

Charles Bonnet Syndrome

People with impaired vision sometimes see things they know are not there, but look real anyway. They may see simple patterns of straight lines or detailed pictures of people and buildings. If you experience this, do not worry. You are not losing your mind. Your eyes are playing tricks on you.

The condition is called “phantom vision” or the Charles Bonnet syndrome. It is similar to what happens to some people who have lost an arm or leg. Even though the limb is gone, these people still feel their toes or fingers or experience itching.

There is no cure for Charles Bonnet syndrome, and it is not a sign that AMD is worsening, but the condition usually goes away after a year or so.