

Macular Degeneration - Referral Management

RMG: R-0031 (AC)
Link to Codes

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Clinical Indications for Referral

- Referral for macular degeneration may be indicated for **1 or more** of the following(1)(2)(3)(4)(5)(6)(7):
 - Behavioral health referral for evaluation or management of **1 or more** of the following:
 - Depression associated with visual loss(8)
 - Visual hallucinations (eg, Charles Bonnet syndrome)[A]
 - Nutrition referral for dietary counseling for patient with intermediate or advanced age-related macular degeneration[B](9)
 - Ophthalmology referral for evaluation or management of **1 or more** of the following(14)(15):
 - Intravitreal injection of vascular endothelial growth factor inhibitor needed(16)(17)
 - Laser photocoagulation of choroidal neovascularization needed(18)
 - Low-vision aids or training needed to maximize remaining vision(19)
 - Macular degeneration, suspected, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
 - Acute central visual loss
 - Choroidal neovascularization
 - Persistent distorted or blurred vision
 - Screening of adult older than 55 years with risk factors, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(20)(21):
 - Current or previous cigarette smoker[C]
 - Macular degeneration in one eye
 - Positive family history of macular degeneration
 - Photodynamic therapy needed (eg, verteporfin sensitizer and laser)(17)(22)
 - Visual hallucinations (eg, Charles Bonnet syndrome)[A](23)(24)

References

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Footnotes

[A] Patients with macular degeneration may experience visual hallucinations that can last many years and are not a sign of mental illness.(1)(2) [A in Context Link 1, 2]

[B] Antioxidant multivitamins and mineral supplements may delay disease progression in patients with established intermediate or advanced age-related macular degeneration. Foods high in omega-3 fatty acids may reduce the risk of developing visual loss due to age-related macular degeneration. However, dietary supplements containing omega-3 fatty acids, beta carotene, vitamin C, and vitamin E do not appear to prevent or delay the onset of age-related macular degeneration in high-risk patients. Furthermore, beta-carotene supplements may increase the risk of lung cancer in patients who are smokers.(1)(9)(10)(11)(12)(13) [B in Context Link 1]

[C] Smoking increases the risk of developing macular degeneration.(1)(2)(3) [C in Context Link 1]

Codes

ICD-10 Diagnosis: H35.30, H35.3110, H35.3111, H35.3112, H35.3113, H35.3114, H35.3120, H35.3121, H35.3122, H35.3123, H35.3124, H35.3130, H35.3131, H35.3132, H35.3133, H35.3134, H35.3190, H35.3191, H35.3192, H35.3193, H35.3194, H35.3210, H35.3211, H35.3212, H35.3213, H35.3220, H35.3221, H35.3222, H35.3223, H35.3230, H35.3231, H35.3232, H35.3233, H35.3290, H35.3291, H35.3292, H35.3293, H35.33, H35.341, H35.342, H35.343, H35.349, H35.351, H35.352, H35.353, H35.359, H35.361, H35.362, H35.363, H35.369, H35.371, H35.372, H35.373, H35.379, H35.381, H35.382, H35.383, H35.389 [Hide]

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