



AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION

Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) consists of deterioration of the central vision portion of the retina in an older patient. In early stages, the patient may notice difficulty reading smaller print, especially when the lighting is poor or the contrast is not sharp. With time, this “wearing out” effect in the central vision may lead to larger areas of blurry or blocked central vision.

AMD falls under two types; dry or wet. Ninety percent of patients have dry AMD. Vision loss is gradually progressive and becomes more severe over a period of years. Ten percent have wet AMD, where abnormal blood vessels begin to grow behind the retina and push through the macula. The resulting bleeding and swelling usually causes a more rapid and profound loss of central vision. Currently, treatment exists only for the wet type of AMD. It may involve laser, or more recently, the injection of specific medication into the affected eye.



MEET YOUR DOCTOR

Dr. Bianco is a second generation Visalian. After Redwood High School, Dr. Bianco graduated from Santa Clara University with a degree in Biology and completed his medical training at New York Medical College. In 1996, upon the completion of a two-year fellowship in diseases and surgery of the retina, Dr. Bianco moved back to Visalia to establish Eye Surgical & Medical Associates with Dr. Barry Smith and Dr. Michael Boone.

Dr. Bianco's practice specialty involves up-to-date diagnosis and treatment of diabetic eye disease and age-related macular degeneration. Dr. Bianco resides in Visalia with his wife Susan and their children Steven, Nicolas & Sabrina.

Dr. Bianco enjoys golf, go-kart racing, breeding & raising Dutch Warmblood sport horses, and is a volunteer coach for his sons' tackle football teams.



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