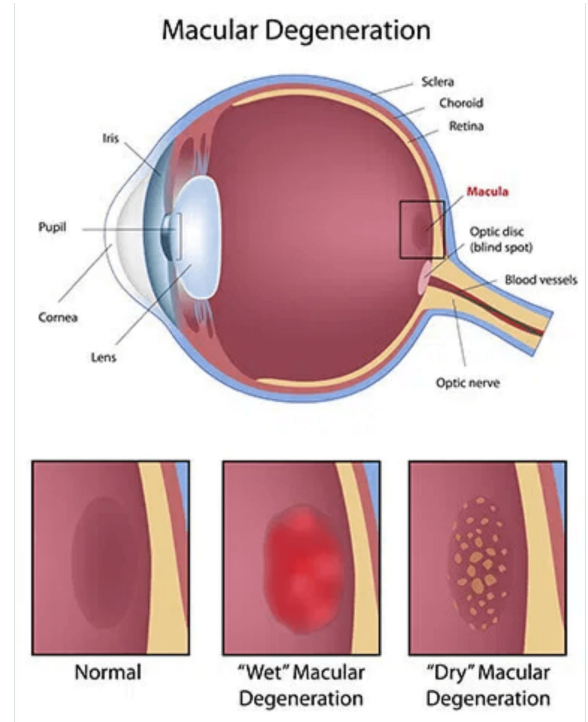


Absence of Evidence Is Not Evidence of Absence

Understanding SkQ1 (Visomitin) for
Age-Related Macular Degeneration

"Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence."

— Carl Sagan



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Gap Analysis: Standard of Care vs. SkQ1

Feature	Standard of Care	SkQ1 Potential
Mechanism	 Symptom Only	 Root Cause
Target	 Too Late	 Upstream
Admin	 Injections	 Eye Drops
Dry AMD	 No Reversal	 Reversal

Current Standard of Care Leaves Patients Behind

Dry AMD (90%)

Limited Efficacy: AREDS2 vitamins only slow progression. No reversal.

0

Treatments available to reverse existing damage.

Wet AMD

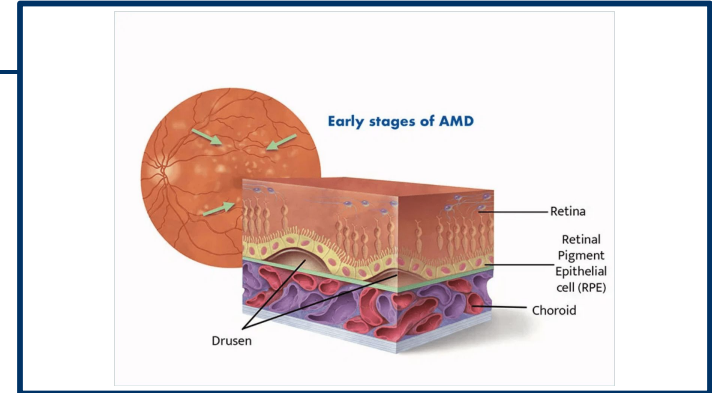
63.3%

of eyes lose ≥ 15 letters over 10 years despite treatment.

High Burden: 11.7 hours per injection cycle leads to undertreatment.

Mitochondria-Targeted Antioxidants Address Root Causes

- **Targeted Delivery:** SkQ1 is designed to penetrate and accumulate specifically within the mitochondria.
- **Root Cause Resolution:** Oxygen Species (ROS) exactly where they are produced.
- **Cellular Protection:** Prevents the oxidative damage that destroys the Retinal Pigment Epithelium (RPE).



SkQ1 protects the RPE layer (shown above) from oxidative destruction.

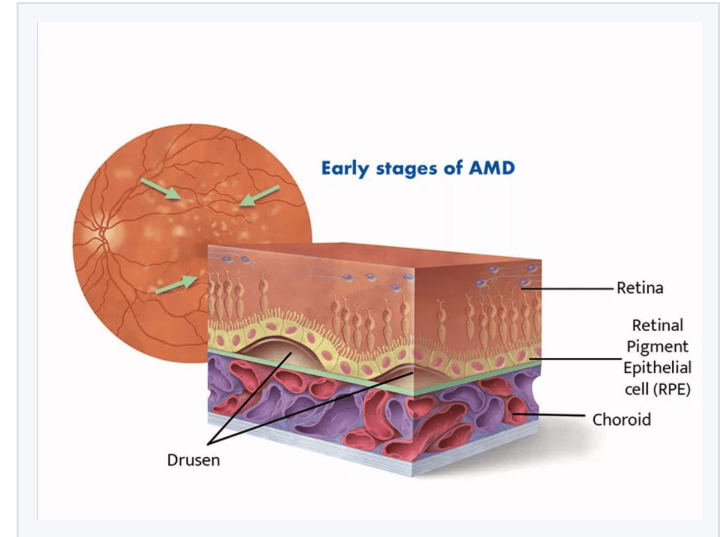
SkQ1 Prevents and Reverses AMD Pathology

Prevention (Early Intervention)

- **Complete suppression** of AMD-like pathology.
- Prevents development of drusen and RPE atrophy.

Reversal (Established Disease)

- **Regression** of existing pathological signs.
- Restoration of retinal function (ERG).
- Improvement in visual function in previously blind animals.



SkQ1 Normalizes VEGF Levels

Anti-VEGF Shots

"Brute Force Suppression"

↓ **Abolishes ALL VEGF.** Drops levels to near zero, removing essential signals.

☠️ **Risks Atrophy.** Starves healthy tissue of neuroprotection.

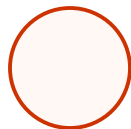
SkQ1 (Visomitin)

"Smart Normalization"

⚖️ **Restores Balance:** Lowers excess VEGF but maintains healthy baseline.

🛡️ **Preserves Tissue:** Stops leakage while keeping cells healthy.

Absence of Trials Reflects Cost, Not Merit



The \$100 Million Hurdle

A single Phase 3 trial for AMD costs over \$100 million. Without Big Pharma backing, small biotechs cannot fund this step.



The "Single Disease" Trap

Regulatory bodies require trials for one specific condition. SkQ1 works systemically, making it difficult to fit into this narrow framework.



Investment Follows ROI, Not Efficacy

Investors fund drugs with the highest profit margin, not necessarily the best patient outcomes. High efficacy alone does not guarantee funding.

Absence of Evidence Is Not Evidence of Absence

The Fallacy

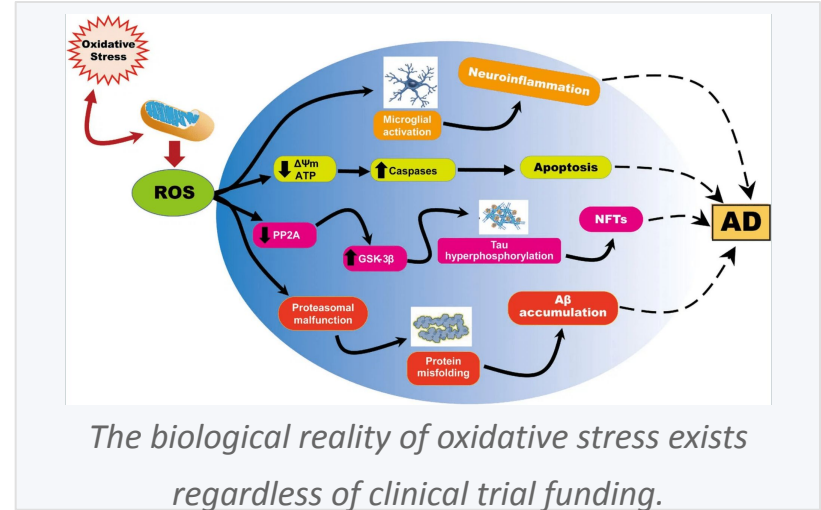
"There are no Phase 3 trials, therefore SkQ1 does not work."

The Reality

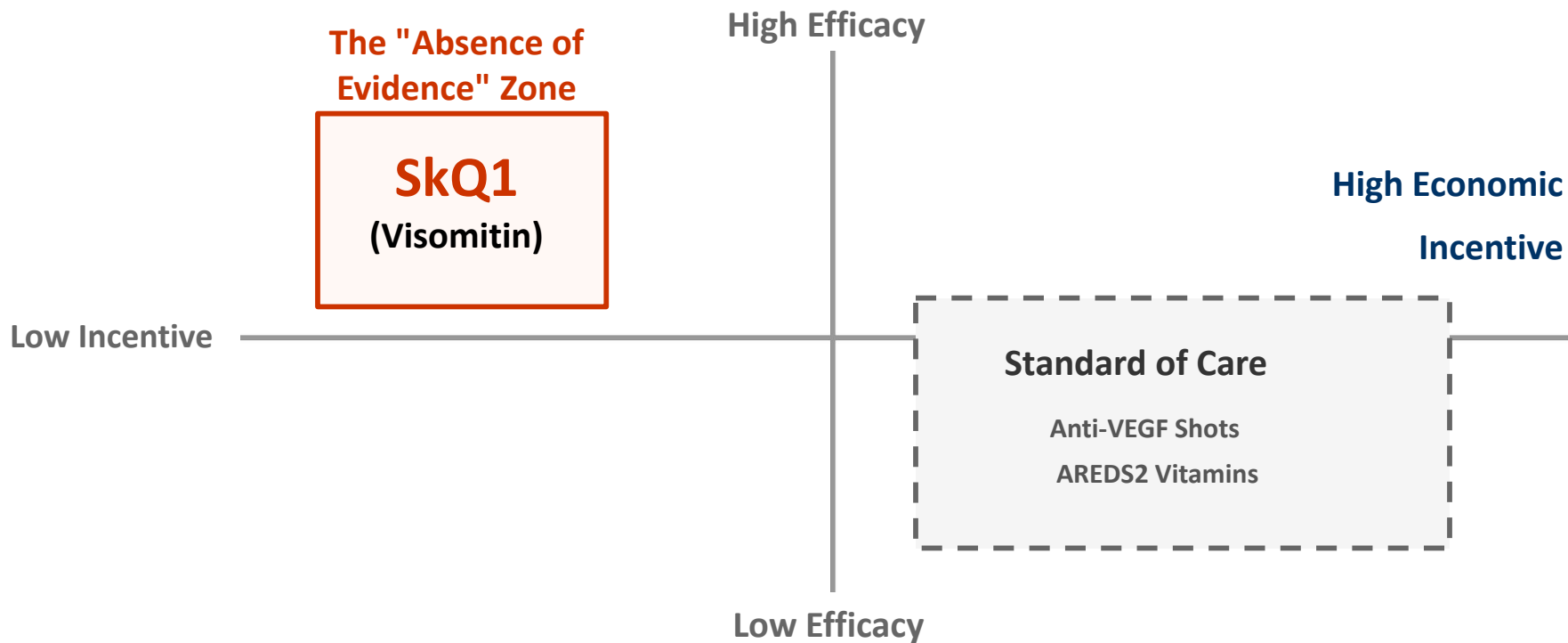
"There are no Phase 3 trials because **the patent expired**, removing the incentive to pay for them."

What We DO Have:

✓ **Valid Mechanism:** Targets mitochondrial ROS directly.



SkQ1 Occupies the 'Absence of Evidence' Zone



When Standard of Care Fails: A Patient Case Study



The Prognosis

Doctors confirmed standard treatments had failed. The prognosis was total blindness.
"There is nothing more we can do."



The SkQ1 Result (3.5 Weeks)

After starting Visomitin drops, the condition began reversing. **"She is seeing things she could not see 4 weeks ago."**

***Note:** I am a molecular biologist (cancer therapeutics), not an ophthalmologist. I am not advocating medical advice: I am reporting a functional outcome where standard care failed.*

Bridging the Gap Between Mechanism and Validation



For Patients

Advocate for options based on biological logic when standard protocols fail.



For Medicine

Recognize that "No Evidence" often simply means "No Commercial Incentive."



For Science

Shift focus from suppressing symptoms (VEGF) to restoring mitochondrial health.

Sourcing SkQ1 (Visomitin)

Status: Not in US Pharmacies

Visomitin is a Russian product. Financial sanctions and tariffs make it difficult to obtain through standard channels.

Where to Buy

I have successfully ordered twice from **RuPharma** (International Pharmacy).

[Visomitin on RuPharma](#)*

Notes: *I included an affiliate link.

You will save 10% if ordering with Bitcoin/Crypto due to (presumably) tariffs and Russian trade embargos. There's a hefty penalty for using a credit card. **MY MOTHER USES TWO BOTTLES/MONTH. She takes 1-2 drops in each eye three times / day, and each bottle last about 2.5 weeks.**

Key References

Mitochondria-targeted antioxidant SkQ1 prevents age-related macular degeneration-like pathology in OXYS rats

Muraleva NA et al. Antioxidants (Basel). 2019;8(6):177.

Key finding: SkQ1 drops prevented pathological changes in the RPE and choroid, confirming **mitochondrial ROS** as a therapeutic target.

An attempt to prevent senescence: a mitochondrial approach

Skulachev VP et al. Biochim Biophys Acta. 2009.

Key finding: Foundational paper describing SkQ1 as a **mitochondria-targeted antioxidant** that normalizes mitochondrial

Suppression of AMD-Like Pathology by Mitochondria-Targeted Antioxidant SkQ1

Ioshchenko FW et al. Int J Mol Sci. 2018.

Key finding: SkQ1 **normalizes VEGF and PEDF** expression, restoring balance rather than ablating it.