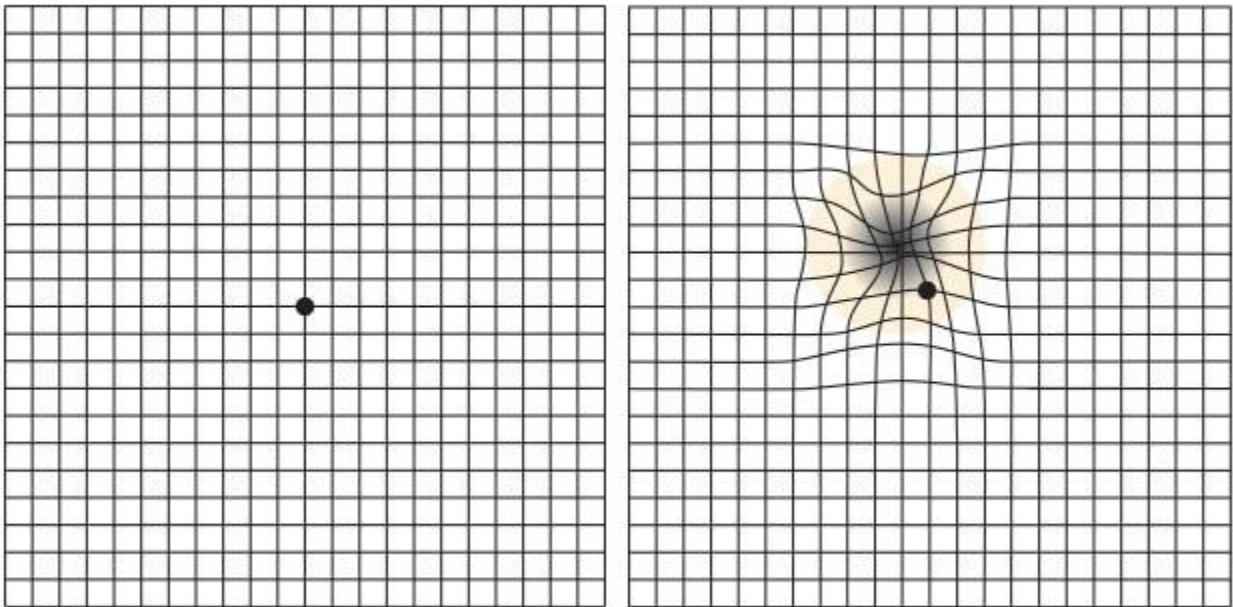


Diagnosis of Dry Macular Degeneration



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Amsler grid

Your eye doctor may diagnose your condition by reviewing your medical and family history and conducting a complete eye exam. Other tests may be performed, including:

- **Examination of the back of your eye.** Your eye doctor puts drops in your eyes to dilate them and uses a special instrument to examine the back of your eye. The eye doctor looks for a mottled appearance that's caused by yellow deposits that form under the retina, called drusen. People with macular degeneration often have many drusen.
- **A test for changes in the center of your vision.** During an eye examination, your eye doctor may use an Amsler grid to test for changes in the center of your vision. If you have macular degeneration, some of the straight lines in the grid may look faded, broken or distorted.

- **Fluorescein angiography.** During this test, your eye doctor injects a dye into a vein in your arm. The dye travels to and highlights the blood vessels in your eye. A special camera takes several pictures as the dye travels through the blood vessels. The images will show if you have retinal or blood vessel changes, which are a sign of wet macular degeneration.
 - **Indocyanine green angiography.** Like fluorescein angiography, this test uses an injected dye. It may be used alongside a fluorescein angiogram to identify specific types of macular degeneration.
 - **Optical coherence tomography.** This noninvasive imaging test displays detailed cross-sectional images of the retina. It identifies areas where the retina may be thinning, thickening or swelling. These can be caused by fluid buildup from leaking blood vessels in and under your retina.
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Treatment

For now, there's no way to reverse damage from dry macular degeneration. However, there are many clinical trials in progress. If your condition is diagnosed early, you can take steps to help slow its progression, such as taking vitamin supplements, eating healthy and not smoking.

Vitamin supplements

For people with intermediate or advanced disease, taking a high-dose formulation of antioxidant vitamins and minerals may help reduce the risk of vision loss. Research from the Age-Related Eye Disease Study 2 (AREDS2) has shown benefit in a formulation that includes: (**PreserVision AREDS 2**)

- 500 milligrams (mg) of vitamin C.
- 400 international units (IU) of vitamin E.
- 10 mg of lutein.
- 2 mg of zeaxanthin.
- 80 mg of zinc (as zinc oxide).
- 2 mg of copper (as cupric oxide).

The evidence doesn't show benefit in taking these supplements for people with early-stage dry macular degeneration. Ask your eye doctor if taking supplements is right for you.

Low vision rehabilitation

Age-related macular degeneration doesn't affect your side vision and usually doesn't cause total blindness. But it can reduce or eliminate your central vision. Central vision is necessary for reading, driving and recognizing people's faces. It may help for you to get care from a low vision rehabilitation specialist, an occupational therapist, your eye doctor and others trained in low vision rehabilitation. They can help you find ways to adapt to your changing vision.

Surgery to implant a telescopic lens

For selected people with advanced dry macular degeneration in both eyes, an option to improve vision may be surgery to implant a telescopic lens in one eye. The telescopic lens, which looks like a tiny plastic tube, is equipped with lenses that magnify your field of vision. The telescopic lens implant may improve both distance and close-up vision, but it has a very narrow field of view. It can be particularly useful in an urban environment to aid in identifying street signs.

FLORIDA HIGHWAY SAFETY (Driver's License Requirements)

[\(https://www.flhsmv.gov/driver-licenses-id-cards/medical-review/vision-standards/\)](https://www.flhsmv.gov/driver-licenses-id-cards/medical-review/vision-standards/)

To acquire a driver's license in the State of Florida, a customer must pass a vision test to determine if they meet the mandatory minimum vision standards. The minimum visual acuity standard is 20/70 in either eye or both eyes together with or without corrective lenses (if vision cannot be improved). However, if one eye is blind or 20/200 or worse, the other eye must be 20/40 or better.

FLHSMV requires vision forms depending on the age of the driver and medical follow-ups.

Mature Driver Vision Test: Drivers over 80 years of age must submit **FLHSMV Vision Examination Form 72119** when renewing their driver license or take the vision test at their local driver license office. Form 72119 must be completed by a Florida licensed physician or by a licensed physician at a federally established veterans' hospital.

Report of Eye Exam: For original licenses, and at the time of each renewal license, your eyesight will be tested by the driver license examiner designated by the department or by a licensed ophthalmologist, optometrist, or physician using **FLHSMV Report of Eye Exam Form 72010**. If your visual acuity is 20/50 or worse in either eye (with or without corrective lenses) your eye specialist must complete this Form 72010.

Field Charts: Applicants who do not meet the required minimum of 130 degrees of uninterrupted horizontal field of vision must submit either a Goldmann Kinetic III-4e or equivalent, or a Humphrey Esterman program field chart.

Telescopic Lenses: Customers are not permitted to use telescopic lenses to meet Florida minimum vision requirements regardless of the acuity reading. Customers wearing telescopic lenses will be issued a field revocation order for “inadequate vision”.