

Macular Edema

Macular edema is an eye condition characterized by a buildup of fluid in the macula, an important area of the eye located in the middle of the retina. The macula is packed with a dense array of cones, the photoreceptors in the eye which respond to color. Damage to the macula can impair someone's vision, making macular edema a cause for concern among ophthalmologists. There are a number of treatment options for macular edema, depending on the cause of the condition and the patient's history.

This condition occurs when blood vessels in the eye start to leak fluid, allowing fluid to build up in the macula. This fluid causes the macula to swell and thicken, leading to blurred and distorted vision. The eye cannot express the excess fluid, and the condition will get worse if it is not treated.

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X-ray images can track the movement of the dye to see if vessels are leaking into the macula. Treatment for persistent cystoid macular edema depends on the underlying cause. When infections and diabetes are treated accordingly, symptoms usually clear up quickly.