

Macular Degeneration Association (MDA)

2025 Impact Statement

Message from the Chairman of the Board & President

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support of the Macular Degeneration Association (MDA) in 2025.

By prioritizing people, caregivers, and family members, we have achieved remarkable milestones highlighted in our Annual Report.

In 2025, we celebrated the availability of new treatments for wet age-related macular degeneration.

Our website is reaching a vibrant and diverse community through our dedicated information and recruitment efforts in both English and Spanish.

Individuals facing vision loss due to age-related macular degeneration confront unique challenges, but the Macular Degeneration Association is committed to empowering them with updated resources, educational videos, educational programs and insightful articles for navigating a world of vision impairment.

Thank you to our researchers, doctors, donors, and to you for being a cherished supporter.

Together, we strive for a future free from macular degeneration and vision loss.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lawrence S. Hoffheimer', written in a cursive style.

Lawrence S. Hoffheimer
Chairman of the Board & President

How We Make an Impact



Research

Education

Research

An estimated 20 million people in the U.S. have macular degeneration, with a global total of 288 million. These numbers could double by 2050. More research is needed to find effective treatments.

****Study Update: Research Grant from the Macular Degeneration Association (MDA) in 2024****

Our study on vision improvement in geographic atrophy patients receiving Syfovre and Izervay is progressing well. We are collaborating with eight large retina clinics and have a database of 45,300 patient visits over the past two years. This data includes visual acuity at baseline and follow-ups, medication details, injection intervals, and totals. We are analyzing this data to identify trends that show which patients benefit the most from treatment.

Understanding OCT (Optical Coherence Tomography) differences among patients is critical. We are using artificial intelligence to analyze OCT images to predict treatment outcomes. This analysis is time-consuming but expected to provide valuable insights. Stay tuned for additional updates. ****Jeremiah Brown, MS, MD ****

In 2025, the MDA awarded an additional \$25,000 grant to Retina Consultants of Texas and Dr. Jeremiah Brown due to their research success. We also granted \$50,000 to Orange County Retina and Rajiv Rathod, MD for their project on Combination Therapy in Wet AMD and Geographic Atrophy.

Additionally, we funded a \$25,000 grant to Women Make Movies for their film "Seeing Stars," chronicling the experiences of individuals from childhood macular degeneration to age-related forms.

Due to government cuts affecting grants for organizations supporting patients with co-payments for necessary injectable medications, the MDA provided a \$10,000 grant to Good Days.

Education

People living with Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) and their families often face challenges in finding reliable and understandable information, as well as meaningful resources to help them cope with this life-changing vision impairment.

In 2025, 21 million individuals were diagnosed with some form of macular degeneration.

Our updated website offers valuable resources and videos that connect people with the information they need, providing hope to those affected by Age-Related Macular Degeneration.

Our analytics indicated that 242,085 individuals received essential information through our educational programs, website, and newsletters.