



AMERICAN ACADEMY
of OPTOMETRY

Times

Thursday Edition

Your AAO News Source Thursday

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2016 Plenary: From Puzzles to Mysteries

As the problem-solving paradigm shifts, practitioners and institutions are playing catch-up.

As this year's distinguished plenary speaker, Malcolm Gladwell—noted author of *The Tipping Point* and other popular treatises on social trends—dissected the changing nature of health care for practitioners in the 21st century. Mr. Gladwell began by speaking about a transformation he argues is taking place within many professions, including optometry, from a world of puzzles to one of mysteries.

Information Overload

Historically, Mr. Gladwell says, we have been trained to solve problems whose origins rest in a lack of information, which he characterizes as “puzzles.” However, the problems we now face do not arise from a lack of information but rather from too much of it—creating “mysteries,” in his view. Puzzles yield to a formal and overt method of investigation, while mysteries require the more nebulous qualities of judgment and insight.

“This transformation is taking place particularly within the world of health care, but I think you can look at almost every cognitively complex discipline and argue that they're being transformed,” said Mr. Gladwell. Using the examples of the Cuban Missile Crisis and the September 11 terrorist attacks, he illustrated the dichotomy of “puzzles



Bestselling author Malcolm Gladwell lectured to a packed house at yesterday's plenary session.

and mysteries” as advanced by Gregory Treverton, PhD, head of the National Intelligence Council. “In case of the Cuban Missile Crisis, the way to resolve the question was to gather more information” on Russia's activities, and spy planes revealed the nature of the event easily enough. “But if you think about 9/11, the opposite was happening—we already had the information,” Mr. Gladwell said. “We already knew that Al-Qaeda was planning something for the fall, on American soil, and [we knew] it involved an airplane.” The challenge was to make sense of data we had in hand.

Relating the analogy to health care, he explained that “the task of the professional is to make sense of all this data that's already out there.” And, in many ways, modern practitioners face the

dilemma of, as he said, “finding the message in the noise.”

New Problems, New Solutions

The distinction between mysteries and puzzles matters because, “if you're trying to solve a mystery, the solution is very different than if you're trying to solve a puzzle,” he said. “But more than that, it's an important distinction because we designed our world to solve puzzles [...] when we trained professionals, built schools of law, medicine and business, and when we set up our expectations about what professionals are supposed to do for us.” According to Mr. Gladwell, we don't live in a puzzle world any more. “It's a mystery world” now.

Shifting Roles

Connecting the dots among varied topics such as NFL quarterback drafts, public school teacher performance, the 2008 Wall Street crash and this week's presidential election, the always-entertaining speaker revealed

(continued on page 4)



Mr. Gladwell reveals the shift in the problems practitioners face.

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Specialists in Frontier Land

Optometric Glaucoma Society and AAO joint session captures the cutting edge of research

The Optometric Glaucoma Society, in partnership with the AAO, hosted a pair of vibrant speakers from ophthalmology yesterday who were eager to help guide specialists, both ODs and MDs, through “New Frontiers in Glaucoma.”

The Final Frontier

Alex Wong, MD, PhD, of the Doheny Eye Institute, opened the session with his presentation on not just a new frontier, but the final frontier—space. Dr. Wong discussed his partnership with NASA and his work using ocular imaging devices on astronauts dealing with visual impairment and intracranial pressure. What he found is that the longer an astronaut is in space, the more likely they are to develop issues such as cotton wool spots, retinal hemorrhages and edema of the optic nerve head, to name a few. Astronauts—who typically spend six months or more in space—say they end up using their reading glasses for distance, indicating they’re experiencing a hyperoptic shift, which Dr. Wong attributes to fluid dynamics. “The nerve changes are concerning,” he says. “Without gravity, fluid moves up. That’s why astronauts always complain that it feels like they have the flu all the time.”

To study this, Dr. Wong looked at intraocular pressure (IOP) in patients in a head-down tilt position, to simulate space’s fluid shift. In addition to IOP, Dr. Wong studied the choroid in head-down-tilt and supine positions.

All this research may just rule out a manned mission to Mars, he says, unless somebody

does something about it. But Dr. Wong didn’t only want to understand why these issues impact astronauts, but also how to develop a countermeasure to combat them. Among the solutions he’s researching is a cuff—some-what like a blood pressure monitor—that sits around an astronaut’s thighs and “creates negative pressure to suck that fluid back to your legs,” he explained. The results showed promise—a countermeasure that may allow for mobility and effective regulation of pressure.

Alternative Med

Derek Welsbie, MD, PhD, of the University of California San Diego, used his time to take on a \$32 billion industry—complementary and alternative medicine. With California’s passage Tuesday of a recreational marijuana bill, Dr. Welsbie took the timely opportunity to address the chemicals in the cannabis plant and how they impact eye pressure and the problems with relying on it as a therapeutic agent. Patients are also likely to turn to products such as bilberry (anthocyanins) and ginkgo biloba. For the most part, these alternative therapies show no effect.

Some retrospective data suggests eating green, leafy vegetables has minor neuroprotective elements, but that has yet to be prospectively demonstrated. Either way, Dr. Welsbie said, “if the outcome of this talk is that you tell your patients to exercise and eat kale, I’m OK with that. It’s probably a good idea for everyone.”

OGS AWARDS DINNER

The Optometric Glaucoma Society took some time Tuesday night to honor distinguished doctors for their contributions to the subspecialty.



Felipe Medeiros, MD, PhD, (left) was honored as the President’s Lecturer at this year’s annual OGS awards dinner. Current OGS President I. Ben Gaddie, OD, (right) presented the award to him.



The program concluded with Dr. Gaddie also being recognized for his service to the society and the glaucoma community at large. Incoming new OGS President Michael Chaglasian, OD, (left) presented Dr. Gaddie (right) with the Distinguished Service Award.

Exhibit Hall Opening

Attendees crowded around the Exhibit Hall entrance yesterday afternoon, eager to check out the latest and greatest on display by this year’s exhibitors. With 156 booths to explore, there was something for everyone, and no time to waste.

The hall filled quickly after the grand opening at 4pm, and attendees had until 7pm to check out their favorite vendors and browse the newcomers.

The hall will be a must-see for the remainder of the conference, and attendees can stop in today from 11am until 6pm and tomorrow from 11am until 3pm. Students should find time today to visit the hall from 10am to 11am during the student focus hour.

In addition to the information provided at each vendor booth, conference-goers can attend six new “vision theater” sessions, conducted by exhibitors in a specially constructed theater on the exhibit floor.



ONS: Bridging the Gap Between Diet and Eye Health

The Ocular Nutrition Society focused heavily on connecting the science of nutritional supplementation to ocular and systemic health in its Tuesday afternoon symposium.

Vitamin D

John J. Cannell, MD, kicked off the day with his presentation, “Vitamin D and Eye Health,” which explained vitamin D’s biochemistry, how the hormone regulates gene expression, and its importance in maintaining calcium homeostasis. From vitamin D metabolism to the current research supporting the molecule’s protective effects on the eye, Dr. Cannell provided a comprehensive overview of just how important vitamin D is for the eye, and the implications of diet on systemic and ocular health. The talk centered around subjects such as research into the impact of low vitamin D levels on rates of autism, the impact of genes related to vitamin D receptors on primary open-angle glaucoma, and



Dr. Poteet explained recent research connecting gut microbiome health to autoimmunity.

low 25(OH)D concentrations on the frequency of late-stage age-related macular degeneration.

Autoimmunity

Next, Julie Poteet, OD, MS, CNS, shed light on just how patients succumb to autoimmune disorders with her talk, “Nutritional Modulation of Autoimmunity.” She

shared surprising research showing the impact of diet on susceptible individuals. “Seventy percent to 80% of immune cells in the body are located in gut-associated lymphoid tissue,” she said, citing recent research linking gut health to ocular and systemic health. “The importance of diet and GI dysbiosis cannot be overstated,” she said, quoting its authors.

Dr. Poteet enlightened attendees on the formula for autoimmunity, which includes managing the interaction between genes, infections, the gut microbiome and the environment (i.e., the diet).

Removing gluten, milk and eating for a

healthy microbiome can help susceptible individuals avoid autoimmune conditions, according to the presentation. Dr. Poteet reflected on a patient who said, ‘I tell everyone that my eye doctor cured my skin disease,’ after being educated on the impact of gluten on patients prone to autoimmune disease. “We don’t simply change patients’ diet to change nutrient intake, we change the diet to change the microbes,” she concluded.

Inflammation

Finally, Stuart Richer, OD, PhD, FAAO, presented on “The Role of Inflammation in Systemic and Retinal Disease.” He offered advice on how to help geographic atrophy patients (using vitamin D supplements). He then delved into complex biochemistry and the interaction between diet and biochemical aberrations that lead to ocular disease.

Dr. Richer also pushes back on the view of certain modalities, such as foods, as an “alternative medicine” of sorts. “Turmeric is alternative medicine—really? There are 5,000 publications in the medical literature and the spice is 4,000 years old, yet somehow [its use] is alternative to NSAID use.”

2016 Plenary

(continued from page 1)

the significance of how our roles have shifted from puzzle solver to mystery solver.

“I think that in many ways health care has seen the brunt of this transition the most,” he noted, explaining at length the difference in how prostate cancer screening and decision-making now happens. “It used to be really straightforward—you gathered information and you acted. Now we’re talking about someone who has to exercise judgment. [...] You have to take a piece of information that has a highly variable set of meanings and interpret it.”

That judgment burden colors the patient’s perception of success as well, he argued. “Now, the doctor has got to understand me and my attitudes towards risk and certainty, my feelings about my own health and happiness. They have to be able to communicate in an intimate and meaningful way.” Doctors have to win their patients’ trust, be able to talk about matters of life and death in a “really

sophisticated way if they are going to help me as a patient deal with the possibility of this disease”—a vastly different role from 50 years ago, Mr. Gladwell said.

Importantly, you have to identify what your patient wants. Treatment decisions no longer depend solely on your fact-finding abilities. “You’ve gone from having an operational role—from being simply someone who did an action—to a social role” as well.

Redefining Success

In a Q&A session with industry leaders that followed the lecture, Mr. Gladwell elaborated on this societal burden and how it manifests in the public’s often-contradictory attitudes toward the healthcare system. To successfully adapt to this changing clinical landscape, Mr. Gladwell offered, we must revamp not just our methods of providing health care but our criteria for defining the success of it.

“I think it would be important for patients and physicians to sit down and make a list of what they care about most,” he suggested. “If I say that one of the things we have to protect and enhance is the length of a visit, or to add



In a post-lecture Q&A, Mr. Gladwell (far left) fielded questions from (left to right) Essilor’s Howard Purcell, OD, FAAO, Alcon’s Robert Warner, Allergan’s Herm Cukier and Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD, FAAO, dean of Ohio State University College of Optometry.






to the training required of someone entering the profession because of the newfound complexity of it—if those are things you prioritize, you have to make sacrifices or incentives to make them happen” such as higher reimbursements or increased investment in education. “We have to make these choices explicit, and I don’t think we do that.”

The ultimate shift from puzzlers to mystery solvers requires a recognition that we can’t always get everything we want without prioritizing goals and making deliberate decisions, Mr. Gladwell concluded.



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Retinal Degeneration: From Basic Science to Clinical Success

The 2016 Low Vision Section Symposium — Friday, 10am to noon, Room 213 A-D

In pediatric patients, moderate to severe visual impairment is low—0.04% to 0.18%. Yet this relatively small cohort finds itself subject to visual impairment for the longest number of years. Research has shown that an estimated that 60% of cases of infant blindness are the result of inherited retinal dystrophies and optic atrophy.

Advances in gene therapy and genetic testing have revolutionized diagnosis and prognostication, and this symposium will discuss the latest research and the clinical management implications for low vision patients, as well as the role of low vision and primary care optometrists in counseling patients suffering from hereditary ocular disease.

Speakers include Nicole Ross, OD, MS, FAAO, Kerry Goetz, MS, Gustavo Aguirre, VMD, PhD, Artur Cideciyan, PhD, and Howard Shann-Cherng Ying, MD.

Gustavo Aguirre, VMD, PhD, from the University of Pennsylvania's school of veterinary medicine will discuss his research, which focuses on the finding the genetic causes of inherited blindness, identifying the mechanisms linking mutation to disease, and developing treatment

approaches. His lab currently conducts studies in a dog model for a number of inherited photoreceptor diseases, the biochemical nature of which are currently being revealed by researchers.

Artur Cideciyan, PhD, of the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania will present newly published work on inherited retinal degenerations (IRDs), including retinitis pigmentosa. While more than 200 genes are known to be involved in IRDs, the most common involve the RPGR gene on the X-chromosome. According to Dr. Cideciyan, the ORF15 exon of the gene is home to the majority of RPGR gene mutations. "Most, but not all, patients with RPGR-ORF15 mutations are diagnosed with X-linked RP (XLRP)," Dr. Cideciyan's lab explains on its website. Dr. Cideciyan's lab has looked at various stages of disease in a dog model of RPGR-ORF15 based pathologies. Dr. Cideciyan has recently published results that he says are "a prerequisite to the translation of preclinical experiments to human clinical trials." His most recent work involves the characterization of disease in patients with RPGR-ORF15 to guide future studies.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Hot Topics Paper Sessions

Today from 8am to 8:45am

Lectures won't begin until 9am this morning, so join us at a Hot Topic Paper Session for some CE and information on the latest developments in the field:

- Hot Topics: Anterior Segment (Room 204 A-C)
- Hot Topics: Binocular Vision (Room 207 A-D)
- Glaucoma Hot Topics: Toward Best Practices (Room 210 A-D)
- Hot Topics: Imaging – Outer Retina to Outer Space (Room 213 A-D)

Special Evening Poster Event

Tonight from 4pm to 6pm in Ballroom AB

Stop by for CE and a complimentary cocktail (with ticket) during this special evening poster session. This will be a fun way to catch up on some of the latest research that will shape our profession in the years to come! Posters will be available to view starting at 9am. Poster topics will include:

- Binocular Vision/Pediatrics
- Cornea/Anterior Segment /Contact Lens
- Glaucoma
- Low Vision
- Ocular Physiology
- Posterior Segment
- Systemic & Other Disease
- Visual Function / Perception

Today's Paper Sessions

Category	Room Number	Time
Anterior Segment/Dry Eye	211AB	10:15AM - 12:00PM
Visual Function Assessment	212AB	10:15AM - 12:00PM
Optometric Education	211AB	1:45PM - 3:15PM
Animal Models for Glaucoma and Myopia Research with Keynote Address by Mabelle Pardue, PhD	212AB	1:30PM - 3:30PM

Joint Symposium Brings ODs and MDs Together

Today, 1:30pm to 3:30pm, Hall A

The American Academy and Ophthalmology joins the American Academy of Optometry Thursday afternoon in a joint effort to combat one of the most confounding etiologies present in eye care today. The two boards will come together to examine the relationship between corneal infections and contacts in their presentation "Corneal Infections and Contact Lens Wear: An Evidence-Based Approach to Navigating the Risks and Complications."

The speakers (Lorretta Sczotka-Flynn, OD, Elmer Tu, MD, Thomas Lietman, MD, Deborah Jacobs, MD, Fiona Stapleton, PhD, and Suzanne Fleiszig, OD, PhD) will address the conundrum that, despite the best efforts of both industry and eye care providers, contact lens wear remains the most significant risk for corneal infection and inflammation in most developed countries, even as the majority of contact lens wearers never experience such complications. The talk will detail the complex interaction of microbes, contact lenses and the corneal surface, and will provide attendees with an understanding of why infectious keratitis occurs, preventative measures and treatment options. The team will address the numerous studies on associated behaviors that researchers believe could either increase or decrease the risk of keratitis for individual contact lens users.

New developments in diagnosis and management can also significantly improve the prognosis of patients who develop corneal infections. The speakers aim to address the differences in nomenclature among and between ophthalmologists and optometrists, highlight differences in perspective concerning contact lens-related inflammatory disorders and offer ways to improve interdisciplinary communication among clinicians and researchers.



BOOTH 804

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DID YOU KNOW THAT THE ACADEMY IS MORE THAN JUST A MEETING?

We invite you to become a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry (FAAO) and to join a group of professionals dedicated to the highest standards in patient care. Visit the Academy's membership booth in the Exhibit Hall (#461) to meet current Fellows of the Academy, ask questions, and learn more about the Candidacy for Fellowship process. Also, if you submit your Candidacy for Fellowship application during the meeting, we will waive the application fee (that's a savings of \$60)! We also invite you join us for the Prospective Member Information Session being held **today** from 3pm to 4pm in California A (2nd Floor) of the Hilton Anaheim.

ATTENTION OD STUDENTS, RESIDENTS AND POST-DOCTORAL STUDENTS!

Stop by the booth to pick up Academy information, apply for student membership, and to **enter to win a banquet ticket**. Did you graduate from optometry school in 2016? If so, submit your Candidacy for Fellowship application by the end of the year and we will waive your 2017 Academy dues. Visit the Academy booth for more information.

CONTINUING EDUCATION WITH EXAMINATION (CEE) CREDITS AT ACADEMY 2016 ANAHEIM

The courses listed below will be presented with an option to take an exam, administered by the University of Houston College of Optometry. All CEE exams are offered by mail or online. All are welcome to attend the courses without taking the exam. Instructions to request the exams are available at the Education Desk.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Time	Course	Lecturer(s)
9am	Pharmacology Rounds	Brad Sutton
10am	Lumps & Bumps: A Practical Guide to Evaluation and Technique Removal	Nathan Lighthizer
10am	Rapid Fire: The Herpes Group	Joseph Shovlin, Michael De Paolis, Paul Karpecki, Greg Caldwell
1:30pm	Glaucomatous - Type Visual Field Loss Due to Glaucoma	Sherry Bass
3:30pm	Simplifying Systemic Antibiotics	Blair Lonsberry
3:30pm	Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT): Has It Become First-Line Therapy?	Nathan Lighthizer

PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL VISION SECTION AWARDS AND LECTURE

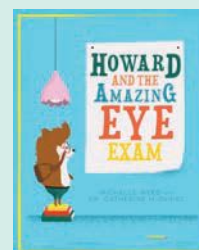


Please join us today from 4pm to 5pm to hear the Public Health and Environmental Vision Section Awards and Henry B. Peters Lecture in Room 205 AB. *Provided by the American Optometric Foundation*

Henry B. Peters Memorial Award in Public Health and Environmental Vision
— Kovin Naidoo, OD, PhD, FAAO

ALCON FOUNDATION "HOWARD THE HEDGEHOG" FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT AOF

Support pediatric optometric research and meet Howard the Hedgehog from *Howard and the Amazing Eye Exam* at Academy 2016 Anaheim. With a few taps on your smartphone you can have Howard's story at your fingertips and help the American Optometric Foundation (AOF) raise \$25,000 for pediatric optometric research. Scan the QR code to download this children's book about a young student excited to tell his classmates about his visit to the eye doctor. The Alcon Foundation will donate \$25,000 to AOF when 2,020 Academy delegates download the book November 9-11, 2016.



For the first time ever, Howard the Hedgehog is making a personal appearance. Stop by the Alcon Foundation booth (#957) for your Howard photo op and share your personal Howard encounter with parents and kids in your community.

Reading the book can inspire parents to schedule comprehensive eye exams for their children and help prepare children for their visit to the optometrist. Download Howard's story and share your fun photos to raise awareness of the importance of comprehensive eye exams for children and help some of the 30 million children in the United States who have undetected vision problems.

Ocular Photography Contest Winners

The 2016 Comprehensive Eye Care Section Annual Academy Ocular Photography Contest received 100 image submissions from 60 different optometrists. The submissions were divided into anterior and poster segment categories, which received 60 and 40 submissions, respectively. Grand prizes were awarded for the anterior and poster segments, followed by runners up and honorable mentions from the combined submissions.

Submissions were graded in seven categories, each assigned a numerical value between 1 and 10: focus, exposure, field of view, difficulty of capturing image, absence of distracting elements, lighting and visual impact (“wow” factor). The total scores from the 12 optometrist judges were averaged to determine the winners.

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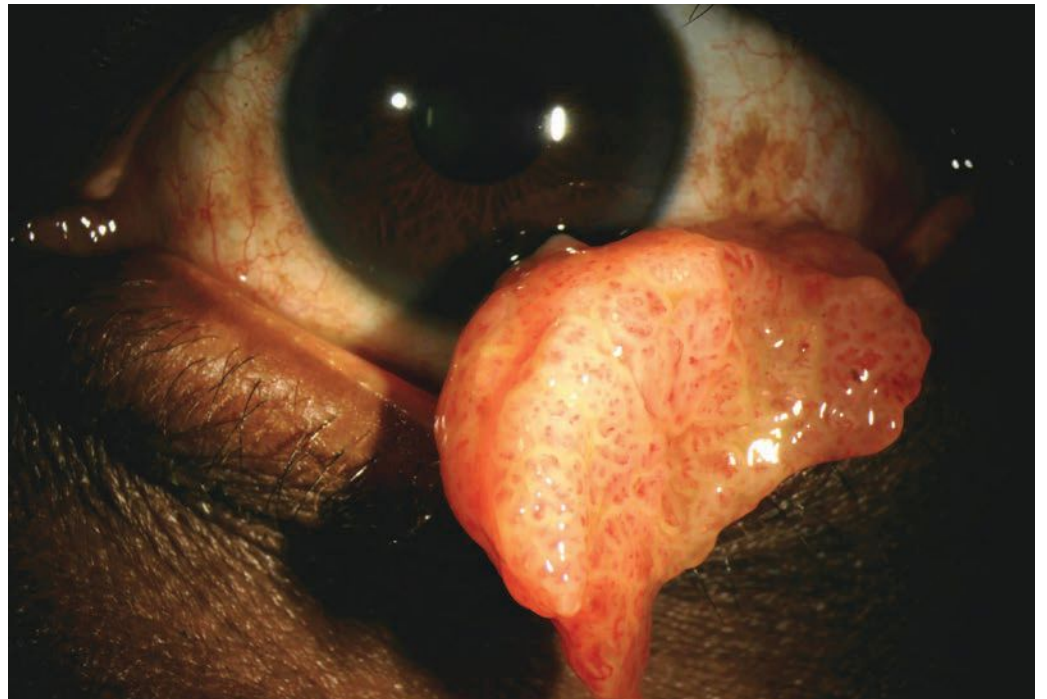
Grand Prize: Anterior Segment

**Praveena Gupta, OD, PhD, FAAO, and
Anvesh Annadanam, BS**

Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University;
Baltimore, MD

*Pedunculated Multi-lobular Short Stalked Conjunctival
Papilloma of Tarsal Conjunctiva of Left Lower Eyelid*

Image system used: Zeiss SL 30 camera



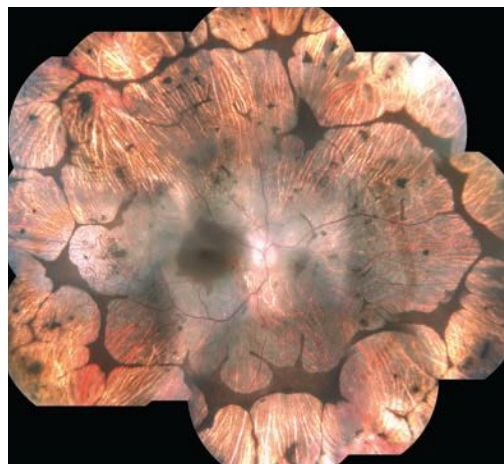
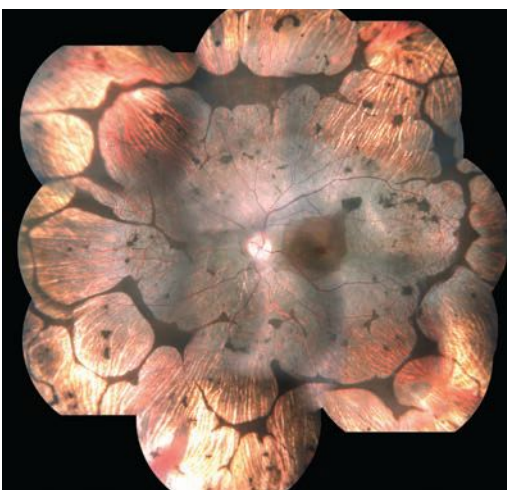
Grand Prize: Posterior Segment

**Krushna Gopal Panda, B.Optom, and
Tapas Ranjan Padhi, MS**

L.V. Prasad Eye Institute; Patia, Bhubaneswar,
Odisha, India

Choroideremia

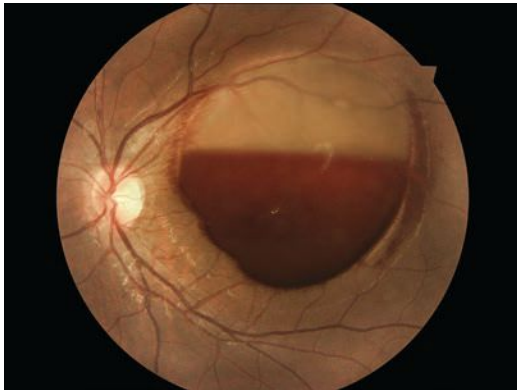
Image system used: Zeiss FF-450 fundus camera



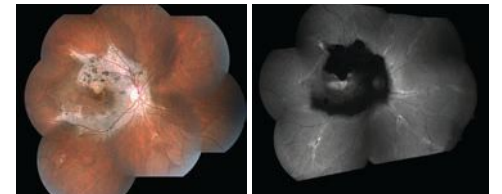
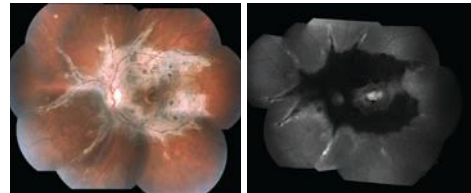
Left Eye (left)
Right Eye (right)

Runners Up

First Runner Up: Robert L. Shapiro, OD, FAAO
Drs. Balfour & Shapiro, Optometrists; Los Angeles, CA
Valsalva Retinopathy
Image system used: DRS by Centervue

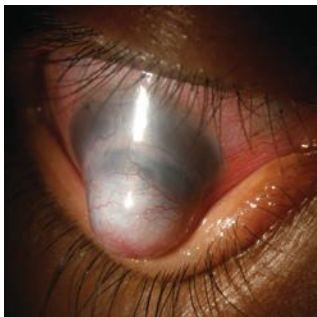


Second Runner Up: Krushna Gopal Panda, B.Optom, and Soumyava Basu, MS
L.V. Prasad Eye Institute; Patia, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India
Retinitis Pigmentosa (color & fundus autofluorescence)
Image system used: Zeiss FF-450 fundus camera

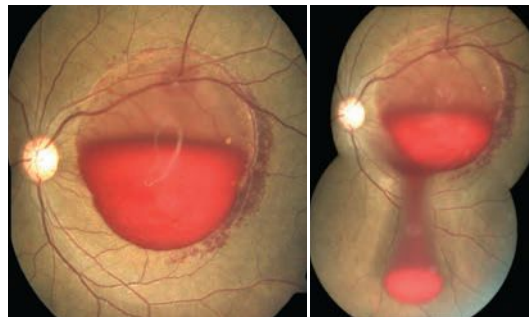


Left Eye (left)
Right Eye (below)

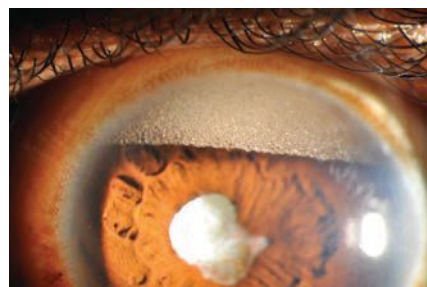
Honorable Mentions



Honorable Mention #1:
Krushna Gopal Panda, B.Optom, and Umesh Chandra Behera, MS
L.V. Prasad Eye Institute; Patia, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India
Anterior Staphyloma
Image system used: Canon EOS 30D camera mounted on Haag-Streit BX-900 slit lamp



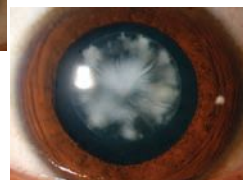
Honorable Mention #2:
Sujoy Mukherjee, B.Optom, and Soumyava Basu, MS
L.V. Prasad Eye Institute; Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India
Pre-Macular Subhyaloid Hemorrhage Secondary to Valsalva Retinopathy Before and Soon After YAG Hyaloidotomy (Glimpse of Blood Saturates Inferiorly)
Image system used: Zeiss FF-450 fundus camera



Honorable Mention #3
Bruce Anderson, OD, FAAO
Dept. of Ophthalmology, College of Medicine, University of South Florida; Tampa, FL
Silicone Oil Leakage into Anterior Chamber and Dense Cataract Formation after Retinal Detachment Repair
Image system used: Zeiss Photo Slit Lamp with Nikon DSLR



Honorable Mention #4
Morgan Schuiteman, OD
Primary Care Resident, Indiana School of Optometry; Bloomington, IN
Idiopathic Choroidal Neovascularization with associated Macular Hemorrhage
Image system used: Nidek Fundus Camera



Honorable Mention #5
Sujoy Mukherjee, B.Optom, Bindurekha Barik, B.Optom, and Vivek Warkad, MS
L.V. Prasad Eye Institute; Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India
Bilateral Development of Lamellar Cataract
Image system used: Canon EOS 30D camera mounted on Haag-Streit BX-900 slit lamp

FIND YOUR INSPIRATION
FOR EXCELLENCE.



OCTOBER 11-14, 2017 • MCCORMICK PLACE



Find your inspiration for excellence at Academy 2017 Chicago. Join us in Chicago for four days of brilliant speakers, clinically-relevant CE sessions, the latest products and technology in the exhibit hall, captivating papers and posters and cherished social events.



AMERICAN ACADEMY
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For more information, visit www.aaopt.org.

AAO Exhibits

The Academy Exhibit Hall is the perfect place to experience cutting edge products and services. Remember, badges are required for admission into the Exhibit Hall.

Remaining Exhibit Hall hours are as follows:
THURSDAY, Nov. 10 11am – 6pm
(Student Focus hour, 10am – 11am)
FRIDAY, Nov. 11 11am – 3pm

Note to those interested in booth space for Academy 2017

Stop by the Exhibit Manager's office located near Exhibitor Services and ask for Betty Taylor. She will be happy to help you select a prime booth location and get you registered for 2017.

Company Name	Booth Number
ABB Optical Group.....	820
Abbott.....	900
AccuLens Inc.....	345
Acuity Pro Software.....	720
Akorn Pharmaceuticals.....	207
Alcon Foundation.....	957
Alcon Laboratories.....	411
Alcon Novartis Pharmaceuticals.....	109
All About Vision.....	449
Allergan.....	633
American Academy of Optometry.....	461
American Board Certification Medical Optometry.....	569
American Board of Optometry.....	932
American Foundation for the Blind.....	768
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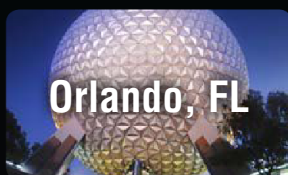
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Laser Mania: An Overview of SLT as First-line Therapy

Today, 3:30pm to 5:30pm in Room 205 AB

In his lecture this afternoon, “Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT): Has It Become First-Line Therapy?,” Nathan Lighthizer, OD, FAAO, will look to a future where glaucoma patients turn to their optometrist for laser procedures before opting for more invasive surgical modalities performed by an MD. His lecture will include coverage of argon laser trabeculoplasty (ALT), selective laser trabeculoplasty (SLT), micro-pulse diode laser trabeculoplasty (MDLT), titanium:sapphire laser trabeculoplasty (TSLT) and endoscopic cyclophotocoagulation (ECP).

He’ll take his attendees on a journey of professional and clinical introspection that poses the question, “Why do we need lasers?” He’ll also address more concrete questions, such as how ALT and SLT

devices work, how long they take to have an effect and which best suits the needs of which patients.

Dr. Lighthizer will introduce the course by examining the specifics of these methodologies for the treatment of open-angle glaucoma. He will then discuss the mechanics of how laser trabeculoplasties decrease IOP—looking at indications, contraindications and predictors.

In addition to advocating for and explaining the mechanism of laser procedures, Dr. Lighthizer will also review the steps of the procedures and prepare attendees for common pitfalls. The course provides an oversight of the preoperative examination, procedure specifics and postoperative care.

Recent literature will inform the discussion and comparisons of ALT, SLT, MDLT,

TSLT and ECP. Examining a range of recent studies comparing SLT with drops as first-line treatment, Dr. Lighthizer will provide a comprehensive look at these emerging and worthwhile therapies.

Finally, the presentation will provide doctors the tools they’ll need to understand what outcomes to expect for their patients, as well as practice management issues surrounding the procedures.

Optometrists may not have laser privileges nationwide yet, but in an age of an ever-expanding scope of practice and widening patient base for both ophthalmologists and optometrists, it’s likely that this knowledge will come in handy soon for many optometrists.

With this course, attendees can say they started their education early.

The Anterior Segment Section at the Crossroads of History

Today, 3:30pm to 5:30pm, in Ballroom D

Andrew Morgenstern, OD, FAAO, is geared up to host an engaging, exciting lecture that breaks with tradition at the Anterior Segment Section’s Symposium: “The Missing Link? Corneal Crosslinking and Keratoectasia: A Call to

Action.” After all, corneal crosslinking—the minimally invasive procedure that offers hope for a number of corneal diseases—isn’t a tradition; it’s the wave of the future.

In lieu of a series of lectures, he’ll be moderating a panel discussion that provides

“the most up-to-date information about corneal crosslinking from across the globe,” Dr. Morgenstern says. “So much has happened over just the last six months, it’s really a challenge to keep up with it all.” But keeping up with it is precisely what he and the other Anterior Segment Section speakers (Clark Chang, OD, MSc, FAAO, Shanda Ross, OD, and Casey Claypool, OD) have been doing for the benefit of the presentation’s attendees.

For instance, in only the past few months has corneal crosslink-

ing obtained FDA clearance. With it, Dr. Morgenstern says, optometrists “can start telling patients that corneal crosslinking is the first treatment to halt the progression of keratoconus.” As a founding member of the International Keratoconus Academy (IKA), Dr. Morgenstern knows the value of this approval for patients. Dr. Chang also sits on the IKA’s board.

This groundbreaking treatment modality is accompanied by greater screening capabilities, which have revealed that keratoconus is a larger problem than was previously known, he says. Older technologies could only identify keratoconus when it was too late, but with devices that provide new measurements such as corneal thickness, doctors can get an earlier sense of developing disease and intervene earlier to stop it. The presenters will explain the protocols for early diagnosis and how to maximize these new technologies.

The symposium will also cover the practice management side of corneal crosslinking, such as updates to regulations and how this new treatment “makes good business sense,” according to Dr. Morgenstern. “It really is a call to action. Crosslinking is here to stay.”

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Eye Health and Vision Impairment: A Matter of Public Health

Tomorrow, 2:30pm to 4:30pm, Room 205 AB

Optometrists looking to learn more about how they can help promote eye health and reduce vision impairment will find all the information they need at this year's Public Health and Environmental Vision Section symposium.

Speakers Steven M. Teutsch, MD, MPH, Sandra S. Block, OD, MEd, FAAO, and Edwin C. Marshall, OD, MPH, FAAO, will discuss the results of the recent consensus study by the Health and Medicine Division (formerly the Institute of Medicine) of the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, which examined core principles and public health strategies to reduce visual impairment and promote eye health in the United States.

Presenters will walk attendees through the key takeaways of the study, including the limitations and opportunities to improve vision and eye health surveillance; reduce disparities; promote evidence-based strate-

gies to improve knowledge of, and access to, eye care; identify and characterize the impact of vision loss on comorbid conditions; and promote the health of people with vision impairment.

"There is a large burden of preventable vision impairment in the United States that needs to be addressed," says Dr. Teutsch. "A more comprehensive population health approach is needed to eliminate preventable eye disease by 2030."

After highlighting the study findings, the panel discussion—moderated by Jeffrey L. Weaver, OD, MS, FAAO—will include recommendations for integrating a public health approach into clinical practice. The first step in improving vision health is to address determinants of health, including the health care system and other physical and social environments, that contribute to vision impairment.

The session will conclude with a discus-

sion of the study's nine recommendations to improve eye and vision health and reduce vision impairment, some of which include the need for a coordinated public awareness campaign, a coordinated surveillance system, the development of a common research agenda, collaborating with the public health and private sectors, and the development of a single set of evidence-based clinical and rehabilitation practice guidelines and measures.

"For far too long, eye and vision health has received inadequate public health attention despite good vision being essential to most people's overall health and well-being," said Dr. Teutsch. "We need a comprehensive approach to eye and vision health that emphasizes education and prevention, equitable and easily accessible care, and coordination in treating and managing chronic eye conditions and vision impairment in ways that help people to live full, productive lives."

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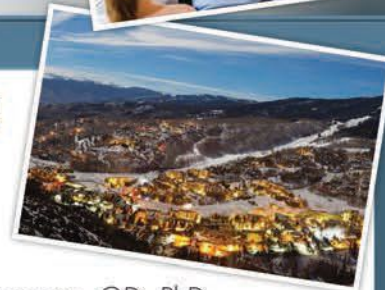
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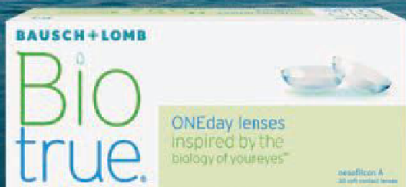
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