What Is a Corneal Laser Procedure? A New Noninvasive Option for Late-Stage AMD

Living with late-stage age-related macular degeneration (AMD) changes how you see the middle of the world around you. Faces blur, menus get harder to read, though side vision often stays. At Bochner Eye Institute in Toronto, we now offer a corneal laser procedure called Corneal Photovitrification, or CPV.

CPV uses a low-energy laser to treat 4 small spots on the midperipheral cornea. Those spots help redirect light toward retinal cells still doing their job. The treatment stays on the surface layer of the cornea, so nothing enters the eye.

People considered for CPV usually have central vision loss in both eyes from dry AMD, Stargardt disease, or Best disease, along with little to no cataract development. A full assessment typically includes vision measurements, corneal imaging, potential acuity testing, and an angle kappa measurement.

The visit itself is often short. Freezing drops go in, the chair reclines, and the laser treatment takes only a brief moment. There are no drops or oral medication to take home, and follow-up visits happen at 1, 3, 6, and 12 months.

Reported gains have averaged two or more lines on the vision chart, and vision may keep improving as the brain adapts. If you receive injections for wet AMD, those continue as scheduled.

Curious whether CPV fits your situation? Book a consultation with our team in Toronto, Scarborough, Unionville, or Oakville. To learn more, read our full blog on the topic!