
2015 - Marlene: Lucky (:60)

A TIP FROM A FORMER SMOKER

Marlene's Voice:

I'm Marlene. And I'm lucky. I have Macular Degeneration. That's when the blood vessels in your eyes leak and you see blind spots in front of you. Eventually you can go blind. Smokers are a lot more likely to get Macular Degeneration. And I smoked. I'm lucky because there's a treatment for it.

SFX:

Ambient sounds of the treatment room. Use the clicking sounds found in Marlene's actual exam.

Marlene's Voice:

Every month I sit in a chair with my eyes held open by a retractor. Then the doctor takes a needle and injects medicine right into my eyes. The first time the needle went in it sounded like an egg cracking.

SFX:

One egg cracking.

Marlene's Voice:

Every time I feel that needle in my eyeball, I wonder why I ever put that cigarette in my mouth. My tip is: Smoking wasn't worth going through all this.

SFX:

Another egg cracking.

Marlene's Voice:

And I'm the lucky one.

Announcer:

Smoking can cause macular degeneration.

YOU CAN QUIT, for free help, call 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

A message from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.