Dear [patient’s name],

Until a couple of decades ago, difficulty seeing in the dark was considered just a normal part of “getting old.” However, after multiple clinical studies, we know difficulty adjusting to changes in illumination (impaired dark adaptation) is the first symptom of age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

AMD occurs in the centermost part of the retina, called the macula, which is the part of the eye you use to do things like read, watch TV, recognize faces, and drive. As the disease progresses, your vision often becomes blurred, or things you see may appear wavy or distorted. A dim or dark spot may develop in the center of your vision, making seeing things straight ahead more difficult.

While decreased night vision is a symptom of AMD and should be evaluated by your eye doctor, the following factors can also put you at risk for developing AMD in the future:

* Age 50 or older
* Family history of AMD
* Caucasian (white)
* Smoker or previous smoker
* Being overweight
* High cholesterol
* Heart disease

AMD is the leading cause of adult blindness but is not often found until a person has already lost significant vision. Fortunately, our office now offers a new technology, called the AdaptDx ProTM, that measures how well your eyes adjust from bright light to darkness. This helps us diagnose AMD at least 3 years earlier in some patients so we can implement treatment as soon as possible to preserve your vision. The test is simple and painless.

To learn more about age-related macular degeneration you can visit maculogix.com/for-patients/.

If you are having difficulty seeing at night, or have any of the other risk factors, call our office today and we’ll schedule you for a comprehensive eye examination as well as answer any questions that you might have regarding age-related macular degeneration.

Yours in health,

FirstName LastName, OD