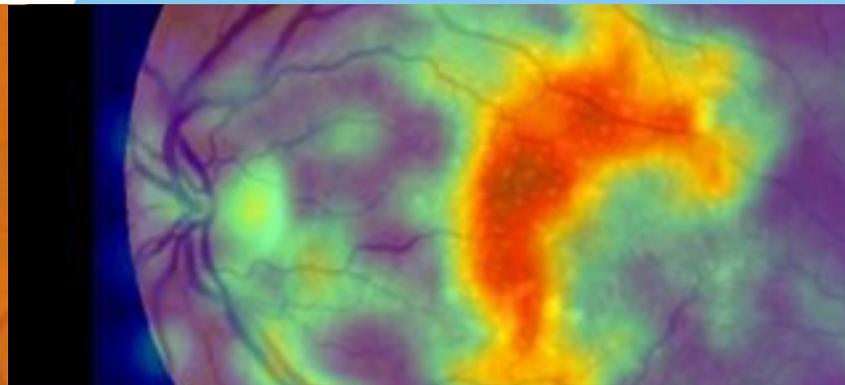
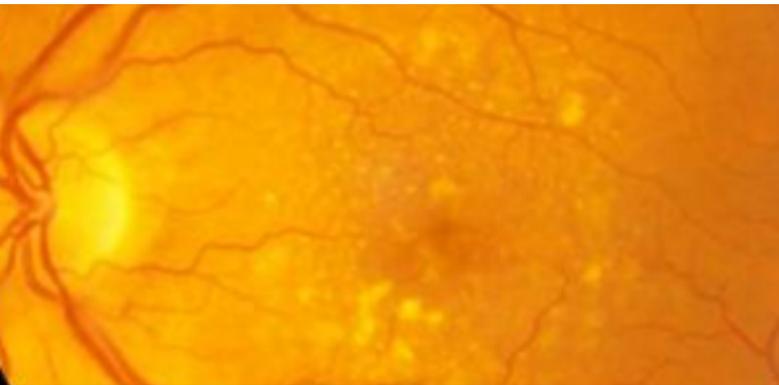


OCTOBER 2022



## Moving beyond the Proof of Concept phase...

SCONe will conclude its two year Proof of Concept phase in November 2022. During this time, we have learned how retinal images are captured and stored within optometry practices and developed processes to securely transfer data from practices into the National Safe Haven.

Moving beyond the Proof of Concept phase, we hope to greatly expand the number of optometry practices involved in the SCONe project and move towards our vision of building a world-leading Scotland-wide retinal imaging research resource.

To find out more info about SCONe or to get involved, email [scone@ed.ac.uk](mailto:scone@ed.ac.uk) or visit our website:

[Click HERE to visit the SCONe website](#)



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
[gov.scot](http://gov.scot)

### SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT MINISTER SUPPORTS SCONe

The SCONe Team and Sight Scotland visited the Scottish Parliament in September 2022 for an audience with Maree Todd MSP, Minister for Public Health, Women's Health and Sport.

Ms Todd, who worked as a pharmacist prior to entering politics, then penned a letter of support for the SCONe project, stating she is "proud that the data and retinal images that we collect to support individual patient care as part of the NHS in Scotland could collectively enable huge benefits for the development of life-saving interventions for millions in the future."

[Click HERE to read the Ministerial Letter of Support](#)



## SCONe JOINS MACULAR SOCIETY EVENT

SCONe Researchers participated in an online patient information event for The Macular Society in Summer 2022. During this event, people with AMD and their families heard from a nurse injector working in the macular clinic and from the SCONe team who delivered a summary of current research into macular disease being conducted at The University of Edinburgh.

Members of The Macular Society reported finding the talk very informative, and SCONe have been invited to deliver a further online event in the autumn.



## SCONe WINS TOP PRIZE AT SINAPSE

SCONe Research Fellow Dr Claire Tochel, alongside Ruairidh Macleod (EPCC) and Jackie Caldwell (eDRIS) presented an overview of SCONe's early work at SINAPSE (Scottish Imaging Network: A Platform for Scientific Excellence)'s Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM).

Amongst an excellent array of scientific posters, the researchers were awarded **first prize** in the poster presentation at the SINAPSE ASM.

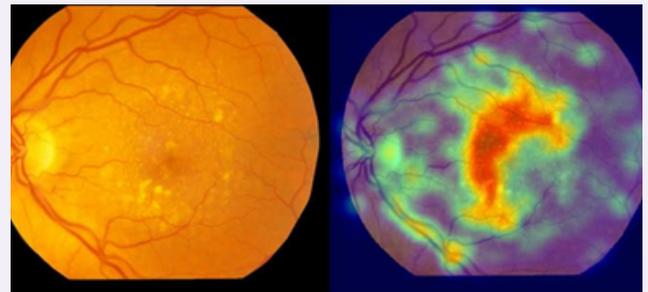


## SHEILA'S STORY

The patient perspective is essential to SCONe's work. SCONe Patient Ambassador Sheila was kind enough to share her thoughts on the early detection of AMD:

"I think early diagnosis is absolutely vital. Through my involvement with The Macular Society, I have met many people with dry AMD and some people have been told when they were diagnosed with dry AMD that 'nothing can be done about it'. I think this is very stark."

[Click HERE to read Sheila's Story](#)



## SCONe DELIVERS NES WEBINAR

SCONe Research Optometrist Fiona Buckmaster delivered a webinar about artificial intelligence in eye care in June 2022 in collaboration with NHS Education for Scotland (NES).

Optometrists learned how AI algorithms are developed and their applications in optometry both now and in the future.