



*Diseases & Surgery of the
Retina and Vitreous*

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Clinical Trials

Allergan Posurdex Implant for DME
Alimera Iluvien Implant for DME
ThromboGenics Microplasmin
for Vitreo-Macular Traction
Lpath-iSONEP for ARMD
Regeneron VEGF-Trap for ARMD
Genentech Lucentis for CRVO
Genentech Lucentis for CRVO Ext.
Regeneron VEGF-Trap for CRVO
Novartis Alikiren for DME
DRCR Lucentis for Diabetic VH
Regeneron VEGF-Trap for ARMD Ext.
Alimera Iluvien Implant for DME Ext.
GSK Oral Pazopanib for ARMD
GSK Topical Pazopanib for ARMD
Alcon ESBA 1008 for ARMD
Santen DE-109 for Posterior Uveitis
Allergan Ozurdex vs. Lucentis for DME
Regeneron VEGF-Trap for BRVO
Novartis LFG316 for Dry AMD
Van Andel Institute Vitreous Sample
DRCR Topical NSAID for DME
Wilmer iDEAL for DME
Saint Mary's Vitreous Sample

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Vitreo-Retinal Associates, P.C.

Perfect Vision Still Vulnerable to Blindness

VRA wants Americans to know their risks and save their sight.

The Academy of Ophthalmology and VRA would like to remind Americans with no signs or risk factors for eye disease of the importance of getting a baseline eye disease screening at age 40 – the time when early signs of disease and changes in vision may start to occur.

Many eye diseases progress without any warning signs. Gradual changes in vision can impact your ability to function independently and have confidence in your abilities. One of the hardest adjustments a person can make is adapting to a life with permanent vision loss. That is why nothing replaces a comprehensive baseline eye exam.

Based on the results of the initial screening, an ophthalmologist will prescribe the necessary intervals for follow-up exams. For individuals at any age with symptoms of or at risk for eye disease, such as those with a family history of eye disease, diabetes or high blood pressure, the American Academy of Ophthalmology and VRA recommends that these individuals see their ophthalmologist to determine how frequently their eyes should be examined.

By 2020, 43 million Americans will face significant vision loss or blindness from age-related eye diseases, such as cataracts, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma and macular degeneration, an increase of more than 50 percent over the current number of Americans with such diseases. Despite these statistics, Americans remain relatively unconcerned about vision loss. A survey conducted by the American Academy of Ophthalmology for its EyeSmart™ campaign reveals that less than a quarter of Americans (23%) are very concerned about losing their vision, while a majority feel weight gain or joint and back pain are of greater concern than vision loss.

Unfortunately, millions of people will suffer significant vision loss and blindness because they don't know the risks. That is why the Academy launched the EyeSmart campaign, because knowing your risks can save your sight.

VRA is West Michigan's most experienced ophthalmology practice for highly specialized eye care with convenient locations in Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, and Muskegon.

Drs. Jeffrey Zheutlin, Frank Garber, and Louis Glazer, all board certified and renowned ophthalmologists, specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the eye including macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, macular disease and retinal detachment.

As the area's leader in innovative eye research, we offer the latest advancements in diagnostic and surgical technologies.

This article reprinted with permission from the American Academy of Ophthalmology's EyeSmart™ campaign. For more information about AMD, visit www.geteyesmart.org.