

## Nuala

## LIVING WITH VITELLIFORM MACULAR DYSTROPHY

I plan on getting into a research study that may help me.

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I was diagnosed with vitelliform macular dystrophy which is a rare genetic eye condition with which, in time, I may lose central vision. I went for a routine eye test to get new glasses for reading and got this diagnosis. I didn't have my eyes tested for 5 years and I stress the importance of having regular eye testing after reaching age 40 or so. I have lost 10 percent vision in my right eye so far. I plan on getting into a research study that may help me.

My children will have to be tested as this diagnosis is dominant so for every pregnancy they have a 50 percent chance of having VTMD. As a parent this is a worry but sometimes even if they carry the gene they may never be affected by it. My hope is that there will be a cure in time that may help them if affected.

It's a hard diagnosis to get but I have faith in God and pray a lot and this has helped me.