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Newsletter from the Macular Degeneration Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 531313 Henderson, NV 89053
<http://www.eyesight.org>

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EYECARE AMERICAN LAUNCHES A NEW AMD EYECARE PROGRAM,
MARCH 2007

The AMD EyeCare Program is designed to:

- * Promote eye exams for qualified people who are at risk for AMD (and other eye diseases), but not yet diagnosed. * Increase awareness among those at risk for AMD about the disease and the importance of treatment options.
- * Educate those diagnosed with AMD about available treatment options.
- * Inform those diagnosed with AMD about low vision resources and support services that can improve or maintain quality of life.

How it works:

People call the AMD helpline toll-free at 1-866-324-EYES (3937) to request free AMD educational materials, or those not diagnosed with AMD may see if they qualify for an eye exam and care from one of EyeCare America's 7,300 volunteer ophthalmologists.

To qualify callers must:

- * Be US citizens or legal residents
 - * Be age 65 or older
 - * Not have seen an ophthalmologist in three or more years
 - * Not have insurance through an HMO or the VA
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TIRED OF EYE INJECTIONS?

TargeGen Announces Successful completion of Phase I Clinical Trial of Topical MD Drug "TG100801"

"TargeGen, Inc. has announced that the company has completed a single-center Phase I clinical trial of TG100801 in 42 healthy volunteer subjects. TG100801 is a small molecule, topically applied (eye drop), multi-target kinase inhibitor that is being developed for the treatment of macular degeneration and other debilitating diseases of the eye.

Preliminary results from this Phase I study suggest that TG100801 is well tolerated in humans at the low and high doses tested when applied topically twice daily for 14 days. Final study results are expected by the end of April 2007."

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OXIGENE REPORTS POSITIVE PRELIMINARY RESULTS FOR MYOPIC MACULAR DEGENERATION DRUG

"WALTHAM, Mass. — A combretastatin A4 phosphate drug for myopic macular degeneration prevented vision loss without serious adverse events in a phase 2 trial, according to a press release from Oxigene, the drug's manufacturer. In the double-masked, dose-ranging, multi-center study, 23 subjects received the drug intravenously at doses of 27, 36 or 45 mg/m². All patients received two doses 1 week apart with up to three additional doses. At 3 months' follow-up, 100% of patients met the study's primary efficacy endpoint of less than a three-line loss in visual acuity, according to the release.

Full results from the trial will be presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in May, according to the release. Oxigene officials also announced their intention to further develop eye drop and ocular mini-tab formulations of the drug after meeting with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, according to the release."

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PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY WINS TEXAS MOOT CORP COMPETITION

“Austin, Texas– MacuCLEAR corp., a pharmaceutical company that has developed a treatment for MD, the leading cause of blindness in people over the age of 50, defeated three teams on February 9, 2007 to win the Texas round of the Moot Corp, the prestigious venture competition hosted annually at The University of Texas at Austin’s Mcombs School of Business.

‘Participating in the Texas Moot Corp competition has been a great experience,’ said Doug Baum, executive vice president of MacuCLEAR. ‘We will take the lessons we have learned forward to help us move closer to gaining funding.’ In an interview with Doug Baum on March 26, 2007, we asked Doug Baum specific questions and we are delighted with the focus of MacuCLEAR:

1. The therapy will be to increase choroidal circulation in the retina for the (early) dry form of macular degeneration.
2. The therapy will not be invasive. The compound will be developed as an eye drop.
3. The firm has patented twelve unique molecules. Two compounds have already been FDA approved for use in other diseases. Focusing on these two molecules will allow for an abbreviated development program and FDA review and approval. The company is targeting the start of human clinical trials in approximately 15-18 months.
4. By increasing circulation the compound will help to remove drusen and address lipofusion.

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CONTACTING MDF

To speak to a support representative directly, you may call 1-888-633-3937. If you reach our voice mail, please speak slowly and distinctly.

ORDERING BOOKS & TAPES

When purchasing items from Amazon.com, please remember to use the MDF search box located at <http://www.eyesight.org/Books/books.html> . By simply originating your search from our website, Amazon rewards the Foundation with a small commission from each product you order. Thank you.

MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS:

Please make checks payable to Macular Degeneration Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 531313, Henderson, Nevada 89053, or you may use your credit card on our web site <http://www.eyesight.org/Donations/donations.html> . Your contributions make our services available as a support system for macular degeneration patients in the following ways:

1. We provide toll-free lines for personal contact assistance.
2. We mail brochures and other printed materials upon request.
3. We support an award-winning web site that provides the latest up-to-date information.
4. We fund research proposal grants to provide therapies for both the wet and dry form of AMD. Contributions marked "research" are used 100% for research.

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MDF was founded in 1992 by Edmund J. Aleksandrovich Ph.D (a victim of macular degeneration). It provides MD patients and their families with the information necessary to understand the disease, the latest news concerning ways to cope with the disease, and supports the efforts of researchers to find a cure.

Subscribers who wish to cancel their subscription or change their email address may visit: <http://www.eyesight.org/Newsletter/newsletter.html> .

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