

How Can We Better Understand the Patient Perspective in Geographic Atrophy?

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With emerging therapies on the horizon, Geographic atrophy (GA) is becoming a disease in which treatment decisions require balancing potential benefit against treatment burden, risks, and patient expectations. Although many clinical trials for GA are underway, it can be challenging to identify potential candidates, whereas understanding patients' actual needs is equally important. In this talk, I will present two real-world studies addressing these questions: a quality-control study investigating gaps in GA documentation and the potential role of AI-assisted OCT screening, and a prospective patient survey examining patients' willingness to undergo complement inhibitor therapy. The two studies approach GA care from different angles but point to the same conclusion: accurately characterizing the disease is only part of the big picture, while understanding patient expectations, preferences, and treatment goals is equally important.