

What should I ask my eye doctor?

1.

2.

3.

Provided as a service by



THE WORLD IS BEAUTIFUL > TO LOOK AT

Protect Your Vision

Things to know about Visudyne therapy.



RETINA | ALLERGY | DRY EYE | INFLAMMATION | OTHER OCULAR CONDITIONS



Your eye doctor has recommended Visudyne therapy for you because you have been diagnosed with the wet form of Age-Related Macular Degeneration, or AMD.

AMD is a disease that affects central vision. It is one of the leading causes of adult blindness in the world.

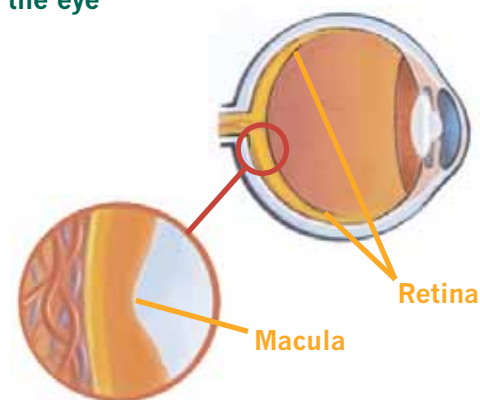
AMD can destroy the “straight-ahead” vision that you need for activities like reading, driving, telling time and recognizing faces. There are two types of AMD: dry and wet. Visudyne helps treat wet AMD, the more severe form of the disease, and has been proven to help slow the progression of the disease.

This brochure provides information about Visudyne and answers questions about its use as a treatment for wet AMD.

What is Visudyne therapy?

Visudyne is a light-activated drug that is injected into the blood stream and travels to the abnormal blood vessels in the eye. It is then activated in the eye by a non-heat laser in order to help reduce the risk of vision loss. Visudyne therapy works by sealing abnormal blood vessels in the back of the eye.

Anatomy of the eye

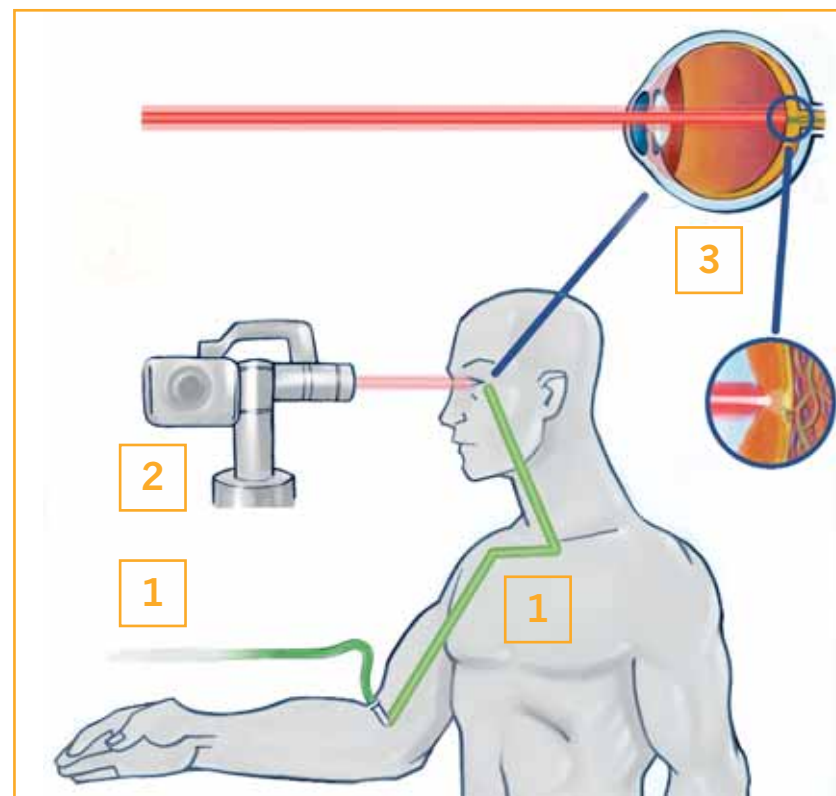


Wet AMD is a serious eye disease, but Visudyne therapy has been proven to help maintain vision

What will I experience during treatment?

Visudyne therapy is performed in a doctor's office and consists of three simple steps.

- 1 You will receive an infusion of the light-activated drug Visudyne in your arm for 10 minutes. The drug travels through your body to the abnormal blood vessels in the affected eye.
- 2 Your doctor applies a drop to numb your eye, and places a special contact lens on it. Then a non-heat or "cool" laser shines onto the affected area of your retina for 83 seconds.
- 3 The laser light activates the Visudyne that has selectively accumulated in the affected area, and closes the abnormal blood vessels.



Visudyne therapy is a simple, three-step process proven to help maintain vision

What should I do before and after treatment?

Before

Before you go to your eye doctor's office for treatment, set aside items to protect you from bright sunlight. Take with you dark sunglasses, gloves, a wide-brimmed hat, long-sleeved shirt, slacks, socks and shoes.

After

You may be more sensitive to bright light and direct sunlight for up to two days following treatment. Please note that sun protection lotions do not protect against photosensitivity reaction. For these **two days** only you should avoid:

-  **Bright sunlight**
-  **Tanning salons**
-  **Halogen home and office lights and reading lamps**
-  **Undraped windows in direct sunlight**
-  **High powered lighting**
(eg dentist offices, surgery operating rooms)

Follow these precautions to minimize the risk of photosensitivity. **But you don't have to stay in the dark.** In fact, exposing your skin to indoor light helps to remove the drug from your body.

Are there possible side effects?

More than one million Visudyne treatments have been administered worldwide and there is over five years of clinical experience. But all treatments have risks, and some patients may experience adverse reactions. These reactions may include:

- Pain, swelling, inflammation, leakage into the area surrounding the vein and bleeding at the injection site
- Blurred vision and other visual disturbances
- Transient back pain during infusion
- Severe vision loss, though partial recovery occurs in some patients
- Photosensitivity during the first two days after therapy

If you experience side effects, contact your eye doctor immediately.

After treatment you may be given an orange bracelet to wear for two days. This will remind you that during this time, your skin may be more sensitive to light. It also lets health care professionals know that you have received Visudyne therapy.

What results can I expect from treatment?

Not all AMD can be treated but timely diagnosis and assessment of AMD is extremely important.

Treatment cannot bring back vision that is already lost, but the sooner you are treated, the more likely you are to have a better outcome. Even so, you may lose some vision – especially when treatment begins. However, in most cases the loss will be less than if you received no treatment at all.

Early treatment and regular follow up may help preserve your sight

How much treatment will I need and for how long?

Visudyne therapy is a course of treatment. Generally, within three months of your first treatment, you will be asked to come back for another eye examination. The examination will be used to check your progress and to determine whether you need further treatment.

Treatment rates vary depending on each individual's needs. The average course of Visudyne therapy is typically three to four treatments in the first year, two treatments in the second year, and one to two treatments in the third year.

Average course of treatment:

Year 1	3 - 4 treatments
Year 2	2 treatments
Year 3	1 - 2 treatments

How do I cope with AMD?

Wet AMD can quickly affect your vision, but early and regular treatment, if appropriate, offers the best chance of stabilizing and preserving your vision. By acting quickly and becoming involved in your healthcare, you can help maintain your quality of life.

Make sure you have regular eye examinations and speak with your eye doctor about your treatment as well as vision rehabilitation and support services available to those living with AMD. You are not alone in your continuing fight for sight. Doctors, family members, friends and others with AMD can be great sources of support and information.

Here are some resources that can help:

<http://www.visudyne.com>

<http://www.amdalliance.org>

Additional local sites

Please use sites that are appropriate for your local market

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat. Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit lobortis nisl ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis autem vel eum iriure dolor in hendrerit in vulputate velit esse molestie consequat, vel illum dolore eu feugiat nulla facilisis at vero eros et accumsan et iusto odio dignissim qui blandit praesent luptatum zzril delenit augue duis dolore te feugait nulla facilisi. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat. Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit lobortis nisl ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis autem vel eum iriure dolor in hendrerit in vulputate velit esse molestie consequat, vel illum dolore eu feugiat nulla facilisis at vero eros et accumsan et iusto odio dignissim qui blandit praesent luptatum zzril delenit augue duis dolore te feugait nulla facilisi. Nam liber tempor cum soluta nobis eleifend option congue nihil imperdiet doming id quod mazim placerat facer possim assum. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat. Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit lobortis nisl ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis autem vel eum iriure dolor in hendrerit in vulputate velit esse molestie consequat, vel illum dolore eu feugiat nulla facilisis at vero eros et accumsan et iusto odio dignissim qui blandit praesent luptatum zzril delenit augue duis dolore te feugait nulla facilisi. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat. Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit lobortis nisl ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis autem vel eum iriure dolor in hendrerit in vulputate velit esse molestie consequat, vel illum dolore eu feugiat nulla facilisis at vero eros et accumsan et iusto odio dignissim qui blandit praesent luptatum zzril delenit augue duis.

Insert your local P.I

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat. Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit lobortis nisl ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis autem vel eum iriure dolor in hendrerit in vulputate velit esse molestie consequat, vel illum dolore eu feugiat nulla facilisis at vero eros et accumsan et iusto odio dignissim qui blandit praesent luptatum zzril delenit augue duis dolore te feugait nulla facilisi. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat. Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit lobortis nisl ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis autem vel eum iriure dolor in hendrerit in vulputate velit esse molestie consequat, vel illum dolore eu feugiat nulla facilisis at vero eros et accumsan et iusto odio dignissim qui blandit praesent luptatum zzril delenit augue duis dolore te feugait nulla facilisi. Nam liber tempor cum soluta nobis eleifend option congue nihil imperdiet doming id quod mazim placerat facer possim assum. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat. Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit lobortis nisl ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis autem vel eum iriure dolor in hendrerit in vulputate velit esse molestie consequat, vel illum dolore eu feugiat nulla facilisis at vero eros et accumsan et iusto odio dignissim qui blandit praesent luptatum zzril delenit augue duis dolore te feugait nulla facilisi. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat. Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit lobortis nisl ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis autem vel eum iriure dolor in hendrerit in vulputate velit esse molestie consequat, vel illum dolore eu feugiat nulla facilisis at vero eros et accumsan et iusto odio dignissim qui blandit praesent luptatum zzril delenit augue duis.