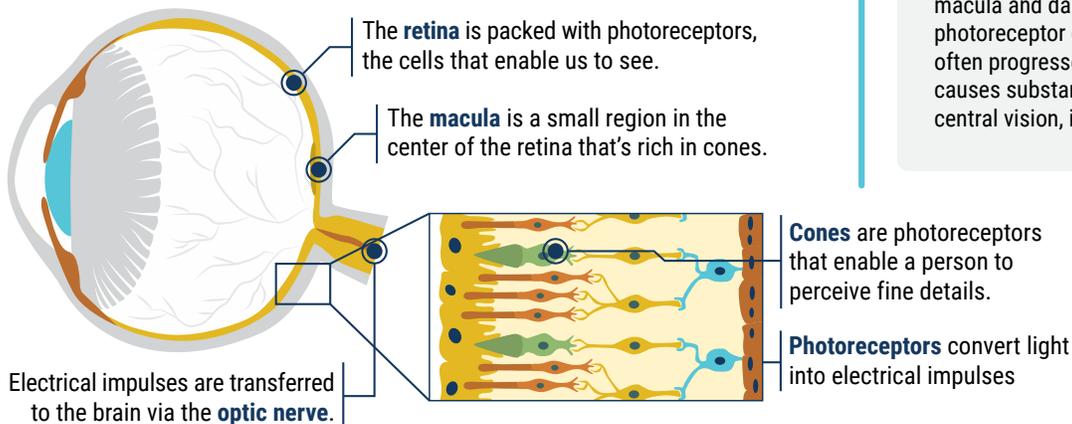


WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION

WHAT IS AMD?

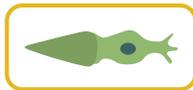
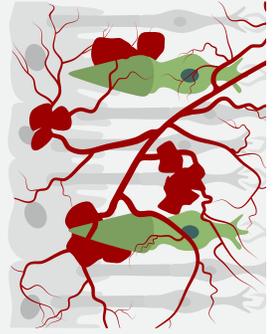
- ✓ Age-related macular degeneration, commonly referred to as AMD, is a retinal degenerative disease that causes a progressive loss of central vision.
- ✓ AMD is the **most common** cause of blindness in individuals over the age of 55 in developed countries.
- ✓ More than **10 million people** in the United States have AMD.



Two types of AMD

Dry AMD: Most people with AMD start off with the dry form. In many cases, people will not experience vision loss from the condition. In some cases, dry AMD can progress and cause varying degrees of central vision loss.

Wet AMD: About 10-15 percent of people with dry AMD will develop the wet form. With wet AMD, abnormal blood vessels grow beneath the macula which leak blood and fluid into the macula and damage photoreceptor cells. Wet AMD often progresses rapidly and causes substantial loss of central vision, if left untreated.



Central vision loss from AMD occurs when cone photoreceptors in the macula degenerate.



In most cases, if one eye has AMD, the other eye has the condition or is at risk of developing it.



INHERITANCE

Researchers have found several genes linked to AMD. However, people with low risk genetics can still get the condition. Likewise, people with high risk genetics may not get AMD.

WHAT TO EXPECT WITH AMD:



Blurring of Central Vision



Straight lines appearing distorted or warped



Blind spots forming within the central field of vision

RISK FACTORS:



Aging



Smoking



Genetics



Unhealthy Diet



Unprotected Sunlight Exposure

TREATMENTS FOR AMD:



AREDS2 is an over-the-counter antioxidant supplement that can slow the progression of AMD intended for people who are at risk of developing more advanced forms of dry or wet AMD.

Several therapies are now available for the wet form of AMD. Most involve regular ocular injections to halt the growth of leaky, vision-robbing blood vessels. These include:

EYLEA™
(aflibercept)

Lucentis™
(ranibizumab)

Avastin®