

Table S1. Baseline Characteristics Stratified by Visual Acuity at Baseline (Post hoc). Participants with both eyes enrolled are counted twice (by eye), once for each of the treatment sequences to which an eye was randomly assigned.

Variable	Category	Worse-seeing eyes (< 69 letters)	Better-seeing eyes (≥ 69 letters)	Total
Group	Total Eyes	35	27*	62
Age (years)	Min / Median (Mean) / Max	39 / 62 (64) / 87	39 / 62 (62) / 85	39 / 62 (63) / 87
Diabetes Type	Type 1	1 (3%)	6 (22%)	7 (11.3%)
	Type 2	34 (97%)	21 (78%)	55 (88.7%)
Hemoglobin	Min / Median (Mean) / Max	5.8 / 7.6 (7.8) / 12.2	6.4 / 7.8 (8.4) / 12.0	5.8 / 7.6 (8.1) / 12.2
A1C (%)	$\geq 8.0\%$	12 (34%)	12 (44%)	24 (38%)
Gender	Female	17 (49%)	7 (26%)	24 (38.7%)
	Male	18 (51%)	20 (74%)	38 (61.3%)
Race (Participant-reported)	Asian	3 (9%)	0	3 (4.8%)
	Black	6 (17%)	2 (7%)	8 (12.9%)
	Multiple race	0	3 (11%)	3 (4.8%)
	Unknown	0	2 (7%)	2 (3.2%)
	White	26 (74%)	20 (74%)	46 (74.2%)
Ethnicity (Participant-reported)	Unknown	1 (3%)	0	1 (1.6%)
	Hispanic or Latino	1 (3%)	2 (7%)	3 (4.8%)
	Not Hispanic or Latino	33 (94%)	25 (93%)	58 (93.5%)
Best-Corrected Visual Acuity (letters)	Min / Median (Mean) / Max	32 / 61 (58) / 68	69 / 72 (72) / 78	32 / 66 (64) / 78
OCT Central Subfield Mean Thickness (μm)	Min / Median (Mean) / Max	362 / 487 (496) / 720	334 / 421 (451) / 643	334 / 453 (477) / 720

* One participant with a single eye in the better-seeing group withdrew after his week 4 visit following a cerebrovascular accident and was not included in the analysis; all other participants/eyes completed the study and were included in the analysis