

Appendix 1. Age-related macular degeneration classification per study sample

		The AMRO-NL cohort [36] The Franconian AMD study [38]	Columbia University [40] The University of Iowa [41]	AREDS [39]	The Rotterdam Study [37]
PHENOTYPE	SUBPHENOTYPE	GRADING			
		AMD grading based on ophthalmic examination and fundus photography (35°) with the exception of the Franconian AMD study that used fundus photography covering a 50° field and ophthalmic examination with 30° confocal autofluorescence and infrared reflectance imaging	AMD grading based on ophthalmic examination fundus photography (35°)	AMD grading based on ophthalmic examination fundus photography (35°)	AMD grading based on ophthalmic examination fundus photography (35°)
CONTROLS		Grade I No, or less than five small hard drusen in the macula and no other macular pathology	Grade 0 No signs of AMD at all or only hard drusen (<63 µm) in either eye, and no other macular pathology.	Grade I No signs of age-related macular abnormalities and no other macular pathology	Grade 0 No signs of AMD at all or only hard drusen (<63 µm) in either eye, and no other macular pathology. Grade I Soft distinct drusen (≥63 µm) or only pigmentary abnormalities
EARLY AMD	<i>Soft drusen</i> <i>Pigment irregularities only</i>	Grade II Soft distinct drusen with pigmentary irregularities Grade III Soft indistinct or reticular drusen with or without pigmentary irregularities	Grade Ia Soft, distinct drusen Grade Ib Pigmentary irregularities Grade IIa Soft, indistinct or reticular drusen Grade IIb Soft, distinct drusen with pigmentary irregularities Grade III Soft, indistinct, or reticular drusen with pigmentary irregularities	Grade II In the worst eye: mild changes including multiple small drusen; nonextensive intermediate drusen, and/or pigment abnormalities Grade III In the worst eye: at least 1 large drusen of at least 125 µm in diameter, extensive intermediate drusen, and/or noncentral geographic atrophy	Grade II Soft indistinct drusen (≥125 µm), reticular drusen only, or soft distinct drusen (≥63 µm) with pigmentary abnormalities Grade III Soft indistinct drusen (≥125 µm) or reticular drusen with pigmentary abnormalities
LATE AMD	<i>CNV only</i> <i>GA only</i> <i>Mixed AMD (CNV/GA)</i>	Grade IV GA and CNV, or a mixed type of end stage AMD based on the classification of the most severe eye	Grade IV GA and CNV, or a mixed type of end stage AMD based on the classification of the most severe eye	Grade IV In one eye: advanced AMD; either CNV or central GA Grade V In both eyes: CNV or central GA or a mix of both	Grade IV GA, CNV, or mixed AMD (CNV in 1 eye and GA in the other eye, or both types in 1 eye). Persons were classified based on the eye with the more severe diagnosis.

AMD = age-related macular degeneration; GA= geographic atrophy; CNV = choroidal neovascularization; Mixed AMD = combination of GA + CNV