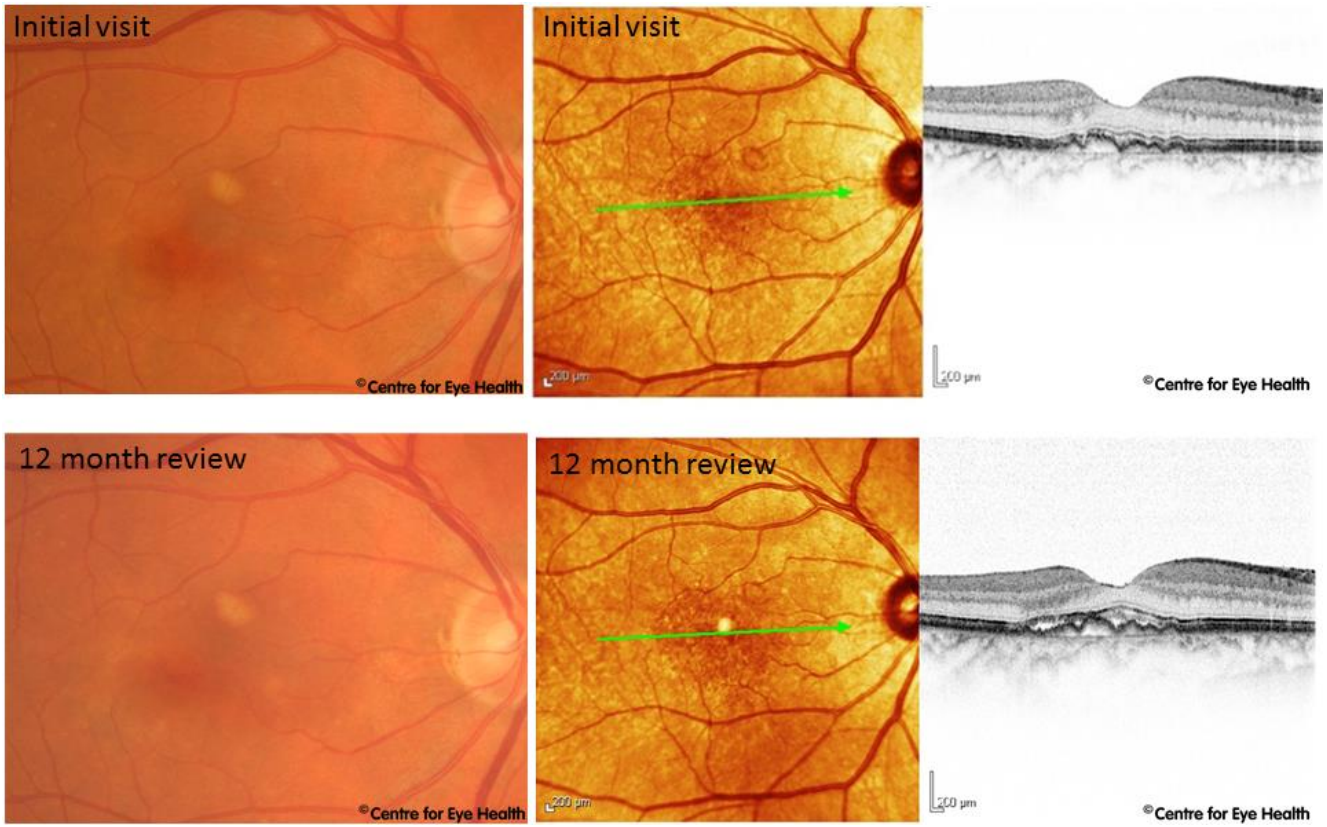
CFEH facebook Cases

CFEH Facebook Case #36

A 68 year old Caucasian female presented for routine review of her AMD. She was last seen 12 month previous. On both occasions she was asymptomatic, best corrected visual acuity was 6/6- in each eye and there was no distortion on the Amsler grid. OCT images of the macula were taken on each visit and the results are below. Can you detect the exudative changes in the retinal appearance?



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ANSWER

The follow up OCT shows the presence of sub-retinal fluid, indicating this is likely to be neovascular (late) AMD. In this case, OCT imaging has allowed early detection of the change in the absence of any symptoms and minimal to no change in the fundus photographic image.

12 months previously, this patient was assessed as having a single large (confluent) drusen in the right eye and pigmentary changes as well as medium and small drusen. The left eye had medium and small drusen. At this time according to the Beckman AMD classification, the patient had intermediate AMD in the right eye and early AMD in the left, giving an approximate risk of conversion to neovascular AMD of 12% within 5 years.

This case illustrates the importance of using OCT imaging on all AMD patients. With many practices now equipped with OCT technology, CFEH has produced an AMD chairside reference guide to help optometrists in the interpretation of the scans produced. The reference can be downloaded free by clicking here.

OCT imaging is also available free to all patients through CFEH. Click here to download a referral form.