

How common is Intermediate Dry Macular Degeneration in the Caucasian population?

This question is now important as there is now treatment for Intermediate dry Age Related Macular degeneration in the form of Valeta PhotoBioModulation.

Intermediate dry AMD is characterized by the presence of large drusen (yellow deposits) and/or significant pigment changes in the macula, without the vision loss associated with late AMD. The incidence of AMD increases with age. According to some studies and population-based surveys:

- In the United States, the Beaver Dam Eye Study suggested that the prevalence of early AMD (which would include intermediate stages) in those aged 43-86 was about 11.1% in the period studied. The incidence tends to be higher in individuals over the age of 50, increasing significantly with each decade of life.

- The Blue Mountains Eye Study in Australia provided similar findings, with an increased prevalence of AMD with advancing age.

- European studies and data from other parts of the world also reflect an increased risk and prevalence of AMD, including intermediate dry AMD, with advancing age, showing varying rates depending on the population studied.

- It's important to note that "incidence" refers to the number of new cases in a population over a certain period, while "prevalence" refers to the total number of cases (new and existing) at a particular point in time. Incidence data specifically for intermediate dry AMD in the over 50 age group can be more challenging to find as many studies focus on prevalence or combine different stages of AMD.

Given the variability in study methodologies, populations, and definitions of intermediate dry AMD, it's difficult to provide a precise incidence rate without consulting specific studies or more current data. The incidence and prevalence of AMD are expected to increase as the population ages, highlighting the importance of monitoring eye health, promoting preventive measures, and the development of effective treatments for AMD.

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