

## ONLINE ONLY SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Supplementary Table 1. NEI-VFQ-25, driving subscale questions[24]

Question	Response options
<b>15a.</b> Are you <b>currently driving</b> , at least once in a while?	Yes No
<b>15b. IF NO:</b> Have you <b>never driven</b> a car, or have you <b>given up driving</b> ?	Never drove Gave up
<b>Driving Subscale questions</b>	
<b>15c. IF CURRENTLY DRIVING: How much difficulty do you have</b> driving during the daytime in familiar places?	No difficulty at all A little difficulty Moderate difficulty Extreme difficulty
<b>16. How much difficulty do you have</b> driving at night?	No difficulty at all A little difficulty
<b>16a. How much difficulty do you have</b> driving in difficult conditions, such as in bad weather, during rush hour, on the freeway, or in city traffic?	Moderate difficulty Extreme difficulty Have you stopped doing this because of your eyesight? Have you stopped doing this for other reasons, or are you not interested in doing this?

NEI-VFQ-25, National Eye Institute Visual Functioning Questionnaire-25.

**Supplementary Table 2. Baseline patient demographics and disease characteristics**

	NEI-VFQ-25 DSS quartile							
	Quartile 1 (0–25)		Quartile 2 (>25–50)		Quartile 3 (>50–75)		Quartile 4 (>75–100)	
	Sham (n=5)	0.2 µg/day FAc (n=9)	Sham (n=7)	0.2 µg/day FAc (n=11)	Sham (n=14)	0.2 µg/day FAc (n=19)	Sham (n=6)	0.2 µg/day FAc (n=11)
Mean (SD) age, years <sup>a</sup>	58.21 (7.2)	64.42 (8.6)	60.86 (10.3)	66.90 (8.3)	59.86 (8.4)	64.82 (9.4)	70.01 (12.1)	60.08 (6.7)
Male, n (%) <sup>a</sup>	3 (60.0)	5 (55.6)	1 (14.3)	8 (72.7)	9 (64.3)	14 (73.7)	3 (50.0)	6 (54.5)
Diabetes type, % <sup>a</sup>								
Type 1	0 (0)	1 (11.1)	1 (14.3)	2 (18.2)	1 (7.1)	1 (5.3)	0 (0)	2 (18.2)
Type 2	5 (100.0)	8 (88.9)	6 (85.7)	9 (81.8)	13 (92.9)	18 (94.7)	6 (100.0)	9 (81.8)
Mean (SD) HbA1c <sup>a</sup>	7.35 (0.87)	6.89 (0.85)	8.1 (2.06)	8.61 (1.66)	7.21 (0.87)	7.61 (0.85)	6.88 (0.42)	8.18 (2.53)
Study eye lens status, n (%) <sup>a</sup>								
Pseudophakic	2 (40.0)	3 (33.3)	3 (42.9)	6 (54.5)	2 (14.3)	7 (36.8)	2 (33.3)	1 (9.1)
Phakic	3 (60.0)	6 (66.7)	4 (57.1)	5 (45.5)	12 (85.7)	12 (63.2)	4 (66.7)	10 (90.9)
Mean (SD) BCVA at baseline (ETDRS letters) <sup>a</sup>	52.2 (9.42)	55.7 (10.16)	58.4 (6.16)	61.5 (5.05)	60.2 (7.77)	59.5 (7.86)	56.7 (7.15)	57.8 (13.69)
Mean (SD) time since DME diagnosis, years <sup>a</sup>	4.6 (3.3)	3.1 (1.6)	3.1 (1.5)	5.5 (4.6)	3.9 (2.5)	2.7 (1.6)	4.7 (3.7)	3.2 (3.7)
Mean (SD) DSS score <sup>b</sup>	13.9 (12.7) <sup>c</sup>	15.3 (12.3) <sup>d</sup>	41.7 (5.3) <sup>e</sup>	43.9 (7.5) <sup>f</sup>	64.7 (6.9) <sup>g</sup>	67.2 (6.2) <sup>h</sup>	94.4 (4.8) <sup>i</sup>	90.5 (5.9) <sup>j</sup>

<sup>a</sup>All subjects whose baseline DSS score fell within the quartile, n numbers are shown in table; <sup>b</sup>All subjects whose baseline DSS score fell within the quartile and who had ≥1 follow-up assessment: <sup>c</sup>n=3; <sup>d</sup>n=6; <sup>e</sup>n=6; <sup>f</sup>n=11; <sup>g</sup>n=13; <sup>h</sup>n=17; <sup>i</sup>n=3; <sup>j</sup>n=1.

DME, diabetic macular oedema; DSS, driving subscale; ETDRS, early treatment diabetic retinopathy study; FAc, fluocinolone acetonide; HbA1, haemoglobin alpha 1; NEI-VFQ-25, National Eye Institute Visual Functioning Questionnaire-25; SD, standard deviation.