



# FACT SHEET

## MACULA DISEASE

Blind patches :  
mobility and safety

Low vision may not necessarily show as reduced ability to read the letters on a sight chart. Many conditions cause blind patches in the general field of vision. Depending on how the field loss presents dictates the sort of disability the patient might experience and also fundamentally dictates the sort of rehabilitation required.



Simply checking vision on a high contrast vision chart tells us very little about how the patient will perform and maintain confidence and independence.

# Central blind patches : AMD

AMD and other disorders only affect central vision. People with these disorders may appear to have quite good vision because their peripheral, navigational,



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vision is intact. Loss of central vision does not affect your ability to see dangers approaching from the sides (traffic for instance). It is only when you turn to look at a specific object that it disappears into the blind patch.

Difficulty reading is an obvious result of loss of central vision



Walking down stairs can be difficult if, when you look at your foot, it disappears in the blind spot.



Or try pouring a hot drink if you can't see the cup, or how full it is. The cup on the left has an audio warning so you know when the cup is nearly full.

