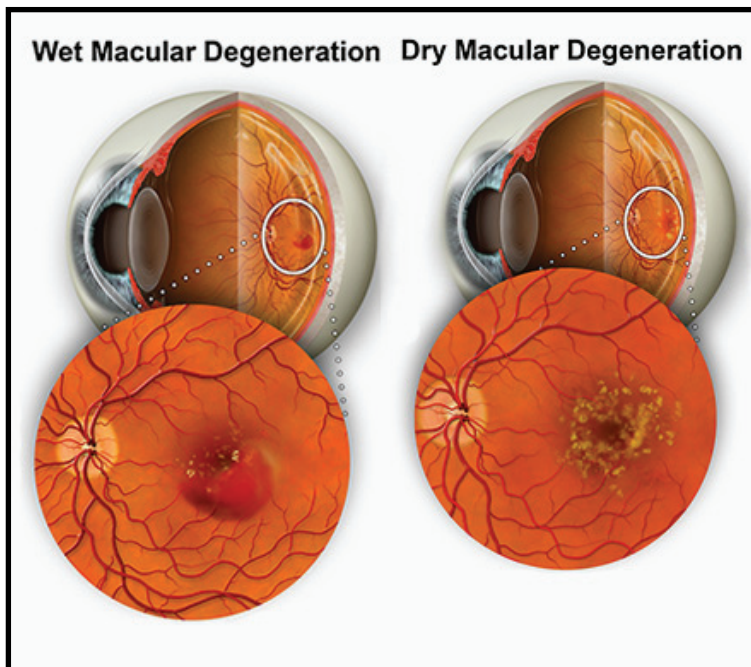


## AMD - Age Related Macular Degeneration

- Age Related Macular Degeneration is a medical condition which usually affects older adults.
- Vision loss is in the center of the visual field because of damage to the retina.
- It occurs in “dry” and “wet” forms.
- It is the major cause of visual impairment in older adults.
- Macular Degeneration can make it difficult or impossible to read or recognize faces.
- Enough peripheral vision remains to allow other activities of daily life.



### Dry AMD

- Results from atrophy of the retinal pigment epithelial layer of below the retina, which causes vision loss through the photoreceptors in the central part of the eye. There is no medical or surgical treatment for this condition.

### Wet AMD

- Causes vision loss due to abnormal blood vessel growth in the choriocapillaris ultimately leading to blood and protein leakage below the macula. Bleeding, leaking and scarring from these blood vessels eventually cause irreversible damage to the photoreceptors and rapid vision loss if left untreated.

### Signs and Symptoms

- Drusen
- Pigmentary alterations
- Exudative changes: hemorrhages in the eye, hard exudates, subretinal/intraretinal fluid
- Atrophy
- Visual acuity drastically decreasing (two levels or more)
- Blurred vision
- Shadows or missing areas of vision
- Distorted vision.
- Trouble discerning colors, specifically dark ones from dark ones and light ones from light ones.
- Slow recovery of visual function after exposure to bright light.
- A loss in contrast sensitivity.