



# Identifying patients at risk of non-adherence and/or non-persistence: Suggested discussion questions

## 1A. If a patient is new to treatment

- A. Do you feel you have a good understanding of your eye disease? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- B. Do you feel you have a good understanding of your treatment and what it can do for you? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- C. Do you understand that treatment will likely be long-term with frequent appointments at least in the first year? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- D. Do you understand that to prevent your vision from getting worse you will likely need to remain on treatment indefinitely? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- E. Do you think that you will be able to attend your appointments with or without help from relatives or friends? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If the patient answers 'Yes' to any of the above questions, please continue to section 2. If the patient answers 'No' to all of the questions, be sure to ask the patient these questions again at three or six-month intervals, as circumstances may change over time.

## 1B. If a patient has been on treatment for a period of time

- F. Have you experienced beneficial effects of your treatment on your vision? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- G. Do you understand why the frequency of your injections might change? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- H. Do you understand that stopping or interrupting your treatment can lead to your eye disease getting worse? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If the patient answers 'Yes' to any of the above questions, please continue to section 2. If the patient answers 'No' to all of the questions, be sure to ask the patient these questions again at three or six-month intervals, as circumstances may change over time.

## 2. Identifying additional risk factors for non-adherence and non-persistence

- I. Do you have any concerns or fears that you are worried about or that you think could potentially affect your ability to follow your treatment schedule? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Key words/terms/behaviors suggestive of specific risk factors for non-adherence and non-persistence:

- ☐ **Feelings of anxiety or depression** [Sad/unhappy, Anxious/worried, Lonely, Scared/frightened, Fear of injection]
- ☐ **Insufficient help** [Alone, Burden]
- ☐ **Forgetfulness** [Confused, Disoriented]
- ☐ **Difficulty in visiting the clinic** [Travel concerns, No transport, Long distance]
- ☐ **Fear of treatment being limited/switched** [Financial worries, Insurance concerns]

If the patient is identified as having any or multiple risk factors for non-adherence and non-persistence, consider scheduling extra time at their next appointment to have a deeper discussion about these topics and to go over the next few months of treatment with the patient.

Please refer to the relevant sections of the '[Communication strategies to improve adherence in neovascular age-related macular degeneration \(nAMD\) treatment](#)' guide for further information. Click on the link or scan the QR code to access the document.

