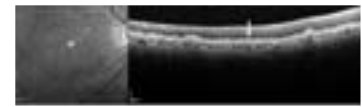
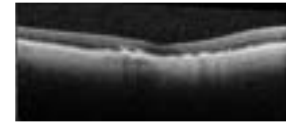
- DRUSEN VOLUME
- INCREASED DRUSEN HEIGHT
- ABNORMAL THINNING OF THE RPE LAYER



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### OCT BIOMARKERS MAY HELP PREDICT CONVERSION TO GA OR WET AMD

- HYPER-REFLECTIVE FOCI (HRF)
- RETICULAR PSEUDO DRUSEN
- HYPER-TRANSMISSION DEFECTS
- OCT-REFLECTIVE DRUSEN SUBSTRUCTURES

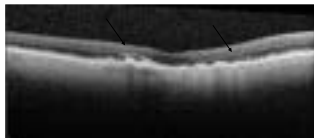


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### OCT BIOMARKERS MAY HELP PREDICT CONVERSION TO GA OR WET AMD

#### HYPER-REFLECTIVE FOCI (HRF)

- EXTRACELLULAR PIGMENT GRANULES AND OUTER SEGMENT DEBRIS (OUTER HRF)
- MAY ALSO REPRESENT DISPLACEMENT AND CLUMPING OF DEGENERATED RPE CELLS
- AREDS2 STUDY: PATIENTS WITH HRF HAD 5 X INCREASED RISK OF PROGRESSION TO GA AT 2 YEARS VS. CONTROLS

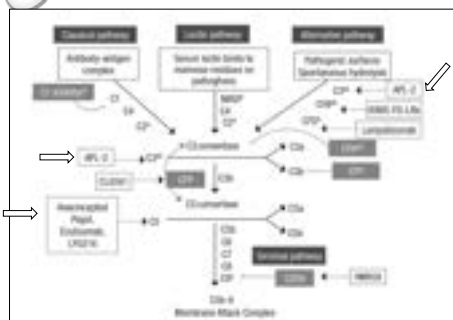


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### GEOGRAPHIC ATROPHY

- LESIONS GROW WITH TIME, AT VARIOUS RATES
  - LARGER LESIONS, MULTI-FOCAL LESIONS, EXTRAFOVEAL LESIONS GROW FASTER
- TREATMENT GEARED AT DECREASE IN LESION GROWTH
- GROWTH ASSOCIATED WITH OVER-ACTIVATION OF COMPLEMENT SYSTEM
  - VARIOUS TARGETS BEING INVESTIGATED: C3, C5

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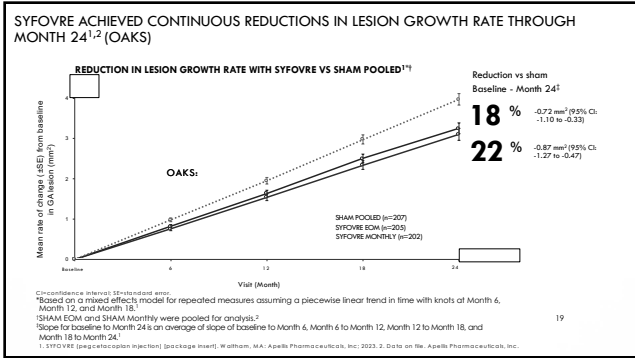


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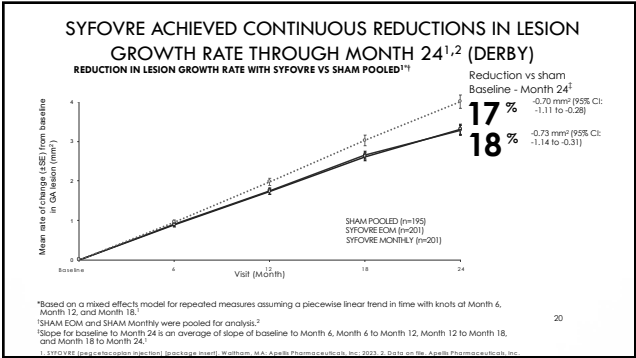
### SYFOVRE™

- PEGCETACOPLAN
- FDA APPROVED FEB 17, 2023
- FIRST FDA APPROVED MED FOR TREATMENT OF GA
- 15 MG (0.1 ML OF 150 MG/ML) ADMINISTERED BY INTRAVITREAL INJECTION TO AFFECTED EYE ONCE EVERY 25 TO 60 DAYS

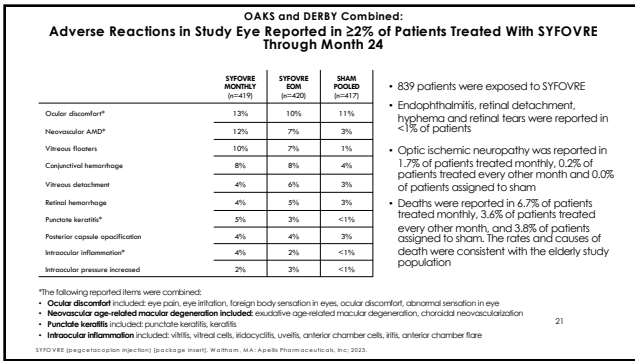
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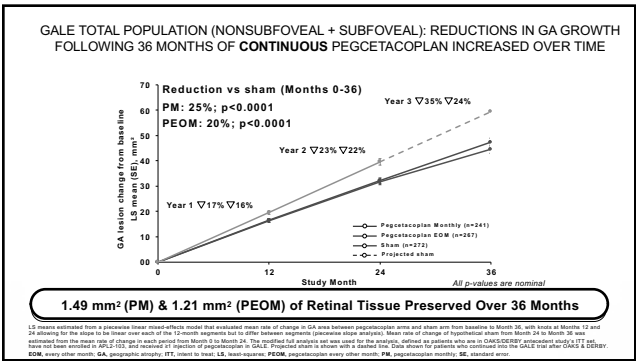
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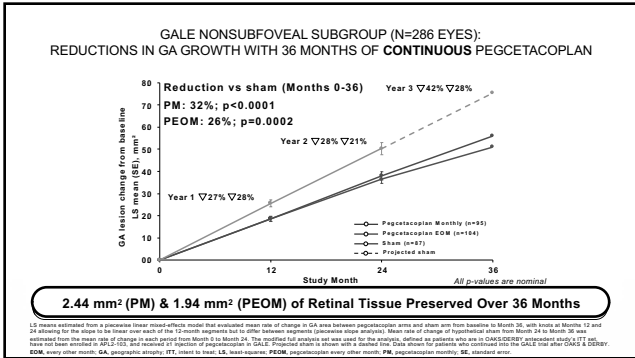
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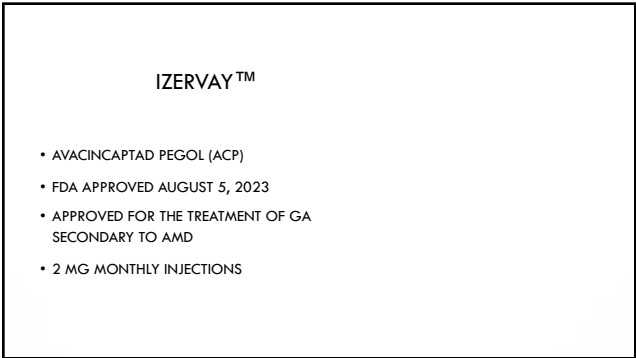
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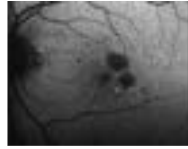


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### WHEN TO REFER?

- ANY GA THAT IS **THREATENING** CENTRAL VISUAL FUNCTION
- ANY GA THAT IS BEGINNING TO INVOLVE THE FOVEA
  - LIKELY ALREADY HAVING REDUCED VA
- LARGE EXTRAFOVEAL LESIONS



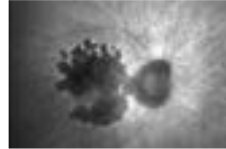
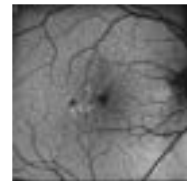
Progression to subfoveal involvement 18 mo



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### WHEN TO REFER?

- EXTRAFOVEAL LESIONS THAT ARE NOT A THREAT TO CENTRAL VA?
- CENTRAL GA LESIONS THAT HAVE ALREADY HAVE SIG LOSS OF VISUAL FUNCTION?



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### Valeda® Light Delivery System

#### VALEDA OVERVIEW

- Valeda treatment delivery very similar to many ophthalmology office diagnostic and treatment devices
- Implementation support available from LumiThera Customer Success Team
- Treatment is simple to learn and easy to train for operators
- No pupil dilation required
- Nine (9) flexible treatment sessions delivered over 3–4 weeks
- 2-3 treatment cycles per annum

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### Photobiomodulation (PBM) Approach

PBM uses low-level light to stimulate cells to restore energy production and improve cellular health

Valeda Wavelengths (nm)	Cellular Targets	Secondary Effects
590	Stimulates CCO activity, increases nitric oxide (NO) synthesis, inhibits VEGF expression	Vasodilation, improves local O <sub>2</sub> and nutrient delivery, VEGF reduction
660	Promotes O <sub>2</sub> binding to CCO active Cu <sub>2</sub> /Fe <sub>2</sub> site	Upregulates Electron Transport Pathway, Increases energy (ATP), Reduces Inflammation and cell death
850	Drives electron transfer at Cu <sub>2</sub> site of CCO	Upregulates Electron Transport Pathway, Increases energy (ATP), Reduces Inflammation and cell death

PHOTONS ARE ABSORBED BY PHOTORECEPTORS IN THE TARGETED TISSUE MITOCHONDRIAL PROTEIN, CYTOCHROME C OXIDASE (CCO) TO RESTORE ENERGY PRODUCTION  
SUSTAINED CELLULAR CHANGES ALSO OCCUR THROUGH ACTIVATION OF TRANSCRIPTION FACTORS

Wong-Riley MT, et al. J Biol Chem. 2005; 280: 4761-71.  
Ball RA, et al. J Photochem Photobiol B Biol. 2012; 102: 182-91.

Valeda wavelengths were selected based on their cellular targets and importance in AMD

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### FDA AUTHORIZES BREAKTHROUGH VALEDA THERAPEUTIC FOR DRY AMD TO IMPROVE VISION (NOVEMBER 04, 2024)

#### Valeda Light Delivery System

- Five successful clinical studies
- US LIGHTSITE III pivotal trial data met BCVA primary endpoint
- Data from two-year LIGHTSITE III trial used to support Valeda FDA submission
- First FDA authorized therapy for Dry AMD Patients to improve vision
- CE marked: Available in Europe and other countries
- Non-invasive, safe therapy for patients

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### First FDA treatment for Dry AMD Patients to Improve Vision

#### Indications for Use:

The Valeda Light Delivery System is intended to provide improved visual acuity in patients with best corrected visual acuity (BCVA) of 20/32 through 20/70 and who have dry age-related macular degeneration (AMD) characterized by:

- The presence of at least 3 medium drusen (> 63 µm and 125 µm in diameter), or large drusen (> 125 µm in diameter), or non-central geographic atrophy, AND
- The absence of neovascular maculopathy or center-involving geographic atrophy

After about two years, the Valeda Light Delivery System treatment provides improved mean visual acuity of approximately one line of visual acuity (ETDRS) compared to those not receiving the treatment.

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## LIGHTSITE III: US PIVOTAL 24-MONTH STUDY

The LIGHTSITE III study was an FDA, IDE-approved, prospective, double-masked, randomized, sham-controlled, parallel group, multi-center study to assess the safety and efficacy of photobiomodulation (PBM) in subjects with dry age-related macular degeneration (AMD)

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## LIGHTSITE III: SAFETY SUMMARY

- Similar frequencies of adverse events (AE) (Sham, 25.5%; PBM, 25.8%) and ocular-specific AEs (Sham, 20.0%; PBM, 22.6%) observed between treatment groups
- Three subjects had ocular-specific AEs considered related to the procedure: punctate keratitis (Sham; n = 2; 3.6%), visual perseveration (after image) (Sham; n = 1; 1.8%), and application site warmth (PBM; n = 1; 1.1%). No ocular-specific AEs led to study discontinuation.
- Seven (7.5%) ocular-specific serious adverse events (SAE) of nAMD were reported in the PBM group and three (5.5%) ocular-specific SAEs (2 nAMD, 1 cystoid macular edema) were reported in the Sham group. No SAEs were considered associated to the treatment by the primary investigator.
- Severity of AEs reported were mostly mild/moderate in both treatment groups
- No signs of phototoxicity
- No adverse effect on color vision or perimetry

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## LIGHTSITE III: STUDY SUMMARY

**LIGHTSITE III study results show significant effect on clinical and anatomical outcomes that support vision improvement and disease modifying effects**

- LIGHTSITE III met the primary efficacy endpoint with a statistically significant improvement in BCVA in the PBM versus the Sham group
- Eyes with worse BCVA at baseline showed larger magnitude gains in BCVA
- Increased rate of > 5, 10, and 15 letter BCVA gains following PBM compared to BCVA loss in the Sham group
- Cox proportional analyses showed a significant reduction in the hazard ratios for BCVA vision loss and incident GA in PBM vs Sham treatment groups
- Reduced occurrence of incident GA and other exploratory markers of disease progression
- Reduced macular drusen volume
- Improved QoL in VFQ-25 Composite score and select subscales
- A favorable safety profile was observed with no signs of phototoxicity and no deterioration in other visual outcomes, including contrast sensitivity, low luminance BCVA, Radner reading, perimetry, or color vision observed

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## FORESEE HOME

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## At-risk Patients May Convert to Wet AMD at Any Point Between Follow-up Visits

Visit 1

Converts after office visit

Converts between office visits

Converts before office visit

More likely to lose vision

Less likely to lose vision

Visit 2

Reference: Houch J, et al. Retina. 2012;32(1):104-114.

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## Amsler grid alone has limited ability to detect visual changes

**Accurately taking the test<sup>1,2</sup>**

- Fixation
- Testing distance
- Test questions
- Compliance

**Cortical completion<sup>1</sup>**

**Low sensitivity; subjectivity exam to exam, patient to patient<sup>1</sup>**

References: 1. Johnson C, Johnson S. Ophthalmol. 2011;119(12):24-30. 2. Johnson C, et al. Arch Ophthalmol. 2007;125(11):1711-1716. 3. Johnson C, et al. Ophthalmology. 2011;119(12):24-30. 4. Johnson C, et al. Ophthalmology. 2011;119(12):24-30.

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### ForeseeHome® product overview



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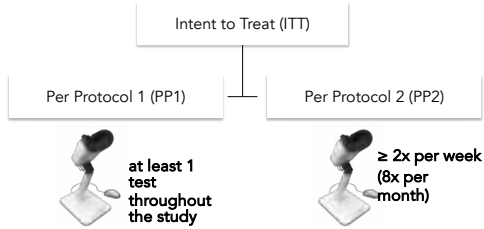
### AREDS2-HOME STUDY

ForeseeHome plus standard care arm	Intent to Treat (ITT) population results	Standard care arm
763 participants	1520 participants	757 participants
51 CNV events	Mean follow up 1.4 yr $\pm$ 0.6 years Mean VA at entry 20/25	31 CNV events
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine monitoring</li> <li>Patient symptoms</li> <li>ForeseeHome</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine monitoring</li> <li>Patient symptoms</li> </ul>

**\*Primary outcome:** Change in BCVA from baseline to CNV detection

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### FORESEEHOME ARM



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### MORE PATIENTS WHO USED FORESEEHOME MAINTAINED $\geq 20/40$ VA

	ITT N=40	PP1 N=32	PP2 N=29
Standard care	62% $\geq 20/40$	87% $\geq 20/40$	91% $\geq 20/40$
ForeseeHome arm	94% $\geq 20/40$	94% $\geq 20/40$	94% $\geq 20/40$

**50% MORE** patients maintained 20/40 or better when using ForeseeHome vs standard of care alone

**94% of patients maintained 20/40 at time of wet AMD diagnosis; Absolute visual acuity at time of wet AMD diagnosis is critical to visual acuity outcomes at year 1**

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### HOME OCT

- SCANLY AI POWERED HOME OCT APPROVED 5/16/24
- TWO US TRIALS OVER 500 PTS
  - SAFE AND EFFICACIOUS WAY TO VISUALIZE INTRA AND SUB-RETINAL EDEMA
  - 5,426 SCANS PERFORMED, 97% SUCCESSFUL
  - ADHERENCE OF 5.9 SCANS/WEEK
  - SELF-IMAGING TOOK 44 SECONDS ON AVERAGE

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### HOME OCT

- Monitoring of intra- and subretinal fluid based on daily patient self-imaging
  - Easy-to-use, patient-operated device
  - Takes less than one minute per eye
  - AI algorithm analyzes images on cloud
  - Remote diagnostic clinic, provider of monitoring program, reports changes meeting physician-selected fluid volume thresholds to referring physician
  - 24/7 physician access to all data
- GREAT WAY FOR RETINA MDS TO KNOW WHEN NEXT INJECTION TRULY NEEDED

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IS AMD IN OUR DNA?

- AMD IS A GENETIC DISEASE WITH KNOWN MARKERS ACCOUNTING FOR AT LEAST 70% OF THE POPULATION ATTRIBUTABLE RISK
- OTHER 30% IS ENVIRONMENTAL/LIFESTYLE
- RISK FACTORS
  - NON-MODIFIABLE: AGE, RACE, GENDER
  - MODIFIABLE: SMOKING, INCREASED BMI, POOR DIET/NUTRITION, UV EXPOSURE

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HOW CAN WE USE THIS INFORMATION?

- INCREASED SURVEILLANCE FOR THOSE AT HIGHER RISK
  - SOONER/MORE FREQUENT APPOINTMENTS
  - MORE DILIGENT HOME MONITORING
- MORE DILIGENCE WITH MODIFIABLE RISK FACTORS
- CONSIDER EARLIER VITAMIN SUPPLEMENTATION
- POTENTIAL TREATMENTS IN THE FUTURE

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AMD RISK TESTING FOR A FULL SPECTRUM OF PATIENTS

AMDIGUARD DNA PROGRESSION ASSESSMENT

FOR PEOPLE ≥55YO WITH OR WITHOUT AMD FINDINGS

FOR PEOPLE <55YO WITH AMD FINDINGS

- ASSESSES A PATIENT'S RISK OF PROGRESSION TO ADVANCED AMD WITHIN 2, 5, 10, 20 AND 30 YEARS
- DELAYING PROGRESSION TO ADVANCED AMD WITH SECONDARY PREVENTION INCLUDING AREDS VITAMINS, INCREASED SURVEILLANCE (HOME MONITORING)

AMDIGUARD DNA RISK ASSESSMENT

FOR PEOPLE <55YO WITHOUT AMD FINDINGS

- ASSESSES A PATIENT'S LIFETIME RISK OF DEVELOPING ADVANCED AMD (GA OR CNV) ALLOWING PREVENTIVE LIFESTYLE CHANGES AT YOUNGER AGE
- DELAYING ONSET OF DISEASE WITH PRIMARY PREVENTION INCLUDING LIFESTYLE MODIFICATIONS, SUPPLEMENTATION (I.E. NUTRITION) AND NUTRITIONAL INTERVENTION



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL. DO NOT SHARE.

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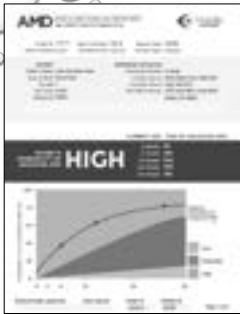
AMD GENE PANEL

- BASED ON THE LATEST IN AMD GENETICS RESEARCH
- CLINICALLY PROVEN AND CLINICALLY ACTIONABLE TO BE THE MOST IMPACTFUL VARIATIONS ON AMD PROGRESSION
- COMBINES BOTH GENETIC + NON-GENETIC MARKERS

Gene	SNP No.	Allele Variants	AMD Risk	Chromosome	Pathway
ARMS2/HTRA1 (HtrA Serine Peptidase 1)	R130092A (A49G)	GG	Lower Risk (Reference)	10q26	Immune/Inflammatory
		GT	Moderate Risk		
		TT	Higher Risk		
CFH (Complement Factor H)	R1100170 (T402N)	TT	Highly Protective	1q31	Complement
		CT	Moderately Protective		
		CC	Higher Risk (Reference)		
	R12191305 9 (R1210C)	CC	Lower Risk (Reference)		Complement
		CT	Moderate Risk		
		TT	Higher Risk		
C3 (Complement Component 3)	R1410996 (V514)	AA	Highly Protective	19p13	Complement
		GA	Moderately Protective		
		GG	Higher Risk (Reference)		
		GG	Lower Risk (Reference)		
C3 (Complement Component 3)	R2230199 (R102G)	GC	Moderate Risk	19p13	Complement
		CC	Higher Risk		
		CC	Higher Risk		

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GENETIC TREATMENTS

- SEVERAL COMPANIES LOOKING AT GENETIC TREATMENT FOR AMD
- VIRAL VECTORS ARE USED TO INTRODUCE AN ANTI-VEGF ENCODING TRANSGENE TO ALLOW THEY EYE TO BEGIN TO SECRETE ANTI-VEGF
  - TRANSFORMS THE EYE INTO A "BIOFACTORY"
  - PRODUCES ITS OWN ANTI-VEGF SUPPLY
  - REDUCES NEED FOR EXTRINSIC INJECTIONS
- RGX-314 AND ADVM-022

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## ANTI-VEGF AGENTS

- THE OG
  - MACUGEN (PEGAPTANIB) 2004
  - LUCENTIS (RANIBIZUMAB) 2006
  - EYLEA (AFIBERCEPT) 2011
  - BEOVU (BROLUCIZUMAB) 2019
  - AVASTIN (BEVACIZUMAB) ≈ 2005

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## HIGH DOSE AFLIBERCEPT (EYLEA)

- PULSAR (AMD) AND PHOTON (DME) STUDIES
  - LOOKED AT 8 MG VS 2 MG OF EYLEA
  - DEMONSTRATED NON-INFERIOR AND CLINICALLY EQUIVALENT VISION GAINS AT 48 WEEKS WITH 8 MG AT 12 AND 16 WEEK DOSING AFTER 3 INITIAL DOSES COMPARED TO EYLEA EVERY 8 WEEKS AFTER INITIAL DOSING
- EYLEA HD FDA APPROVED 8/18/2023 FOR AMD, DME AND DR
  - RECOMMENDED DOSE 1 INJECTION EVERY 4 WEEKS FOR FIRST 3 MOS FOR ALL INDICATIONS, THEN EVERY 8-16 WEEKS (2-4 MOS) FOR AMD AND DME AND EVERY 8-12 WEEKS (2-3 MOS) FOR DR

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## VABYSMO (FARICIMAB)

- ROCHE/GENENTECH
  - FDA APPROVED JANUARY 3, 2022 FOR AMD AND DME
- FIRST BI-PHASIC ANTIBODY FOR INTRAOCULAR USE
  - ONE ARM VEGF-A INHIBITOR
  - OTHER ARM: ANGIOPOIETIN 2 (ANG-2) INHIBITOR
    - GROWTH FACTOR THAT PROMOTES VASCULAR DESTABILIZATION AND INFLAMMATION
  - DUAL INHIBITION OF VEGF AND ANG-2 HAVE PROVEN MORE EFFECTIVE THAN INHIBITING EITHER TARGET ALONE
- MULTIPLE STUDIES SHOW SIMILAR RESULTS TO MONTHLY LUCENTIS/EYLEA BUT ABLE TO OBJECT LESS FREQUENTLY, MANY PTS Q 1-6 WEEKS
- MAY BE FDA APPROVED FOR RVO BY END OF YEAR

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## SUSVIMO

- PREVIOUSLY CALLED GENENTECH PORT DELIVERY SYSTEM (PDS)
  - REFILLABLE PORT PLACED UNDER CONJUNCTIVA TO ALLOW STEADY SUPPLY OF LUCENTIS
- STUDIES (LADDER, ARCHWAY) DEMONSTRATED EQUIVALENT RESULTS TO MONTHLY LUCENTIS AT 40 WEEKS
  - LARGE % OF PTS DID NOT NEED REFILL PRIOR TO 6 OR 12 MOS
- FDA APPROVED 10/1
- RECALLED 10/22
  - ISSUE WITH IMPLANTS BREAKING WHEN REFILLED
- REAPPROVED JULY 8, 2024 WITH NEW IMPLANT AND REFILL NEEDLE

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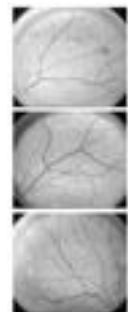
## ANTI-VEGF BIOSIMILARS

- 2 FDA APPROVED LUCENTIS (RANIBIZUMAB) BIOSIMILARS
  - BYOOVIZ (SAMSUNG) APPROVED SEPT 2021
  - CIMERLI (COHERUS) APPROVED OCT 2022
- 3 FDA APPROVED TWO EYLEA (AFIBERCEPT) BIOSIMILARS
  - YESAFILI (AFIBERCEPT-JBYF) BIOCON BIOLOGICS MAY 2024
  - OPLIVIZ (AFIBERCEPT-YSZY) SAMSUNG BIOEPS/BIOGEN MAY 2024
  - PAVBLU (AFIBERCEPT-AYYH) AMGEN AUGUST 2024
- MANY OTHERS IN THE WORKS....

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## DIABETIC RETINOPATHY GRADING

- DEVELOPED AS A MEANS OF CREATING A "PROGNOSTIC STANDARD"
  - RISK OF VISION LOSS IF NOT TREATED
- BASED ON ETDRS/DRS STUDIES THAT WERE DONE IN THE 1980'S
- UTILIZES FUNDUS PHOTOGRAPHY WITH A SET OF "STANDARD SLIDES"
- PHOTOGRAPHS ONLY CAPTURED IMAGES MAINLY OF THE POSTERIOR POLE BETWEEN THE ARCADES
- DOES NOT INCORPORATE CHANGES SEEN IN THE RETINA USING NEWER MODALITIES



Standard Slide 2A  
Standard Slide 6A  
Standard Slide 8A

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## DIABETIC RETINAL NEURODEGENERATION (DRN)

- MAY BE A **"PRECLINICAL MANIFESTATION"** OF DIABETIC RETINAL DISEASE (DRD)
  - DEVELOPS IN THE EARLY STAGES OF DRD
- IDENTIFIED AS **PROGRESSIVE RETINAL THINNING AND VISUAL DYSFUNCTION** IN PATIENTS WITH DM BEFORE THE DEVELOPMENT OF DR
- EARLY RETINAL NEURODEGENERATION MAY PRECEDE VASCULAR PATHOLOGY - SUGGESTING THAT NEURONAL DAMAGE MAY CONTRIBUTE TO DISEASE PATHOGENESIS AND REPRESENT AN INDEPENDENT TARGET FOR INTERVENTION
- DRN MAY BE AN INITIAL COMPONENT - ANOTHER STAGE - OF DRD

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## NEURODEGENERATIVE MECHANISMS

- GLUTAMATE EXCITOTOXICITY
- OXIDATIVE STRESS
- INFLAMMATION
- RENIN-ANGIOTENSIN SYSTEM ACTIVATION



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## THE LANDSCAPE OF IMAGING MODALITIES

- WIDE-FIELD FUNDUS PHOTOGRAPHY
- SD OCT
- OCT ANGIOGRAPHY
- ADOPTIVE OPTICS
- ERG

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## DIABETIC RETINOPATHY GRADING

- THE **TRADITIONAL END-POINT** FOR DR HAS EVOLVED:
  - LASER PRP (OR VITRECTOMY) ONCE PTS PROGRESSED TO PDR
  - FOCAL/GRID LASER ONCE THEY DEVELOPED CSME
- TO NOW ANTI-VEGF TREATMENTS
  - CI-DME
  - SEVERE NPDR AND PDR
- EARLIER INTERVENTION BEFORE PDR

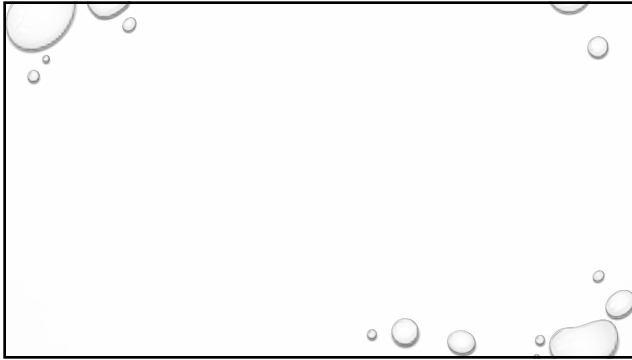
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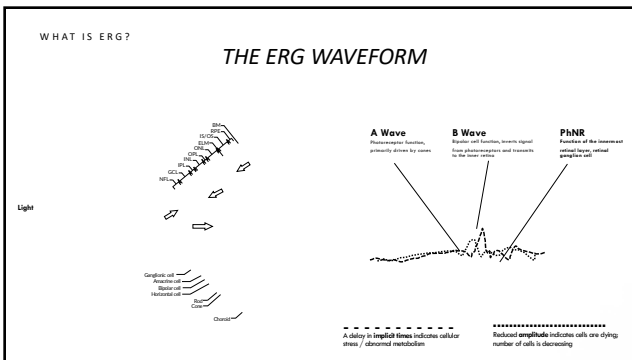
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WHAT IS ERG?

## ELECTRORETINOGRAPHY

ERG MEASURES THE ELECTRICAL RESPONSES OF VARIOUS CELL TYPES IN THE RETINA, INCLUDING THE **PHOTORECEPTORS** (RODS AND CONES), **INNER RETINAL CELLS** (BIPOLAR AND AMACRINE CELLS), AND THE **GANGLION CELLS** IN RESPONSE TO A STIMULUS.

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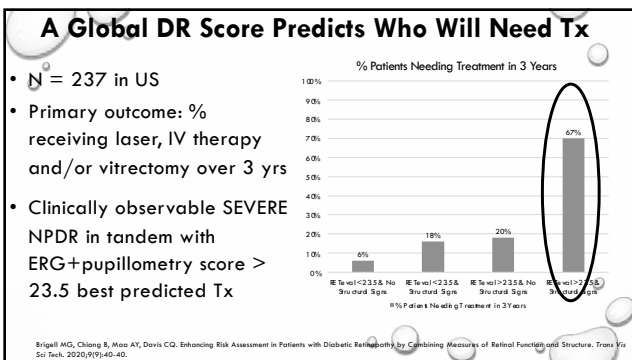
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## PUPILLARY RESPONSE IS ALSO IMPACTED BY DR

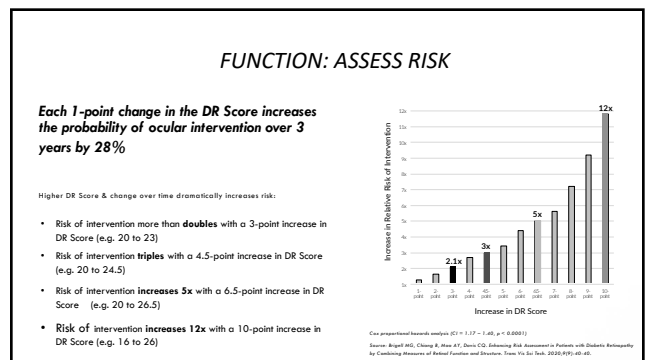
DR assessment protocol combines:

- IMPLICIT TIME (ERG)**  
How long it takes the retina to respond
- AMPLITUDE (ERG)**  
How strong the signal from the retina is
- PUPIL RESPONSE**  
Change in pupil diameter—dim vs. bright
- PATIENT AGE**

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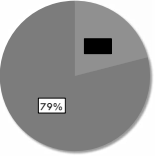


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**DIABETIC RETINOPATHY**  
NEWEST STUDY SHOWS THE DR SCORE WAS THE STRONGEST PREDICTOR OF PROGRESSION TO VTC



79%

Patients with a DR Score of 26.9 or higher had a 79% chance of progressing to needing treatment in less than 1 year.

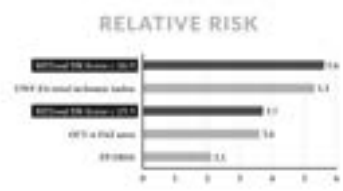
- Longitudinal prospective study published in Ophthalmology Science, the journal of the American Academy of Ophthalmology
- 48 weeks (~11 months)
- 74 patients with moderate to severe NPDR tested with ERG
- Evaluated 56 parameters at multiple US sites from 4 testing modalities:
  - REteval DR Assessment (ERG + pupillometry)
  - Color fundus photography (FP)
  - OCT angiography (OCT-A)
  - Ultra-widefield fluorescein angiography (UWF-FA)

Davis, C. Quantin et al. Predicting Progression to Vision-Threatening Complications in Diabetic Retinopathy. Ophthalmology Science, online June 17, 2025, 100859

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**DIABETIC RETINOPATHY**  
STUDY SHOWS THE DR SCORE WAS THE STRONGEST PREDICTOR OF PROGRESSION TO VTC

**REteval DR Score was the strongest predictor of progression to vision-threatening complications!**



Davis, C. Quantin et al. Predicting Progression to Vision-Threatening Complications in Diabetic Retinopathy. Ophthalmology Science, online June 17, 2025, 100859

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**DIABETIC RETINOPATHY**  
WHY THE DR SCORE MATTERS

- ENABLES RISK STRATIFICATION TO IDENTIFY PATIENTS WHO NEED CLOSE MONITORING OR EARLY REFERRAL, EVEN WHEN STRUCTURAL IMAGING APPEARS STABLE.
- ALLOWS TARGETED REFERRALS AND/OR RESOURCE PRIORITIZATION, REDUCING OVERTREATMENT AND MISSED PROGRESSION.
- CREATES POTENTIAL TO IMPROVE DR STAGING SYSTEMS AND SUPPORT VALUE-BASED CARE MODELS.

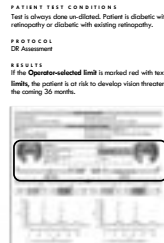
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**DIABETIC RETINOPATHY**  
HOW TO USE THE DR SCORE IN PRACTICE → INTERPRETATION GUIDE

**PATIENT TEST CONDITIONS**  
Test is always done un-dilated. Patient is diabetic with suspected retinopathy or diabetic with existing retinopathy.

**PROTOCOL**  
DR Assessment

**RESULTS**  
If the Operator-selected limit is marked red with text Outside, finally, the patient is at risk to develop vision threatening DR within the coming 36 months.



**Predicting DR progression**

**DR SCORE <23.5:**  
Patient is much less likely to progress to needing treatment in the next few years

**DR SCORE ≥23.5:**  
High chance of requiring treatment in next 3 years

**DR SCORE ≥26.9:**  
Patient is 79% likely to progress to needing treatment in less than 1 year

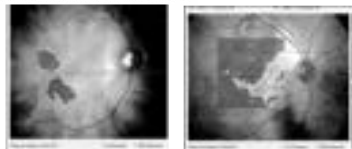
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**OLD DEFINITIONS BEING REPLACED WITH NEWER**

- CENTER INVOLVED
- NON-CENTER INVOLVED
- OCT BEST WAY TO EVALUATE RETINA FLUID
- DME RESPONSIBLE FOR MORE CASES OF MODERATE VISUAL LOSS IN PTS WITH TYPE 2 DM THAN DR
- NEW TREATMENTS

**CSME**

- RT within 500 microns (1/3 DD) from FAZ
- Hard exudates with associated thickening 500 microns from FAZ
- RT > 1DD in area any part of which is within 1DD from FAZ



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**PROTOCOL V**

- 702 PTS WITH CI-DME WITH VA 20/25 OR BETTER
- 3 TREATMENT GROUPS
  - EYLEA
  - FML
  - OBSERVATION
- AT END OF 2 YEARS, RATE OF LOSS OF 5 LETTERS OR MORE SIMILAR IN ALL 3 GROUPS
- AVG ACUITY IN ALL 3 GROUPS WAS 20/20
- BOTTOM LINE: PTS WITH CI-DME AND GOOD VA CAN BE OBSERVED

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### OPTOMED AURORA AEYE

- FIRST FDA CLEARED HANDHELD AI FUNDUS CAMERA
- USES AI TO ASSESS LEVEL OF DR
  - REFERRABLE DR DETECTED
  - NO REFERRABLE DR DETECTED
  - OVER 90% SPECIFIC AND SENSITIVE
  - 99% IMAGEABILITY
  - RESULTS IN UNDER 90 SECONDS

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### AI OPTICS SENTINEL CAMERA

- FDA APPROVED JAN 29, 2025
- HANDHELD DIGITAL IMAGING SYSTEM
- HAS AI CAPABILITIES BUT NOT YET APPROVED

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### FLOATERS

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WOULD YOU RECOMMEND SURGICAL INTERVENTION  
FOR PATIENTS WITH INTRACTABLE SYMPTOMS OF  
FLOATERS?

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### THE BURDON OF FLOATERS

#### RETROSPECTIVE STUDY BASCOM PALMER EYE INSTITUTE 2008-2011

- 7.2% OF PATIENTS REFERRED TO A RETINAL SPECIALIST HAD FLOATERS
- 5<sup>TH</sup> MOST COMMON DIAGNOSIS OVER THAT TIME
  - > 60 YO 3<sup>RD</sup> MOST COMMON DX
- VITRECTOMY: VERY SUCCESSFUL, TECHNICALLY SIMPLE, WITH LOW SIDE-EFFECT PROFILE
  - RISK OF CATARACT, ERM, AND RETINAL TEARS/DETACHMENTS

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### IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS IN PATIENTS WITH FLOATERS

- ARE THEY ACUTE OR CHRONIC?
- ACUTE FLOATERS -- OFTEN FROM PVD
    - USUALLY RESOLVE
  - CHRONIC FLOATERS THAT IMPACT DAILY ACTIVITIES

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### REASONS FOR SURGERY FOR FLOATERS

SYMPTOMS THAT IMPACT THE QUALITY OF LIFE

- UNABLE TO READ CONTINUOUSLY
- UNABLE TO SAFELY DRIVE A CAR
  - THE FLOATERS/CLOUD MOVES IN FRONT OF THEIR VISION AND THEY NEARLY HAVE TO PULL OVER FOR FEAR OF HAVING AN ACCIDENT
- AFFECTS ABILITY TO PERFORM YOUR JOB

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### THE IDEAL CANDIDATE FOR TREATMENT OF FLOATERS

- SYMPTOMATIC
- PSEUDOPHAKIC
- PVD

#### The **NOT** Ideal Candidate for Treatment of Floaters

- Young
- Phakic
- Attached vitreous
- High myope

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### LASER VITREOLYSIS FOR FLOATERS

- DONE WITH A YAG
- HIGHLY VARIABLE RESULTS
- COMPLICATIONS:
  - CATARACT (HITTING THE LENS)
  - POSTERIOR CAPSULE TEARS
  - RETINAL BURNS
  - FOVEAL BURNS
  - CHOROIDAL RUPTURE
  - CHOROIDAL HEMORRHAGES
  - RETINAL TEAR

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#### Long-Term Follow-Up of Efficacy and Safety of YAG Vitreolysis for Symptomatic Weiss Ring Floaters

Chang P, Smith ML, Jaffe G, Stein WD

- 35 OF 52 PATIENTS RANDOMIZED TO YAG VITREOLYSIS OR CONTROL FOLLOWED FOR 2.3 YEARS
- 50% FELT THEIR SYMPTOMS WERE SIGNIFICANTLY OR COMPLETELY BETTER AT 6 MONTHS
  - ~60% OVERALL IMPROVEMENT IN SYMPTOMS
- 3 PATIENTS DEVELOPED RETINAL TEARS AFTER 6 MONTHS (NOT SYMPTOMATIC)



Ophthalmic Surg Lasers Imaging Retina 2020

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### VITRECTOMY 2023

- SMALLER-GAUGE INSTRUMENTS (25 OR 27) COMPARED WITH THE 20-GAUGE NEEDLES USED LESS THAN 15 YEARS AGO
- SMALLER VITRECTOMY INSTRUMENTS ALLOW FOR SUTURELESS PROCEDURES
  - SMALLER SCLEROTOMY
  - TROCARS ALLOW FOR SMALL, THIN-WALL CANNULA
- LESS INFLAMMATION
- FEWER COMPLICATIONS
- MUCH GREATER SUCCESS RATE

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### RISK FACTORS FOR VITRECTOMY

- CATARACT
- RETINAL TEAR OR DETACHMENT
- ERM/MACULAR PUCKER
- MACULAR EDEMA
- ENDOPHTHALMITIS

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### INDUCE A PVD....OR NOT

- RISK OF DEVELOPING A RETINAL TEAR BY INDUCING PVD
- REDUCED RISK/TIME OF DEVELOPING CATARACT WITH PARTIAL VITRECTOMY

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### BASCOM PALMER VITRECTOMY FOR FLOATERS STUDY

- RETROSPECTIVE CHART REVIEW
- AGE OF ONSET 66/67
- PPV FOR SYMPTOMATIC PRIMARY VITREOUS FLOATERS
- GENDER: 65 FEMALE, 85 MALE
- # OF EYES: 208
- 150 PATIENTS EVALUATED BETWEEN 1/1/2012– 1/1/2023
- SYMPTOMS DURATION 12.3 MO  $\pm$  8 MO
- 74% PSEUDOPHAKIA

#### Ocular Disease

- 4 eyes treated tears
- 2 asteroid hyalosis
- 5 eyes glaucoma
- 10 eyes refractive surgery

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### COMPLICATIONS

Post Op Complications	# Eyes	Mean Time of Dx following Surgery
Cataract	18 (53%)	9.13 $\pm$ 6 months
Steroid induced Increase in IOP	10 (4.8%)	1 moth
Vit Heme	8 (3.9%)	4 $\pm$ 4 days
Retinal Detachment	7 (3.4%)	20 $\pm$ 37 months
Symptomatic CME	4 (1.9%)	16.8 $\pm$ months
ERM	3 (1.4%)	15 $\pm$ months
Endophthalmitis	1 (0.5%)	1 day
Hyphema	1 (0.5%)	1 day
Symptomatic floats	1 (0.5)	6 months

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### RATE OF COMPLICATIONS FOR VITRECTOMY FOR VITREOUS FLOATERS IS "LOW"

NEEDS TO BE DISCUSSED WITH THE PATIENT

- RRD: 7 EYES (3.4%)
- VH: 7 EYES (3.4%): ALL CLEARED
- OTHER
  - ENDOPHTHALMITIS 1 EYE
  - REDO SURGERY 1 EYE

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AAO Annual Meeting Abstract - 1 June 2019

### Long-term Safety of Vitrectomy for Patients with Floaters

Christopher Wu, Kymberly Hsu, Laura Young, Alfredo Salazar, J. Salazar

- 66 EYES IN 52 PATIENTS (AGE = 63  $\pm$  12 YEARS) WERE INCLUDED
- 36/66 (54.5%) EYES WERE PHAKIC
- AVERAGE DURATION OF COPING WAS 30 MONTHS
- ETIOLOGY OF FLOATERS WAS PVD IN 44/66 (67%), MYOPIA IN 19/66 (28%), ASTEROID HYALOSIS IN 8/66 (12%)
- RETINOPEXY FOR RETINAL BREAKS OCCURRING AT THE TIME OF PVD WAS PERFORMED IN 16 EYES (36% OF ALL EYES WITH PVD; 24% OF ALL EYES). A MINIMUM OF 3 MONTHS PRIOR TO VITRECTOMY
- 22 EYES WITHOUT PVD: PVD NOT INDUCED AND VITREOUS REMAINED INTACT PERIPHERALLY
- MAIN OUTCOME: INCIDENCE OF RET TEARS/DETACHMENTS AND CATARACT REQUIRING SURGERY

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AAO Annual Meeting Abstract - 1 June 2019

### Long-term Safety of Vitrectomy for Patients with Floaters

Christopher Wu, Kymberly Hsu, Laura Young, Alfredo Salazar, J. Salazar

- FLOATER SYMPTOMS RESOLVED IN 65 OF 66 EYES (98.5%)
- NO PATIENTS (0/66; 0%) DEVELOPED RETINAL BREAKS, HEMORRHAGE, INFECTION, OR GLAUCOMA (3 MONTH – 3 YEARS)
- NO RETINAL BREAKS/ DETACHMENTS IN THE 22 PATIENTS WITHOUT PVD PRE-OPERATIVELY (0/22 VS 9/30)
- ONLY 7/36 (19%) PHAKIC EYES DEVELOPED CATARACTS REQUIRING SURGERY, AN AVERAGE OF 16.5 MONTHS POST-VITRECTOMY (7/36 VS 18/36 (50%))

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2018

### Long-Term Safety and Efficacy of Limited Vitrectomy for Vision Degrading Vitreopathy Resulting from Vitreous Floaters

• May 02, 2018 • JAMA Ophthalmol • Volume 36, Number 5 • May 14, 2018 • DOI: 10.1001/jamaophthalmol.2018.0000

#### Methods

195 Eyes

Limited vitrectomy with 25-gauge instruments was performed. **Postoperative PVD induction** occurring 2 to 4 hrs of retrolental vitreous. **Primary eyes**. Follow-up averaged 32.8 ± 23.5 months (range, 3–118 months), with 2 years or more in 144 eyes, 3 years or more in 65 eyes, 4 years or more in 51 eyes, and 5 years or more in 24 eyes.

#### Conclusions

Limited vitrectomy for Vision Degrading Vitreopathy decreases vitreous echodensity, improves patient self-being, improves VA, and normalizes CSF. The long-term efficacy and safety profiles suggest this may be a safe and effective treatment for clinically significant vitreous floaters, warranting a prospective randomized trial.

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#### Table 2. Postoperative Complications

Complication	No. in 195 Eyes	%
Vitreous hemorrhage	0	0.0
Retinal detachment	0	0.0
Retinal tear	0	0.0
CRVO	0	0.0
Glaucoma	0	0.0
Cataract	0	0.0
Cystoid macular edema (CME)	1 (0.5%)	0.5
PPV not within PVD before surgery	0	0.0
Macula perfor	1	0.5

PPV = Pars plana vitrectomy; CRVO = central retinal vein occlusion; PVD = posterior vitreous detachment.

#### EXTENDED-TERM PROGNOSIS OF CLINICAL RESULTS

PERCENTAGE OF EYES WITH IMPROVED VISION

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### Dietary Intervention With a Targeted Micronutrient Formulation Reduces the Visual Discomfort Associated With Vitreous Degeneration

Emmanuel Anikumah, Marina Green Gomez, Warren Roche, Eugene Nij, Ulrich Weige, Lüben, Thomas Kaercher, and John M. Nolan

- 61 PTS FOLLOWED FOR 60 DAYS
- LESS DISCOMFORT FROM FLOATERS IN TREATED PTS FROM INITIAL VISIT TO FINAL VISIT
- LESS EFFECT OF FLOATERS ON DAILY LIFE IN TREATED PTS FROM INITIAL VISIT TO FINAL VISIT
- DECREASE IN VITREOUS OPACITIES IN 20/26 (76.9%) OF TREATED PTS VS 28.6% IN PLACEBO
- INCREASE IN CONTRAST SENSITIVITY IN TREATED PTS
- OVERALL, 66.6% OF TREATED PTS EXPERIENCE AN IMPROVEMENT IN VISUAL COMFORT

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## MACULAR HOLE SURGERY

- VITRECTOMY AND MEMBRANE PEEL
- FILLED WITH GAS WHICH DISSIPATES OVER 4-6 WEEKS
- FACE DOWN POSITIONING
  - 14 DAYS TRADITIONAL
  - NEWER STUDIES EVALUATING LESS VS NONE
- 95% SUCCESS RATE IF OPERATED WITHIN 1 YR
- RISKS
  - ENDOPHTHALMITIS: 1:1,000
  - RD, 5%
  - CATARACT FORMATION: MANY PTS NEED CATARACT SURGERY WITHIN 1 YEAR OF VITRECTOMY

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## MACULAR HOLE MEDICAL THERAPY

- 49 PTS WITH FTMH STARTED ON PF, NSAID, CAI
- 18/49 (36.7%) ACHIEVED CLOSURE WITH DROPS
  - HIGHER % IN SMALL HOLES AND THOSE WITHOUT VMT
- HOLE SIZE DIRECTLY RELATED TO CHANCE OF CLOSURE
  - EVERY 10 UM DECREASE IN SIZE INCREASED ODDS FOR CLOSURE BY 1.2X
  - BEST RESULTS LESS THAN 200UM
  - 200-300UM ± 25% CLOSURE
  - NO FTMH OVER 300 UM HAD CLOSURE
- AVG TIME TO CLOSURE WAS 107.2 DAYS (RANGE 20-512 DAYS)
- IF NO RESPONSE AT ALL WITHIN FIRST 1-3 MOS RESPONSE UNLIKELY AND SURGICAL CANDIDATE

Wang J, et al. Full-thickness macular hole closure with topical medical therapy. Retina 44:392-399, 2024.

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## RATE OF FTMH CLOSURE ON MEDICAL THERAPY

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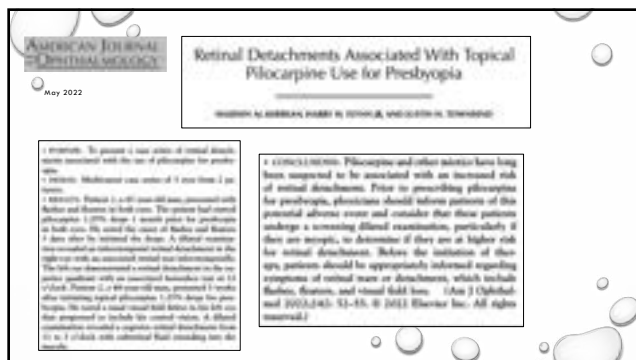
## TAKE HOME

- MY TAKE HOME:
  - IF < 300 UM, TRY CONSIDER TRYING
    - PF QID
    - NSAID (VOLTARB, ACULAR) QID
    - CAI (TRUSOPT) BID UNTIL SEES RETINA
  - REFER TO RETINA 1 MOS
  - SEND OCT TO COMPARE
  - IF NO IMPROVEMENT IN 1 MOS, UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHANGE SO SURGICAL CANDIDATE
  - IF IMPROVEMENT, TRY FOR 3 MOS THEN DECIDE ON SURGERY

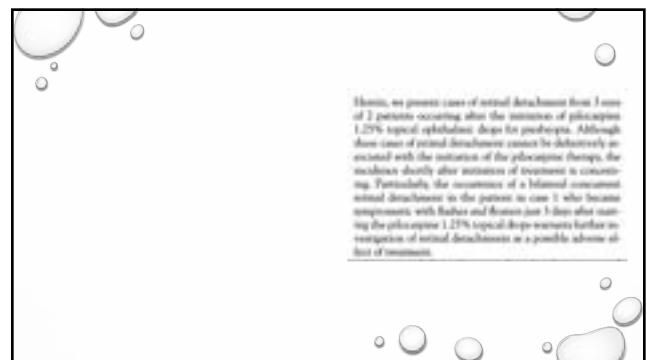
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- 1.25% PILOCARPINE
- FDA APPROVAL OCT 2021
- POSITIVE PHASE 2 PHASE 3 RESULTS, GEMINI 1 AND GEMINI 2
  - 750 PATIENTS WHO USED VUITY DAILY FOR 30 DAYS
  - **29% OF PATIENTS EXPERIENCED A  $\geq 3$  LINE INCREASE IN DISTANCE-CORRECTED NEAR VISUAL ACUITY AT DAY 30, HOUR 3 VS 10% IN CONTROLS.**
  - ADVERSE EVENTS (AE) WERE ALL MILD AND INCLUDED HEADACHES (14.1%), VISUAL IMPAIRMENT (4.3%), CONJUNCTIVAL HYPEREMIA (2.5%), VISION BLUR (2.5%), EYE IRRITATION (2.5%), EYE PAIN (2.5%), INCREASED LACRIMATION (2.5%), NAUSEA (2.5%), AND PUNCTATE KERATITIS (0.6%)
  - **NO CASES OF RETINAL TEARS, RD, MACULAR HOLES, OR VITREOMACULAR TRACTION**

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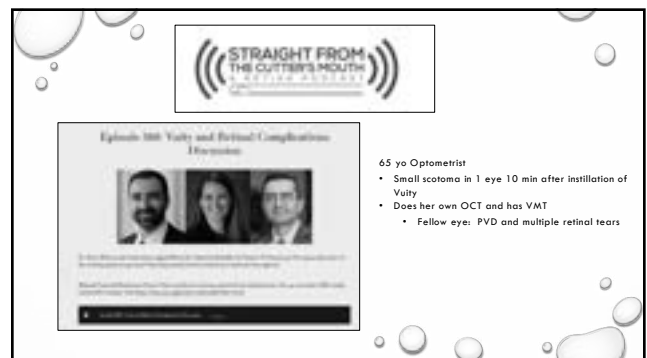
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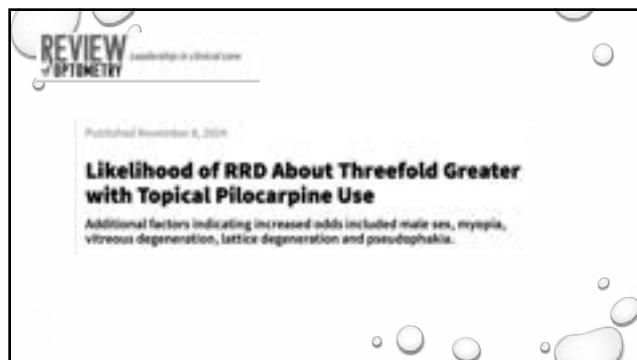


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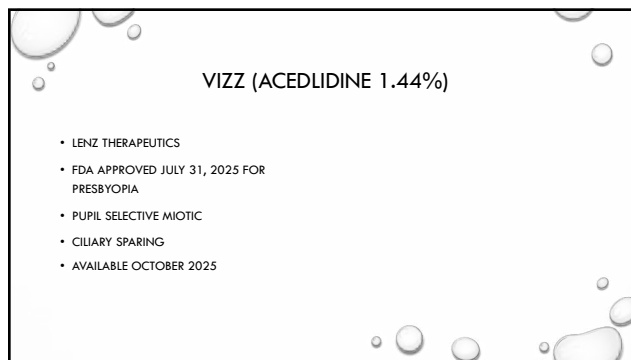


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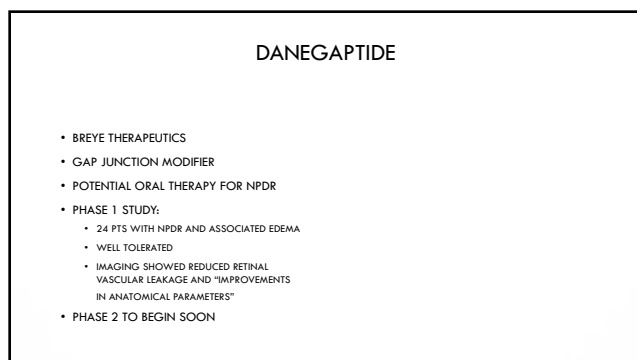




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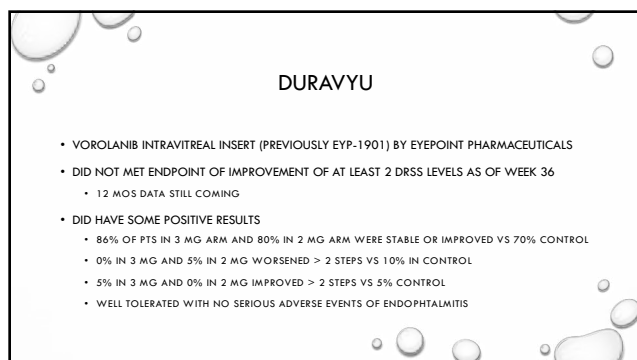
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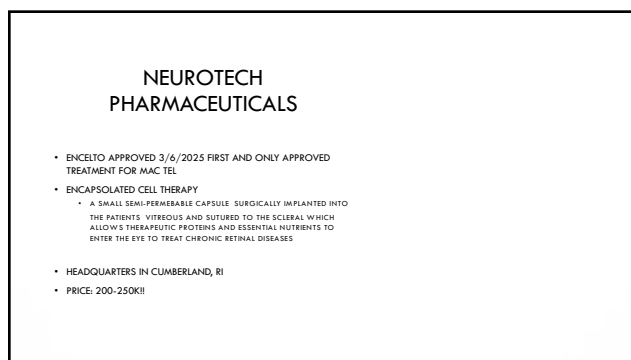
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