

FAQs

Find answers to your frequently asked questions about wet AMD.

Wet AMD FAQs

What is wet AMD?

Wet age-related macular degeneration, or wet AMD, can result when abnormal blood vessels begin to grow and leak blood and fluid beneath a part of the eye. Currently there is no cure, and even inadequate treatment can result in tissue scarring that can cause significant vision loss. In fact, wet AMD is the leading cause of blindness in people over the age of 55 in the United States and Europe.

Is there a cure for wet AMD?

Currently, there is no cure for wet AMD. However, there are effective treatments available. Laser surgery, photodynamic therapy (PDT), anti-vascular endothelial growth factor (anti-VEGF) treatments give patients several options to choose from to help create a successful treatment plan.

How can I decrease my risk for wet AMD?

There are several ways you can decrease your risk for wet AMD:

- Do not smoke/quit smoking
- Maintain a healthy weight
- Exercise regularly
- Monitor your diet
- Take dietary supplements
- Protect your eyes from UV rays
- Get regular check-ups with your doctor

How do I know if I have wet AMD?

The signs of wet AMD are often similar from patient to patient. Symptoms of wet AMD include:

- Blurry vision
- Straight lines appearing wavy, distorted, or fractured
- Difficulty distinguishing colors or contrasts
- Sensitivity to bright lights
- Close work (knitting or reading) becomes impossible

How can I find support for wet AMD?

There are many organizations prepared to help people looking for support for wet AMD. Some national organizations may host events in or near your area that you can attend, and others may even have a local branch that you can consult for support.

What is an eye care specialist and how do I find one?

Eye care specialists include ophthalmologists and retina specialists, doctors who are highly trained in diseases of the eye, including wet AMD. He/she can help diagnose and recommend treatment for wet AMD and can be a valuable resource by providing information and answering your questions. If you think you need to see an eye care specialist, talk to your doctor or optometrist about getting a referral.