



# If you're living with dry AMD, there's **more to see**

Your dry age-related macular degeneration (AMD) could progress into geographic atrophy. Learn how you can get ahead of it.

# Geographic atrophy (GA) is an advanced form of dry AMD that causes **irreversible vision loss**

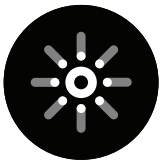
GA can start to develop with subtle symptoms, or even no symptoms at all.

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With GA, cells in the retina die. By the time vision loss becomes noticeable, GA may have already spread throughout the eye. The most common signs and symptoms of GA are:



Colours may appear **less vivid**



Difficulty seeing in **low light**



**Blurry** or **distorted** vision



**Gradual loss** of central field of vision



A loss of **central vision**, the straight-ahead vision used to complete everyday tasks

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GA affects over 8 million people worldwide, and the prevalence increases with age.

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# It may take up to **2.5 years** for GA to reach the part of your eye responsible for central vision

When GA reaches the centre of the eye, it can lead to a significant loss of central vision and, eventually, legal blindness.

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As GA progresses, some challenges can interfere with lifestyle and independence. These include:



Difficulty **driving**



Struggle with **reading**



Hard time **recognizing faces**

See how GA can progress over time:



Diagnosis



2.5 years later

Simulated depiction of average time since diagnosis of GA. Speed of progression and loss of vision will be different for every person.

# Seeking to minimize disease impact is the top priority in managing GA

Early detection and ongoing monitoring is key to the management of GA.

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Talk to your doctor about how you can monitor your vision and get ahead of GA.

Consider asking your doctor:

- What are the risk factors for developing GA?
- Have you seen any signs of GA when examining my eyes? What stage am I at?
- How can we continue to monitor my vision to see if my dry AMD is progressing to GA?
- Is there anything I can do to slow the progression of GA?



Use your smartphone camera to scan this QR code or visit [www.LearnAboutGA.ca](http://www.LearnAboutGA.ca) for more information.

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MAT-CA-ACP-2025-00009 | 10/2025

