

Patient Information

Lucentis Frequently Asked Questions

What is LUCENTIS?

LUCENTIS (ranibizumab injection) is a prescription medicine for the treatment of patients with wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Patients may see their vision improve or keep the vision they have.

What are the clinical study results?

Of patients in key clinical studies taking LUCENTIS monthly...

- Up to 40% of patients had a significant improvement of at least 3 more lines (15 letters) on the eye chart
- 70% of patients could see at least 1 more letter on the eye chart
- 95% of patients had their eyesight stay the same
- Up to 40% of patients achieved vision of 20/40 or better

How does LUCENTIS work?

Wet AMD occurs when abnormal blood vessels grow in the back of the eye. As the blood vessels grow, they can leak blood and fluid, which damage the macula. The macula—which is the center of your retina—plays a key role in your central vision.

LUCENTIS is designed to block abnormal blood vessel growth and leakage.

How do I get LUCENTIS?

LUCENTIS is available only by prescription, and is given by a retina specialist.

How is LUCENTIS given?

LUCENTIS is an injection in your eye. First, your retina specialist will clean your eye thoroughly, and then he or she will numb your eye. You may feel pressure on your eye when receiving an injection. Injections were generally well tolerated in clinical studies. In fact, nearly 95% of patients returned to continue treatment.

How often will I be given LUCENTIS?

In clinical studies, some patients were given LUCENTIS monthly and others were given LUCENTIS less often. Receiving LUCENTIS monthly gives you the best chance to improve your vision. But because everyone is different, your retina specialist will regularly monitor your progress to determine the right treatment schedule for you.

Should I have someone drive me to each appointment?

Yes, it is recommended that you have a friend or family member come with you to each retina specialist visit. That's because your eye will have been dilated before your injection. Plus, you may feel more comfortable knowing that you can rely on someone else to drive you home.

What can I expect right after an injection?

- You may have some redness on the white part of your eye at the injection site
- You may see a few specks in your vision

Your retina specialist may give you antibiotic eye drops to use for a few days after the injection to prevent infection.

Can I take other medicines with LUCENTIS?

Tell your retina specialist about all the medicines you take. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medicines, as well as vitamins and herbal supplements.

How do I know if LUCENTIS is working?

Schedule regular visits with your retina specialist so that he or she can chart your progress. You can also track your progress in between visits (using an Amsler grid). By using an Amsler grid once a week, you may be able to see changes to your vision.

With LUCENTIS, your vision may become less blurred or wavy. You may find it easier to recognize the faces of friends and family members. It is important to discuss any changes to your vision with your retina specialist.

Is there a patient support program for people using LUCENTIS?

Yes. It's called Eye on AMD™, and it was created specifically for people with AMD and their loved ones. Since treating wet AMD with LUCENTIS is a commitment to improving your vision—or keeping it the same—Eye on AMD can help you get the most out of treatment. Eye on AMD provides useful tips and resources for people with AMD and their families and loved ones. When you join, you will receive monthly mailings and much more. Call 1-866-LUCENTIS (1-866-582-3684) to sign up.

What if I miss my injection appointment?

If you have to miss an injection, call your retina specialist immediately to schedule a new appointment as soon as possible. In order to make the most of your LUCENTIS treatment, it is important to receive your injections on a timely basis.

How long should I take LUCENTIS?

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AMD is a chronic condition. Most people need to treat it long term. For best results, you should stay with your LUCENTIS treatment. Based on your progress, your retina specialist will develop a treatment schedule that is right for you.

If I am treating 1 eye with LUCENTIS, am I still at risk of developing wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD) in the other eye?

Yes. LUCENTIS does not prevent wet AMD from developing in an eye that is not being treated. AMD can occur in 1 eye, or both. If you have AMD in 1 eye, it's important to carefully monitor the other. That's because there's a good chance you will develop AMD in both eyes. Early detection can give you the best chance for success in treating your AMD. Note any changes in your vision and share them with your retina specialist. LUCENTIS has not been tested for use in both eyes at the same time.

How much does LUCENTIS cost?

If you are over the age of 65, Medicare and/or supplemental insurance will cover most of the cost of LUCENTIS. However, if you can't afford LUCENTIS, there are assistance programs available. Call 1-866-LUCENTIS (1-866-582-3684) for more information.

What are the side effects of LUCENTIS?

Serious side effects related to the injection procedure were rare. These included serious eye infection, detached retina, and cataract. Other uncommon serious side effects included inflammation inside the eye and increased eye pressure.

The most common eye-related side effects were red eye, eye pain, small specks in vision, the feeling that something is in your eye, and increased tears. The most common non-eye-related side effects were high blood pressure, nose and throat infection, and headache.

Where can I get more information?

For more information, visit us at www.carolinaeye.com or contact our patient services counselor by phone at 910.295.1501 or 800.733.9355, or by email at info@carolinaeye.com.

If at any time you need to reach our main center, please call 910.295.2100 or 800.733.5357.

Information obtained from www.lucentis.com