

Anti-VEGF Treatments

Anti-VEGF Treatments

What Is Avastin?

What Is Lucentis?

What Is Eylea?



Anti-VEGF Treatments

Leer en Español: [Tratamientos Anti-VEGF](#)

By [David Turbert](#)

Reviewed By [G Atma Vemulakonda, MD](#)

Mar. 02, 2019

Your ophthalmologist may treat your wet AMD or other disease of the [retina](#) with a drug called anti-VEGF. Anti-VEGF treatment improves vision in about one third (1 out of 3) people who take it. For a vast majority (9 out of 10), it at least stabilizes vision.

What is Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor?

Vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) is a protein produced by cells in your body. VEGF produces new blood vessels when your body needs them.

Why Do You Want to Stop VEGF From Working?

Sometimes cells can produce too much VEGF. When this happens, abnormal blood vessels can grow in your eye. These abnormal blood vessels damage your eye and harm your vision. This can lead to [low vision](#) or blindness.

What Conditions Are Treated with Anti-VEGF Medicine?

Anti-VEGF medicine blocks VEGF, slowing the growth of blood vessels in the eye. This slows or stops damage from the abnormal blood vessels and slows down vision loss. Sometimes it can even improve vision.

Ophthalmologists use anti-VEGF medicines to treat the following eye problems:

- Wet [age-related macular degeneration \(AMD\)](#)
- Swelling of the retina, called [macular edema](#)
- [Diabetic retinopathy](#)
- [Retinal vein occlusion](#)

What are the Differences Between the Kinds of Anti-VEGF Treatments?

There are three main anti-VEGF medicines:

- [Avastin](#)
- [Lucentis](#)
- [Eylea](#)

Samsung v. Regeneron
IPR2023-00442
U.S. Pat. 10,130,681, Exhibit 2141

Ophthalmologists generally consider all three to be safe and effective treatments for retinal disease. One study that compared the effectiveness of Lucentis and Avastin found them both effective for treating Wet AMD. The differences among Avastin, Lucentis and Eylea have to do with cost, packaging, and possibly with some packaging-associated risk. A number of [new anti-VEGF drugs](#) are nearing approval, and patients may have more treatment options in coming years.

How Anti-VEGF Treatment Is Given

This is what you can expect during the treatment:

- Your ophthalmologist will clean your eye to prevent infection.
- The eye is numbed to reduce pain.
- A small device may be placed on your eye to keep your eyelids out of the way.
- Your ophthalmologist injects the drug through the white part of your eye using a very thin needle.
- The injection only takes a few seconds. You usually do not see the needle itself.

Your ophthalmologist will decide how many treatments you need. You may need other types of treatment along with anti-VEGF treatment.

What Is Avastin?

Related



[Improved Dry Eye Drugs for 2022 and Beyond](#)
NOV 04, 2021



[Visual Hallucinations Surprisingly Common in Age-Related Macular Degeneration](#)
NOV 04, 2021

[What is the importance of fundoscopy?](#)
NOV 03, 2021



[Genetics and Age-Related Macular Degeneration](#)
NOV 03, 2021

[Will working long hours on the computer be a problem for someone with a hole in the retina?](#)
NOV 03, 2021

Find an Ophthalmologist

[Advanced Search](#)

Ask an Ophthalmologist



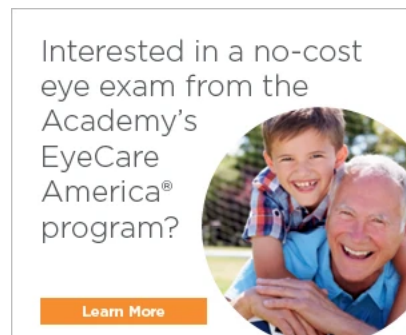
Free Newsletter

Get ophthalmologist-reviewed tips and information about eye health and preserving your vision.

Email Address

Sign up

[Privacy Policy](#)



OUR SITES

[Contact Us](#)

[Terms of Service](#)

[EyeWiki](#)

[About the Academy](#)

[Help](#) [For Advertisers](#)

[International Society of
Refractive Surgery](#)

[Jobs at the Academy](#)

[For Media](#)

[Financial Relationships
with Industry](#)

[Ophthalmology Job
Center](#)

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

FOLLOW THE ACADEMY

Medical Professionals



Public & Patients



Museum of the Eye



© American Academy of Ophthalmology 2021

ALSO OF INTEREST

[Avastin](#)

[Lucentis](#)

[Comparison of Anti-VEGF Treatments for Wet AMD](#)