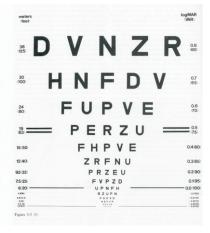


MACULA DISEASE

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.

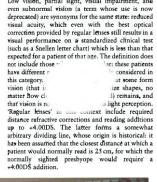
Central blind patches: AMD

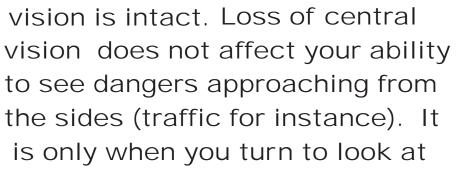
AMD and other disorders only affect central vision. People with these disorders may appear to have quite good vision because their peripheral, navigational,



Low vision, partial sight, visual impairment, and even subnormal vision (a term whose use is now deprecated) are synonyms for the same state: reduced visual acuity, which even with the best optical correction provided by regular lenses still results in a visual performance on a standardized clinical test (such as a Snellen letter chart) which is less than that expected for a patient of that age. The definition does not include those who are monocular: these patients have different problems and are rarely considered in this category. The term also implies that some form vision (that is, the ability to recognize shapes, no matter how close they must be placed) remains, and that vision is not simply confined to light perception. Regular kness' in this context include required distance refractive corrections and reading additions up to +4.00DS. The latter forms a somewhat arbitrary dividing line, whose origin is historical: it has been assumed that the closest distance at which a patient would normally read is 25 cm, for which the normally sighted presbyope would require a normally sighted presbyope would require a +4.00D\$ addition.

Low vision, partial sight, visual impairment, and even subnormal vision (a term whose use is now deprecated) are synonyms for the same starte: reduced visual acuity, which even with the best optical correction provided by regular lenses still results in a visual performance on a standardized chinical test (such as a Snellen letter chart) which is less than that respected for a patient of that are. The definition does expected for a patient of that age. The definition does not include those " ar: these patients have different r this category. vision (that is matter how cle





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.

