# Long-Term Outcomes of Treatment of Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD): Data From an Observational Study

This database observational study analyzed the long-term outcomes of eyes with neovascular age-related macular degeneration that had begun treatment with vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) inhibitors at least 5 years earlier. Participants included treatment-naïve eyes with neovascular AMD tracked by the Fight Retinal Blindness outcome registry that received at least 1 anti-VEGF injection. The main outcome measures were change in mean visual acuity (VA) and number of injections and visits from baseline up to 7 years after initiating treatment. The mean follow-up time of all 1212 identified eyes was 53.5 months.

Mean VA increased to a maximum of 61.4 letters, with a gain of 6.3 letters, 6 months after starting treatment.
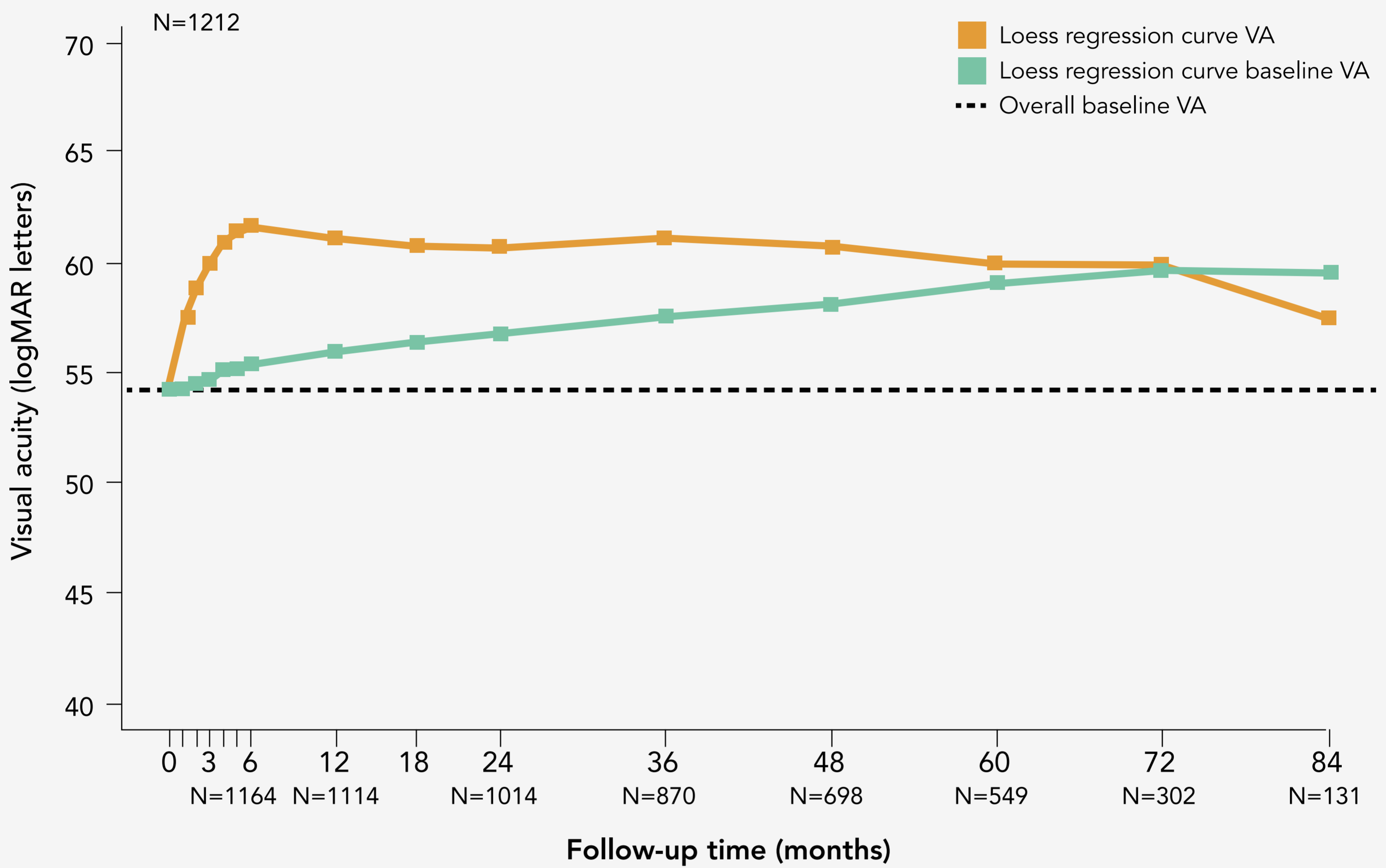

Loess regression curve of mean VA for all 1212 eligible eyes over time. At each time the number of eyes still being followed is shown above the horizontal axis. The orange line represents the Loess curve for the VA, and the black dashed line represents the mean baseline VA for those eyes still observed at the marked time points.
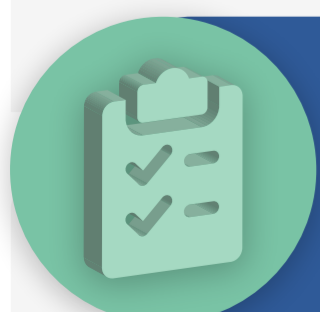
logMAR = logarithm of the minimum angle of resolution.
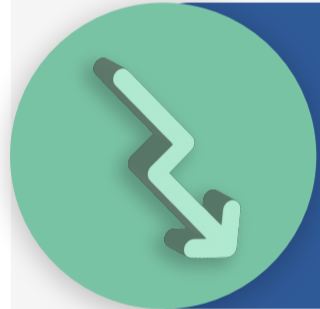
Stratification by baseline VA demonstrated that long-term outcomes were determined in part by baseline acuity.
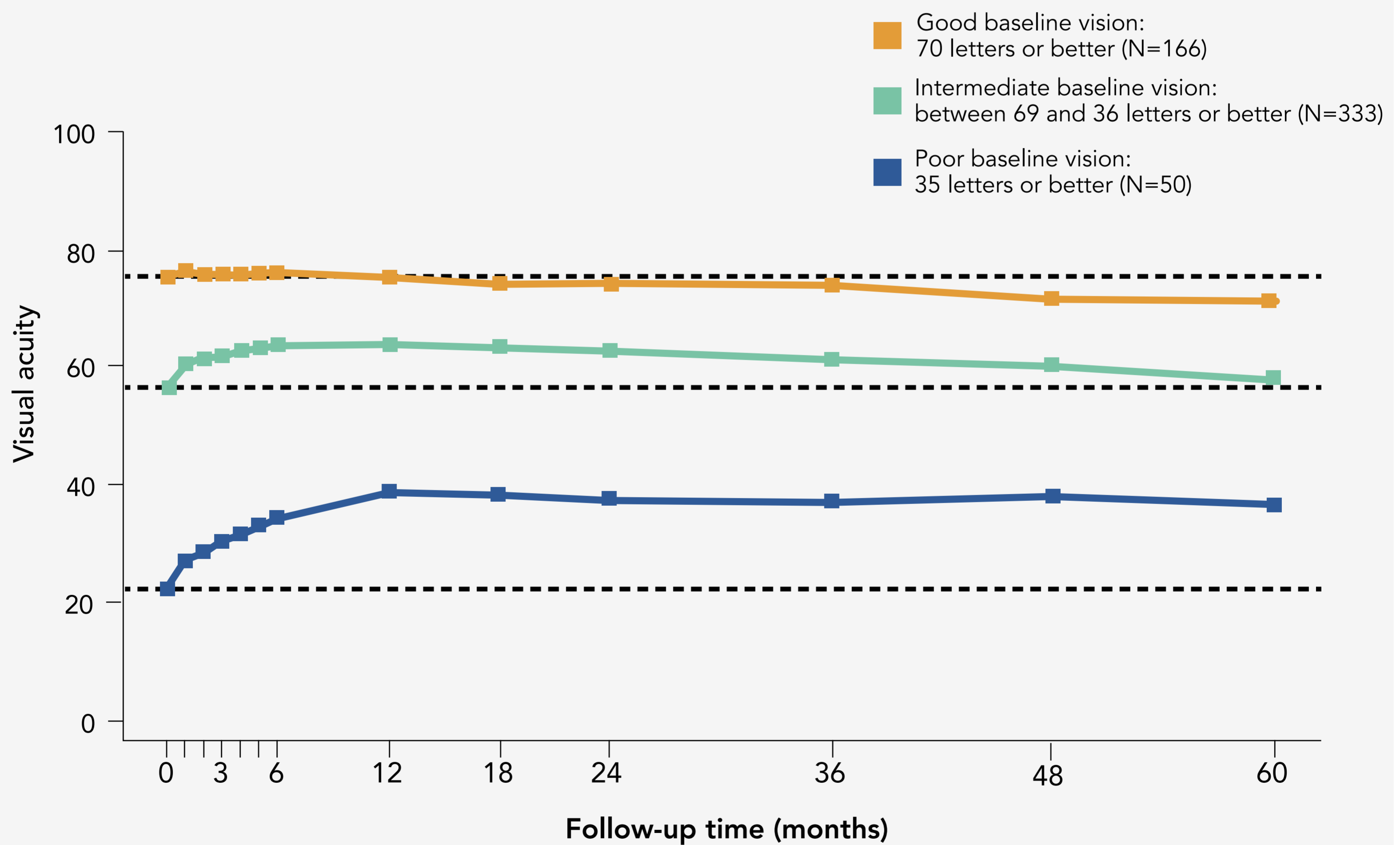
Loess regression curves over 5 years stratified by baseline VA ≥70 letters (166 eyes) (orange line), between 36 and 69 letters (333 eyes) (green line), and ≤35 letters (50 eyes) (blue line).

Conclusions

Good long-term outcomes of VEGF inhibition for neovascular AMD were found in this study. Despite initial gains in vision, the mean VA of these eyes had deteriorated to baseline or worse around the time treatment was discontinued.