Table: Summary of type of outcome measure by outcome and condition

CONDITION	OUTCOME MEASURE	OUTCOME		
		Visual acuity n (%)	Quality-of-life n (%)	Contrast sensitivity n (%)
Age-related macular degeneration (AMD)	Total number of SRs	16	16	9
	Mean at a follow-up time point	8 (50)	1 (6)	1 (11)
	Mean change from baseline to a follow-up time point	4 (25)	0 (0)	0 (0)
	N/% of participants/eyes falling into pre-specified categories	5 (31)	0 (0)	2 (22)
	"As provided in individual studies"	6 (8)	2 (13)	2 (22)
	Unclear/not reported	0 (0)	13 (81)	6 (67)
Cataract	Total number of SRs	15	12	4
	Mean at a follow-up time point	2 (13)	0 (0)	0 (0)
	Mean change from baseline to a follow-up time point	1 (7)	0 (0)	0 (0)
	N/% of participants/eyes falling into pre-specified categories	8 (53)	1 (8)	1 (25)
	"As provided in individual studies"	1 (7)	2 (17)	0 (0)
	Unclear/not reported	5 (33)	9 (75)	3 (75)
Diabetic retinopathy (DR)	Total number of SRs	4	4	0
	Mean at a follow-up time point	2 (50)	0 (0)	-
	Mean change from baseline to a follow-up time point	0 (0)	0 (0)	-
	N/% of participants/eyes falling into pre-specified categories	4 (100)	0 (0)	-
	"As provided in individual studies"	0 (0)	0 (0)	-
	Unclear/not reported	0 (0)	4 (100)	-

SR=systematic review

Note that all number of SRs for a given condition and outcome do not add up to the total number of SRs because SRs could use more than one outcome measure for a given outcome.

Box: Examples of variations in outcome measure specification for visual acuity across 16 systematic reviews on age-related macular degeneration (AMD)

Mean at a follow-up time point
- *"…best corrected visual acuity at one year (52 weeks) follow up."*
- *"We also considered mean visual acuity and change in visual acuity as a continuous score."*

Mean change from baseline to a follow-up time-point
- *"Change in BCVA after one year or more follow-up"*
- *"We also considered mean visual acuity and change in visual acuity as a continuous score."*

Number/percentage of participants/eyes falling into pre-specified categories
- *"Loss of 3 or more lines (or 15 or more letters) distance visual acuity (equivalent to an increase in logMAR score of 0.3 or more)"*
- *"Dichotomous outcomes, such as moderate (three or more lines or 15 ETDRS letters) and severe (six or more lines or 30 ETDRS letters) visual loss were extracted when possible."*

"As provided in individual studies"
- *"We used any well-defined measure of visual acuity depending on the way authors presented trial data."*
- *"Any well-defined outcome based on visual acuity was used depending on the way in which authors presented trial data."*

Not specified
- "The primary outcome for this review was visual acuity."

References in Abstract

[1] Wang X, Lindsley K, Li T. Is there agreement in outcomes among Cochrane Reviews to support 'Overviews' of reviews? A case study with the Cochrane Eyes and Vision Group (CEVG). 2012 Cochrane Colloquium, Auckland, NZ