

**Supplementary Table S1. Donor information:** age, gender, AMD history, genotyping of SNPs for *CFH*, *HTRA1/ARMS2*, smoking history, cause of death and time of enucleation<sup>a</sup>

Donor	Age	Gender	AMD	SNP		Smoking	Cause of Death	Enucleation
				CFH	HTRA1/ARMS2			
1	76	M	Normal	TT	AA/TT	N/D	Parkinson's Disease	6
3	57	F	Normal	TC	AA/TT	1ppd for 45 years	Lung cancer with Mets	10
4	78	F	Normal	TT	GG/GG	No	unknown	10
5	81	F	Normal	TT	GA/GT	N/D	Subarachnoidal bleed	4
6	72	M	Normal	TC	GA/GT	quit in 1993	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	12
7	61	F	Normal	CC	GG/GG	1 ppd for 40 years	Probable Myocardial infarction	10
8	48	F	Normal	TT	GG/GG	No	Congestive Heart Failure	14
9	68	F	AMD	TT	GG/GG	2 ppd for 40 years	Stroke	3
10	80	M	Normal	CC	GA/GT	quit in 1984	Acute Myocardial infarction	9.4
11	66	F	Normal	TC	GA/CT	quit in 1998	Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis	9.5
12	74	M	Normal	TT	GG/GG	quit in 1980	Myocardial infarction	7.5
13	65	F	Normal	TC	GA/GT	1 ppd duration unknown	Respiratory Arrest	6
14	82	M	AMD	TC	GA/GT	1 ppd for 40 years	Cardial related	12
15	11	M	Normal	TT	GAGT	No	Multiple Trauma	8.5
16	69	M	Normal	TC	GG/GG	1 ppd, quit 1982	Acute Myocardial infarction	13
17	81	M	AMD	CC	AA/TT	N/D	Cardial arrest	10.5
18	59	F	Normal	TT	GG/GG	No	Respiratory Failure	1
19	80	F	AMD	TC	GG/GG	No	GI bleed	9
20	68	F	Normal	TT	GG/GG	No	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	8
23	17	M	Normal	TC	GG/GG	N/D	Motor vehicle accident	9
24	75	F	Normal	TC	GAGT	N/D	Respiratory Arrest	4
25	50	M	Normal	TT	GG/GG	No	Myocardial infarction	17
26	62	F	Normal	TC	GA/GT	No	Cardiac arrest	30
27	70	M	Normal	TT	GAGT	2 ppd for 35 years, quit 1993	Probable Myocardial infarction	8
29	62	F	Normal	TC	GA/GT	No	Myocardial infarction	9
30	59	M	Normal	TT	GG/GG	2 ppd for 40 years, quit 2006	Respiratory Failure	6
31	49	M	Normal	TC	GG/GG	a few packs per week	Probable Myocardial infarction	9.5
32	75	F	AMD	TC	AA/TT	No	Pancreatic Cancer	7
33	77	F	AMD	CC	GA/GT	No	throat cancer	5
34	81	M	AMD	TC	GA/GT	Quit in 1970	Cardiogenic shock	3

<sup>a</sup>A total of 34 autopsy eyes were collected. 30 RPE cell cultures were established.

<sup>b</sup>(M = male, F = female, N/D = not determined, ppd = pack per day)