

Nascent Geographic Atrophy (nGA) - an early outcome marker for progression of intermediate Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD)

Purpose: To identify a new surrogate outcome marker for drusen associated Geographic Atrophy (GA) in those with high risk Intermediate Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD).

Methods: During longitudinal studies for Intermediate AMD at the Centre for Eye Research Australia participants undergo multi-modal imaging including spectral domain Ocular Coherence Tomography (OCT) to monitor and detect progression. We reviewed cases that had developed drusen associated GA to determine how robust the novel OCT sign of nascent Geographic Atrophy (nGA) was at predicting those cases that progressed to GA.

Results: Participants who were identified as having progressed from intermediate AMD to Geographic Atrophy were all noted on SD- OCT to have displayed signs of OCT defined nGA at prior visits. We will present longitudinal OCT images of cases that demonstrate this important new sign of progression from intermediate AMD to typical Geographic Atrophy.

Conclusion: nGA can be used as a surrogate marker for development of GA. As it develops over a shorter time course it will help researchers conduct intervention trials in intermediate AMD in a more expedient manner.