Ophthalmology News

Department of Ophthalmology Newsletter - Fall 2018



CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE



Summer is just about over hopefully everybody enjoyed some rest and relaxation. Our department had a very busy summer with the Alumni Education Day and Reunion in June, the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology's EyesOn Design events, and our Residents' graduation ceremony.

Paul Edwards, M.D.

Next up is The Eye, the Brain and the Auto World Research Congress to be held Oct. 7-9 at the Motor City Casino Hotel in Detroit, followed by the HFHS Department of Ophthalmology Alumni Reception on Oct. 27 at the Tortoise Supper Club in Chicago during AAO. Come join us to greet your colleagues and current members of the department.

Construction is progressing on the Henry Ford Detroit Pistons Performance Center, located directly across from One Ford Place. Athletic Medicine will be moving in to the new facility and our department will have a Sports Vision performance center there as well. For more information: https://www.henryford.com/ services/sports-medicine/pistons-performance-center



Progress is also being made on the new Eye Care Center in Bloomfield Hills, which will open in 2019. This will be our department's 13th location.

Steve Horger and I continue to visit individual locations as part of our ongoing Road Trip. We enjoy meeting with physicians and support staff at our different locations to hear about their jobs, challenges they may have and ways we can improve. I appreciate all the hard work people are doing and we will continue to work on meeting the needs of our clinics. Steve and I want everyone to feel there is an open door between myself, Steve as a director, and the clinical staff.

In closing, I would like to remind everyone to help keep our residency program strong by supporting the Resident Endowment fund.

All the Best, Paul A. Edwards, M.D.

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DIRECTOR'S UPDATE



Steve Horger

It's hard to believe that fall is already upon us. It has been a busy year for the department as well as the health system. We are still actively recruiting new physicians and staff while covering the departures that left a few positions in key specialties open for us. Despite the departures we

are still able to keep up our Press Ganey scores for patient satisfaction and working on creating more access, in creative ways, for our patients.

If you don't already know this about me, employee engagement is an important part of my leadership. This summer Dr. Edwards and I took our management team out of the office for a few hours to recognize them for the great work that they do as a team.



Summer Ophthalmology Leadership Retreat

Working within the same engagement mindset, Dr. Edwards and I have been visiting locations and getting an idea of what the team needs to move the department forward. There are lots of great ideas out there and we want to capitalize on our strengths as we begin to prepare for 2019.



Our recent visit to Clinton Township. (L to R) Kristine Kuehn, COT, Jill D'Onofrio, Steve Horger, Paul Edwards, M.D., Deborah Smith, COA, DeeDee Aluigi, COT

Henry Ford Health System has announced plans to build a new medical center in Oakland County. The two-story, 83,000 square foot facility will be part of the new 87-acre mixed-use development known as the Village at Bloomfield, located along Telegraph Road north of Square Lake Road. The medical center will offer primary care and women's health initially, as well as a walk-in clinic, pharmacy, OptimEyes and other retail services, and will add a number of specialties services in the future.

Construction on the new facility is expected to begin before the end of this year, with the opening set for the fall of 2019. *(See renderings on page 3)*

Best Regards,

Steve Horger

Departmental Statistics

	2017	2018
Patient Visits*	71,373	70,484
Surgical Cases*	3,527	3,795

* through July

New Medical Center to Be Part of Village at Bloomfield Development







PATIENT STORIES

Feedback From Grateful Patients

Dr. Desai is a very caring and gentle doctor. He injected a needle in my eye with minimal pain. He puts me at ease each visit.

I trust Dr. Zhang with my vision care needs. All of his staff are also very helpful and they all work well together.

Dr. Levine is the epitome of what I would expect from a doctor. He combines professionalism and skill with a sincere concern for the health of his patients.

My experiences are always great at this doctor's office. (Southfield) Everyone treats me with respect. They always greet me with a smile. At the end of my visit I am always asked if I have any questions or concerns.

I like it that Dr. Crandall keeps reviewing my medical situation regularly to help protect my vision.

Doctor Everett and the entire staff at his office during my cataract surgery were truly exceptional! Extremely positive, caring, professional, personal service.

Dr Kumar had a new resident assisting him. I enjoyed the experience of meeting and talking to her and her professionalism was impressive.

NEW PHYSICIAN



Melisa Nika, M.D.

We would like to welcome a new physician to our staff, Dr. Melisa Nika. She will cover for Dr. Van Laere, who will be out on maternity leave, and then work at the new Bloomfield Hills location when it opens.

Dr. Nika received her undergraduate degree in Chemistry at Wayne State University. She completed her medical degree at the University of Michigan Medical School, where she also completed her residency and glaucoma fellowship at the Kellogg Eye Center. While this may seem like a typical path for many students in the medical field, especially those from Michigan, Dr. Nika's journey was quite different. She arrived in the United States from Albania at age 20 and started her life and education from "scratch."

"While it has been hard work, I consider myself very lucky for every opportunity I've been given along the way throughout my journey in the medical field," Dr. Nika said.

Dr. Nika says her initial attraction to the field of ophthalmology was the "good balance between the clinic and the operating room." She enjoys treating patients of all ages across the spectrum, but she especially loves the long-standing relationship with the aging population. Since glaucoma is a chronic condition, Dr. Nika says she has the privilege of getting to know her patients very well and has the opportunity to bond with them.

Helping people restore and preserve something so valuable to them, their vision, is Dr. Nika's favorite part of being an ophthalmologist. She says that one of the biggest challenges we face as physicians, as patients, as citizens, and as members of our community "is dealing with a constantly changing healthcare environment, and the issues that arise along the way, with access to healthcare and patients' ability to afford treatments."

Dr. Nika believes this is an important time for ophthalmologists. "We are constantly improving our techniques and technology in the operating room in all fields across ophthalmology. It is a particularly exciting time for glaucoma and all the minimally invasive glaucoma surgeries that have a better safety profile while being efficacious," Dr. Nika said.

It was her colleagues, whom Dr. Nika knows to be excellent surgeons and physicians who provide high quality care to their patients while abiding to high ethical standards, that attracted her to the Henry Ford Health System.

ALUMNI

Dr. Gangadhara Sundar, D.O., FRCSEd, FAMS National University Hospital/National University of Singapore; originally hails from Chennai, Tamilnadu, South India. He graduated from Madras Medical College; received postgraduate Diploma in Ophthalmology from Regional Institute of Ophthalmology/Govt. Ophthalmic Hospital in Egmore, Chennai; then pursued a Transitional Residency at HFHS under Dr. David Leach and an Ophthalmology residency ('93-'97) under Dr. David Carey, Program Director and Dr. Julian Nussbaum, Chairman of Eye Care Services.



Paul Edwards, M.D., Gangadhara Sundar, D.O., Murray Christianson, M.D., Christian George, M.D.

Dr. Sundar chose ophthalmology because diseases of the senses have always fascinated him. "What is unique about the eyes, the adnexa and the face is that besides function, their structure and appearance are equally important," Dr. Sundar adds. This interest led to facial plastic and reconstructive surgery, and resulted in continuing fellowship training at HFHS. "Henry Ford Hospital was the perfect place for good residency and fellowship training with a dedicated and committed faculty, great mentors both within Ophthalmology and beyond, and a wide variety of pathology from various economic, ethnic and cultural backgrounds," he explains.

Dr. Sundar joined academic institutions Sankara Nethralaya and Medical Research Foundation, Chennai and the National University Hospital/National University of Singapore, where he currently works. He has started multidisciplinary clinics and services like the Thyroid Eye Clinic, Lacrimal Clinic, Retinoblastoma Clinic, and Orbitofacial Trauma Service, all of which draw patients from Singapore and the southeast Asian region. The good training Dr. Sundar received encouraged him to pay it forward. He has trained fellows from Thailand, Myanmar, Malaysia, India, the Philippines, the UK, Syria, Iran and Nepal, each doing stellar work in their respective countries. Challenges include translating state-of-the-art techniques and technologies from developed nations to developing nations with scarce resources, and delivering health care with newer regulations and constraints to fellow colleagues across borders.

Looking to the future, Dr. Sundar predicts a few exciting and inevitable advances that the next generation of physicians and surgeons will learn to tap into. He sees the "use of artificial intelligence in the screening, diagnosis and suggested management [of conditions], robotic techniques with virtual reality (patient experience and surgeon training), developing molecular and genetic approaches to offer disease-specific targeted therapy with minimal collateral damage, and finally, high definition precision medicine, which will aid customized personal medicine."

Dr. Sundar gives Henry Ford Health System high praises for always being at the forefront of clinical service, education and research with a diverse group of residents, fellows and faculty. He encourages more of the subspecialties and their faculties, including residents to reach out internationally and participate in more international teaching and educational missions, e.g. Asia-Pacific (APAO), Pan-American (PAO), world congresses (WOC). This will give their residents an even wider exposure to health care and education globally, reduce barriers and increase patient travel.

TEAM MEMBER PROFILES



Anahli Vazquez The Department of Ophthalmology would like to welcome photographer Anahli Vazquez to its Henry Ford Hospital location. She graduated from the College for Creative Studies in May of 2015 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography and a concentration in Business Certification. Ophthalmic imaging caught Anahli's attention during her junior year of college. A fellow student was interning at the Kresge Eye Institute and educated Anahli about the types of images she created there.

Anahli's favorite part of her new career is being part of a team that takes care of patients in one of the most vital senses we have: eyesight. Interacting with patients and helping them

understand why these images and procedures are being done is an important part of her job.

Anahli is impressed with the amount of medical cameras and devices the Ophthalmic Imaging Center has, and how far technology has come – from scanning film slides to all digital output.

On the weekends, Anahli works as a freelance photographer focusing on portraiture for clients under AnahliJazhminPhoto.com, as well as working on personal projects for gallery and contest submissions. Prior to this new position, she was a photography instructor/mentor for non-profit organizations Clark Park Coalition, Grace in Action, and Community Arts Partnerships at the College for Creative Studies.



Paul Baciu, M.D. Before moving to Detroit, Paul grew up in Canada, where he was a big Vancouver Canucks fan. He attended the University of Michigan for both undergraduate and medical school training, and is now an avid Wolverine Football fan. Dr. Baciu was a resident at Henry Ford and completed his glaucoma fellowship at Bascom Palmer before returning to Henry Ford as a senior staff physician.

Dr. Baciu had decided to pursue a career in Ophthalmology even before he rotated through the Ophthalmology clinic in medical school. He loves being able to improve

a patient's ability to see, whether surgically or otherwise, and also enjoys the patient education and longitudinal care aspects of our clinic. Dr. Baciu says all glaucoma specialists face some challenges.

"For patients with difficult-to-control intraocular pressure," Dr. Baciu said, "the nature of the disease leads to significant and permanent loss of vision before the patient even arrives in the clinic." Dr. Baciu is optimistic that the world of minimally-invasive glaucoma surgery will provide hope for safer and more efficient ways to control intraocular pressure, potentially preventing vision loss for millions of patients.

Having worked in the HFHS Department of Ophthalmology for several years now, Dr. Baciu hopes we can continue to foster a collegial and "family" environment in our department. This collegiality was one of the reasons he was so excited to return to Henry Ford after fellowship. "It's a privilege to be able to take care of patients, and I am excited for the future of our profession and HFHS," Dr. Baciu said.

RESIDENTS

FELLOWS



Desiree Albert, M.D. Chief Resident

One of the department's new chief residents, Desiree Albert, M.D., grew up in Rochester, New York and attended the University of Buffalo for both

undergraduate and medical school.

Dr. Albert is not sure what initially sparked her interest in ophthalmology, but after her first rotation, she knew it was something she would love doing and that she wanted to do surgery of some kind. "Ophthalmology has the coolest surgeries of any field of medicine!" said Dr. Albert. Surgery is her favorite part of the job. She loves working with her hands. "The microscopic nature of intraocular surgery makes it even more fun and challenging. Good patient outcomes are just icing on the cake," she explained.

Dr. Albert realizes she still has much to learn about ophthalmology. "It's a challenge to learn something so different from everything you study in medical school. But this also makes my job more fun and interesting, and I get to see and learn new things every single week," she said.

Because glaucoma is so prevalent here in Detroit, Dr. Albert thinks research on longer-acting glaucoma treatments is an interesting field. She says many glaucoma patients have issues with eye drop compliance, cost of medication, and side effects. Dr. Albert would also like to see a dedicated eve institute within the Henry Ford Health System. Dr. Albert believes two of the best decisions she ever made were choosing ophthalmology as her specialty and training at Henry Ford. "I cannot imagine being happier in any other specialty, and the people and culture within our program are one of a kind and something truly special. I have felt like a welcome member of the family since day one, and after I graduate I will be very proud to call myself a Henry Ford Alumni!" said Dr. Albert.



Alexander Kuley, M.D. Retina Fellow

Alexander Kuley, M.D., one of the department's new fellows, studied Biomedical Engineering at Vanderbilt University as an undergraduate. He found training as an engineer helped

him think through surgical techniques in the operating room. Dr. Kuley received his medical degree from The Ohio State University College of Medicine. He began his training at Georgetown University for his internal medicine preliminary year and completed his residency at the University of Cincinnati/Cincinnati Eye Institute.

Dr. Kuley began his career in ophthalmology at the age of 14, working in the office of both his maternal grandfather and uncle, who were comprehensive ophthalmologists. As a summer job he did office work, including organizing charts and other paperwork. He was trained to be a full technician by age 16. Dr. Kuley was impressed by how grateful the patients were and how happy his grandfather and uncle always seemed at work. These two observations stuck with Dr. Kuley later when choosing his career.

"Whether that is a patient with severe diabetic retinopathy but somehow still has 20/25 vision, or a patient with successful retinal detachment surgery, I couldn't be happier to see a patient who is able to see, but may not have been able to if they hadn't seen us," Dr. Kuley said. He also says the challenge with retina is retaining a large volume of knowledge and being able to apply that knowledge quickly and efficiently. He is also excited to see how machine learning will change the way we manage agerelated macular degeneration in the future.

Since his arrival, Dr. Kuley has felt very welcomed at Henry Ford Health System and already feels like part of the family! He is excited to live in Detroit, an NHL town, since hockey was his main sport in High School!

CLASS OF 2018



Front Row: Kim Le, M.D., Tina Turner, M.D., Kevin Tomasko, M.D., Arwa Alsamarae, M.D., Chairman Paul Edwards, M.D., Rahul Komati, M.D., Nathan Farley, M.D., Stephen Tse, M.D., Amit Sangave, M.D.

Second Row: Harpreet Gill, M.D., Lylas Mogk, M.D., Nauman Imami, M.D., Daniel Brill, M.D., Desiree Albert, M.D., Alice Zhang, M.D., Lauren Keshishian, M.D., Laura Grant, M.D., Bithika Kheterpal, M.D., Salma Noorulla, M.D., Candice Yousif, M.D., David Goldman, M.D.

Third Row: Jason Dilly, M.D., Ramanpal Deol, O.D., Anne Riddering, Ph.D., Kevin Everett, M.D., Uday Desai, M.D., Lawrence Hamburger, M.D., Christian George, M.D., Fuxiang Zhang, M.D., Deborah Darnley-Fisch, M.D., Hua Gao, M.D., Ph.D., Daniel Steen, M.D., Swapna Vemuri, M.D., Xiaoxi Qiao, Ph.D., Bianca Kizy, M.D., Patrick Dennehy, M.D.

Back Row: Paul Baciu, M.D., Lily Van Laere, M.D., Thomas Hessburg, M.D., Barry Skarf, M.D, Ph.D., Philip Hessburg, M.D., David Crandall, M.D., Edward O'Malley, M.D., Ryan Jaber, M.D., Brian Florek, M.D., Andrew Hou, M.D., Nitin Kumar, M.D., Taylor Fields, M.D.

Not Present: Sejal Amin, M.D., Gregory Auner, Ph.D., Poonam Bansal, M.D., David Gourwitz, O.D., Robert Levine, M.D., Manal Peracha-Riyaz, M.D.

AWARDS

2018 ASCRS - ASOA Annual Meeting

The winning photographs from the 2018 ASCRS - ASOA Photography Exhition were recently on display at the meeting in Washington, D.C. Congratulations to Bradley Stern from the Henry Ford Opthalmic Imaging Center for his winning images that were shown at the exhibit. https://hfhsophthalmology.smugmug.com/2018-ASCRSwinning-images/n-2k9zs6/



Bradley Stern, CRA, OCT-C ANGIOD STREAKS Second Place, Color Fundus Photography



Bradley Stern, CRA, OCT-C CRAO Honorable Mention, Color Fundus Photography

The Henry Ford Star



Bianca Kizy, M.D. 3rd Year Resident *Provides/Provided extraordinary patient care and above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues*

The Alumni Association wishes to congratulate four newly awarded Henry Ford Stars. The Henry Ford Star, given quarterly, honors up to 4 residents and/or fellows who have gone above and beyond in one of the following areas:

- A. Consistently spreads the joy of medicine
- B. Provides/provided extraordinary patient care
- C. Outstanding humanitarian service
- D. Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- E. Behind the scenes superstar

Winners will receive a Henry Ford Star pin and a gift card. We will also showcase their success on the Wellness Website and the "Wall of Fame" outside of the Buerki Auditorium.

Winners were selected by the Wellness Sub-Committee of the Alumni Association.

NEWS AND NOTES

Kim Le, M.D., visits the Dominican Republic on a surgical mission trip

Dr. Kim Le recently participated in a mission trip to the Dominican Republic. The group she traveled with, International Ophthalmologic Philanthropic Expeditions Network (IOPEN), is a nonprofit organization with a focus on surgical ophthalmic mission work.



Kim Le, M.D., performing Cataract surgery as part of IOPEN

This year represents the pilot trip of the group working with ILAC. Surgeons from Kresge Eye Institute in Detroit, Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit and Focal Point Vision in San Antonio participated in a 3 day surgical eye trip. The small group of 3 was able to complete 66 surgeries in a little over 2 days. This includes 41 cataract surgeries in which 28 met criteria of legal blindness prior to surgery.



Kim Le, M.D., performing 1 of 6 Strabismus surgeries that were performed as part of her trip.

Additionally, 6 strabismus surgeries and 17 retinal surgeries were performed. To the best of our knowledge, the first autologous retinal transplant in the Dominican Republic was performed for a chronic large myopic macular hole. Surgical care was provided for both the underserved Dominican population and the undocumented Haitian population.

Alumni Connection

Staying connected with our Alumni is very important to the Department of Ophthalmology.

With this in mind, please help us stay connected with you by keeping us informed of any contact information changes or updates in your journeys.

We also welcome pictures and stories to share with current staff and fellow alumni.

Please submit to Roseanne Horne, Program Coordinator, 313.936.1968, rhorne1@hfhs.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

American Academy of Ophthalmology

What: American Academy of Ophthalmology Annual Meeting

Who: Where All of Ophthalmology Meets When: October 27-30, 2018 Where: McCormick Place

2301 S. King Drive Chicago, Illinois https://www.aao.org/annual-meeting



The Eye, The Brain and The Auto 2018

What: 8th World Research Congress on Vision and Driving

Who: The Henry Ford Department of Ophthalmology and Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology

When: October 7-9, 2018

Where: Motor City Casino Hotel Detroit, Michigan

https://www.henryford.com/hcp/research/clinical-research/vision/research-congress/eye-brainauto



What is Autonomous Mobility? Click here to learn more: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BAr_iLl20U

System-wide Grand Round Lecture Series

What: **Comprehensive Ophthalmology** Who: Blake Williamson, M.D., MPH, MS When: Friday, October 5, 2018, (8:00 - 10:00 AM) Where: HFHS Education and Research Building 2nd floor, Room 2055 https://www.williamsoneyectr.com/our-doctors-baton-rouge/blake-k-williamson-m-d/



Department of Ophthalmology

Clinton Township (CT)	(586) 294-0120	Livonia (LV)	
Ford Rd./Dearborn (DB)	(313) 562-8000	Southfield (SF)	
Detroit (D)	(313) 916-2020	Taylor (TA)	
Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology	(313) 824-4710	Troy (TR)	
Grosse Pointe (GP)	(313) 824-4800	West Bloomfield (WB)	(248) 661-5100
Lakeside (LK)	(586) 247-5910	Westland (W)	

CHAIR

Paul Edwards, M.D. (313) 874-9167

DIRECTOR

Steve Horger (313) 874-9167

COMPREHENSIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY

Sejal Amin, M.D. (W, LV, D) Paul Baciu, M.D. (CT, LK) Jason Dilly, M.D. (WB, D) Kevin Everett, M.D. (LK) Christian George, M.D. (GP) Harpreet Gill, M.D. (GP) David Goldman, M.D. (GP) Lawrence Hamburger, M.D. (TR) Ryan Jaber, M.D. (D, WB) Bithika Kheterpal, M.D. (W) Robert M. Levine, M.D. (DB) Tina Turner, M.D. (GP) Lily Huang Van Laere, M.D. (SF) Fuxiang Zhang, M.D. (TA)

CORNEA AND ANTERIOR SEGMENT

Sejal Amin, M.D. (W, LV, D) Ryan Jaber, M.D. (D, WB) Daniel Steen, M.D. (D, WB)

GLAUCOMA

Paul Baciu, M.D. (CT, LK) David Crandall, M.D. (D, TR, WB) Nauman Imami, M.D. (D, LV) Salma Noorulla, M.D. (DB)

NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY

Poonam Bansal, M.D. (D, WB) Barry Skarf, M.D. (DB)

OCULAR ONCOLOGY

Uday Desai, M.D. (D, TR, WB) Paul Edwards, M.D. (LV, D) Christian George, M.D. (GP) Thomas Hessburg, M.D. (GP, D) Swapna Vemuri, M.D. (SF, LK, D)

OPHTHALMIC IMAGING All locations

OPHTHALMIC PLASTIC AND

RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

Christian George, M.D. (GP) Swapna Vemuri, M.D. (SF, LK, D)

OPTOMETRY/CONTACT LENSES

Ramanpal Deol, O.D. (GP, LV) David Gourwitz, O.D. (GP)

ORTHOPTICS

Melanie Gutkowski, CO, COMT (D, GP, TR) Oxana Chemerynska, CO, COMT (D, DB, WB)

PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY

Patrick Dennehy, M.D. (DB, D, GP, TR) Kim Le, M.D. (DB, WB)

REFRACTIVE SURGERY &

LASER VISION CORRECTION Kevin Everett, M.D. (LK) Lawrence Hamburger, M.D. (TR) Ryan Jaber, M.D. (D, WB) Lily Huang Van Laere, M.D. (SF)

RESEARCH, EDUCATION

& CLINICAL TRIALS Gregory Auner, Ph.D. Deborah Darnley-Fisch, M.D. Uday Desai, M.D. Paul Edwards, M.D. Hua Gao, M.D., PhD. David Goldman, M.D. Philip C. Hessburg, M.D. Thomas Hessburg, M.D. Nitin Kumar, M.D. Yue Li, M.D., Ph.D. Xiaoxi Qiao, M.D., Ph.D.

RETINA AND VITREOUS/UVEITIS

Uday Desai, M.D. (D, TR) Paul Edwards, M.D. (LV, D) Hua Gao, M.D., Ph.D. (WB, D, TA) Thomas Hessburg, M.D. (GP, D) Nitin Kumar, M.D. (DB, LK, TR)

VISION REHABILITATION & SUPPORT GROUPS

Ramanpal Deol, O.D. (GP, LV, LK) Lylas Mogk, M.D. (GP, LV) Anne Riddering, Ph.D. (GP, LV, LK) Helen Clarren (DIO)

VISUAL ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY AND PSYCHOPHYSICS

Paul Edwards, M.D. (D) Barry Skarf, M.D. (D)

VISUAL FIELDS All Locations

Referring doctors can call the Henry Ford Referring Physician Office at 1-877-434-7470. For assistance with scheduling an appointment, patients can call 1-800-363-7575. For our optometry partners, Henry Ford OptimEyes, please call 1-800-EYE-CARE.