An illustrated explanation of how Antiangiogenic treatments work in wet AMD: learn how these treatments can stop and sometimes reverse vision loss caused by wet AMD.

Antiangiogenic treatments (orange symbol) block a protein called VEGF that stimulates abnormal blood vessel growth in the eye, thereby halting the angiogenesis process. By blocking this process, anti-VEGF therapy also alleviates fluid build-up in the eye.
In order to deliver the anti-VEGF drugs into the eye, a retinal specialist first numbs the eye surface, and then injects the medication. This takes only a few minutes, and is not painful.

As the anti-VEGF medication is absorbed into the macula, it lowers the levels of VEGF that cause the leaky blood vessels.
As VEGF levels in the eye are reduced, the growth of the abnormal blood vessels is halted, and these vessels begin to break down and regress. With continued treatment, the abnormal fluid also dissipates.

Controlling the angiogenesis and related swelling stabilizes vision and prevents further damage to the macula. About 30% people treated with anti-VEGF therapy for wet AMD regain some of their vision. The drusen, however, are still present, so anti-VEGF treatment must continued in order to control symptoms. Your eye doctor can determine which treatment is best for you and how often it should be administered.
Depending on the treatment, the benefits of each injection can last from one to two months, and longer in some cases. It is extremely important to keep up with treatments according to your doctor’s instructions.

Studies show that improvement in vision remains steady over time as long as treatment is continued regularly. To learn more, go to the www.scienceofAMD.org