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National tour launched to highlight the symptoms of Age-Related Macular Degeneration with new online Symptom Checker

Sep 13, 2019

Actress and comedian Deirdre O'Kane today launched the 12th annual AMD Awareness Week with a new and unique online AMD Symptom Checker to help identify the symptoms of AMD; the number one cause of sight loss in Ireland for those aged over 501. The symptoms, including blurred vision, distortion, and dark spots, often go unrecognised in the early stages of the condition so it is crucial that those aged 50 and over, get their eyes tested regularly.

The theme of this year's AMD Awareness Week, which runs from the 7th to 15th September, is '**Sightsee** with **Me**'. The campaign aims to celebrate the nation's love of sightseeing and travelling, particularly across Ireland's stunning landscapes, rugged terrain and beauty sights. It also aims to inform people about the symptoms of AMD and highlight the importance of maintaining good eye health to continue to enjoy impressive sights with the ones they love.

A national tour of the 'Sightsee with Me' pop-up bus stop will embark across Ireland during AMD Awareness Week helping inform those at risk of developing AMD as well as their caregivers and the wider public. The new **AMD Symptom Checker** will be available to the public at the pop-up bus stop during AMD Awareness Week and is also available at <u>https://www.amd.ie</u>.

The AMD Awareness pop-up bus-stop will be visiting the following locations during AMD Awareness Week 2019:

Saturday, 7th September:

Lisdoonvarna Matchmaking Festival, Co. Clare.

Tuesday, 10th September:

Black Bush Golf Club Over 50's Open, Co. Meath.

Thursday, 12th September:

Harvest Fair, Glenties, Co. Donegal.

Sunday, 15th September:

A Taste of West Cork, Skibbereen Town Hall, Co. Cork.

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