



Breaking News on Nutraceuticals & Supplements

SEARCH



News & Analysis

News & Analysis

Health & Nutrition

Financial

Legislation

Marketing & Retailing

Other Top Industry News

Products & Services

Products & Suppliers

Events

Market Reports

Industry Services

News Delivery

FREE NEWSLETTERS

Select ...

KEYWORDS ALERTS

Personalised news alerts by e-mail

Fast Access

All news for

Select a month .....

Suppliers' profiles

Select a supplier ...

Product innovations

Select a product ...

Journals & books, Technical services

Select .....

Market reports, Buy online now!

Select a category ...

Related Sites

-- Choose site --

## NEWS & ANALYSIS HEALTH & NUTRITION

[Homepage](#) > [Science & Nutrition](#) > [Dramatic increase in...](#)

[Email this page](#) | [Print in friendly format](#) | [News by email](#) | :

# Dramatic increase in eye disease raises demand for preventive treatment

09/22/03 - **A new study showing a significant increase in common age-related eye disease among older Americans in the last eight years, demonstrates the need for preventive approaches, such as eye health supplements, claims lutein specialist Kemin Foods.**

Note: to freeze animation, right-click 'Play'.

Related News & Analyses

Recently published on the site

- [Expanded status for Kemin's lutein](#)
- [Novel food ruling is near, says FDA](#)
- [Pycnogenol aids diabetes side effect](#)
- [Further evidence supports role of health](#)

The study, carried out by researchers at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, examined a random sample of elderly patients who had received Medicare benefit for three chronic eye diseases - diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, and age-related macular degeneration.

Results from approximately 10,500 patients available for analysis in 1999 showed that age-related macular degeneration increased from 5 per cent to 27 per cent between 1991 and 1999. The prevalence of diabetes mellitus increased from 14.5 per cent in 1991 to 17.4 per cent by 1999, with diabetic retinopathy among persons with diabetes mellitus increasing from 4.6 per cent to 13.8 per cent.

Primary open-angle glaucoma increased from 4.6 per cent to 13.8 per cent. The percentage of suspects increased from 1.5 per cent to 6.5 per cent, as did the percentage of narrow-angle glaucoma (from 2.7 per cent to 13.8 per cent).

Overall, the proportion of subjects with at least one of these three diseases increased from 13.1 per cent at the beginning of the study, to nearly half of the surviving Medicare beneficiaries (45.4 per cent) at the end of the study, the researchers in the latest issue of the *Archives of Ophthalmology*.

Several trials have suggested that the antioxidant lutein, found abundantly in dark green leafy vegetables and in a variety of supplements and fortified foods, may help reduce the risk of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) among older Americans who have a higher risk of developing the disease, according to a response to the study.

In one Harvard study, a diet of 6 milligrams of lutein per day led to a 57 per cent lower prevalence of AMD, leading the study's authors to suggest a diet high in lutein to lower the risk of contracting AMD.

"Lutein's ability to filter blue light and quench molecular free radicals appears to play a role in maintaining a healthy macular pigment and reducing oxidative stress in the eye's retina, which has been linked to AMD," said Dr Rodney Ausich, president of [Kemin Foods](#), producer of the purified lutein FloraGLO.

An estimated 25 million to 30 million people worldwide are afflicted with AMD, according to the International AMD Education Group AMD Alliance International.

Source: *Archives of Ophthalmology* 2003;121:1303-1310

[F-mail this page to a colleague](#)

- ▶ [Print in friendly format](#)
- ▶ [Market reports, buy online now!](#)

**Copyright** - Unless otherwise stated all contents of this web site are © 2000/2003 – NOVIS. – All Rights Reserved.  
For permission to reproduce any contents of this web site, please email our Syndication department: [admin@NutraIngr.usa.com](mailto:admin@NutraIngr.usa.com).  
Full details for the use of materials on this site can be found in the [Terms & Conditions](#).

SEARCH NEWS AND ANALYSIS 

---

### **FREE trial for Emerging Food Markets.com**

The world's No. 1 news web site on financial, business and macroeconomic developments across markets for the food and beverage industries.

[Register now !](#)

### **Buy market reports direct from this site!**

NutraIngredients-usa.com provides access to 100's of market reports published by the leading research companies in Europe, the USA and beyond.

[Access now !](#)

### **FREE newsletter**

Breaking news for all executives involved in the formulation, production, marketing and retailing nutraceuticals, supplements and healthy food industries.

[Subscribe now – direct to your mail box!](#)

### **Merlin smart news tracker**

Are you a busy executive? Check out our advanced news service. 40 euros (\$40) subscription months!

[Visit now !](#)

---

[About us](#) - [Make this site your homepage](#) - [Tell a colleague](#) - [Contact the editor](#) - [Terms & conditions](#)

---

The information contained in this site covers every key aspect of the dietary supplements, health foods and energy drinks industry in North America. Professionals in the formulation, purchasing, production, marketing and retailing of health beverage and food products. This site covers financial legislation issues on nutraceuticals, functional foods, health ingredients, dietary supplements, dietetic foods, organic products, botanicals, energy more...

---

© 2002/2003 – NOVIS. – All Rights Reserved.