SUMMARY OF TERMINOLOGY IN GEOGRAPHIC ATROPHY

GEOGRAPHIC ATROPHY

Geographic atrophy (GA) is an advanced form of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) characterised by progressive and irreversible loss of photoreceptors, retinal pigment epithelium and underlying choriocapillaris.¹

Healthy eye vs eye with GA







Healthy

Unifocal lesion

Multifocal lesion

(Fundus autofluorescence images courtesy of Heidelberg Engineering Ltd and intended for use in UK, Ireland and Nordics)

The Beckman clinical classification scheme for AMD²

| | CLASSIFICATION | CLINICAL MANIFESTATION |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| | No AMD | No drusen and no pigmentary abnormalities ————— |
| | Normal ageing changes ——— | Drusen ≤63μm and no pigmentary abnormalities ———— |
| | Early AMD | Drusen >63μm and ≤125μm no pigmentary abnormalities —— |
| | Intermediate AMD ———— | Drusen >125µm and/or pigmentary abnormalities ———— |
| | Late AMD ———— | GA and/or neovascular AMD ——————————————————————————————————— |
| (Images courtesy of Ferris FL | 3rd, et al. Ophthalmology. 2013;120(4):844–851.) | |

Nonsubfoveal lesions³



Refers to lesions wholly outside of the fovea. Also referred to as extrafoveal

Subfoveal lesions³



Refers to lesions that involve part or all the fovea, can also be termed foveal involvement, foveal GA



USAGE OF MULTIMODAL IMAGING

GA can be distinguished from other forms of AMD via imaging. It is characterised as cell layer loss with sharply defined borders.^{1,4}

The following diagnostic imaging techniques can be used to identify GA:

- Optical coherence tomography (OCT) structural B scan^{1,5}
- Optical coherence tomography (OCT) en face4
- Fundus autofluorescence (FAF)^{1,5}
- Colour fundus photography (CFP)^{1,4}
- Near-infrared reflectance (NIR)4

Classification system based on OCT was proposed for atrophy secondary to AMD⁴

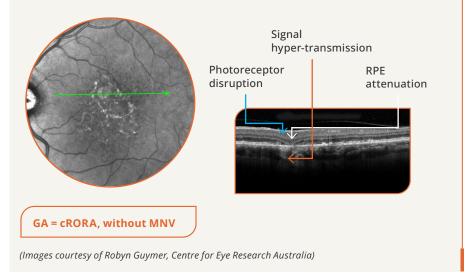
cRORA:4 -

Complete retinal pigment epithelium and outer retinal atrophy was defined by the following criteria:

- Region of hyper-transmission of at least 250µm in diameter
- Zone of attenuation or disruption of the RPE of at least 250µm in diameter
- Evidence of overlying photoreceptor degeneration

All occurring in the absence of signs of an RPE tear

MNV: macular neovasacularisation



iRORA:4,6

Incomplete retinal pigment epithelium and outer retinal atrophy:

- A region of signal hyper-transmission into the choroid of <250µm
- A corresponding zone of attenuation or disruption of the RPE, with or without persistance of basal laminar deposits
- Evidence of overlying photoreceptor

degeneration

Signal hyper-transmission Photoreceptor disruption attenuation (Images courtesy of Robyn Guymer, Centre for Eye Research Australia)

RPE: retinal pigment epithelium.

References:

- 1. Fleckenstein M, et al. Ophthalmology. 2018;125(3):369-90.
- **2.** Ferris, F.L, et al. Ophthalmology 2013;120(4):844-51.
- 3. Bakri, SJ, et al. J Manag Care Spec Pharm. 2023 May;29(5-a Suppl): 10.18553/jmcp.2023.29.5-a.s2.doi: 10.18553/jmcp.2023.29.5-a.s2
- 4. Sadda SR, et al. Opthamology. 2018;125(4):537-548.
- 5. Sadda SR, Retina. 2016;36(10):1806-1822.
- 6. Guymer RH, et al. Opthamology, 2020; 127(3): 394-409.

