



Cornea Subspecialty Day will explore surgical controversies

Exploring surgical controversies and giving insights to the next generation of corneal specialists are some of the key themes during the Cornea Subspecialty Day at the AAO annual meeting in Chicago Nov. 10-13.

The program, "Cornea 2012: Pushing Surgical Boundaries, Professional Development, and Popular Opinion," will include the traditional slate of presentations on the latest developments in corneal surgical techniques, technology, and research.

The organizers also added discussions on controversial surgical topics among the meeting's six sections.

"The overall theme is expanding our knowledge and expanding our surgical armamentarium and then questioning both the utility of new diagnostic devices and questioning what has always been taught as dogma in terms of managing common conditions affecting the anterior segment," said **Anthony J. Aldave, MD**, program co-director.

For example, **Leon Herndon, MD**, will address appropriate surgical limits in "Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgery: Easy Enough for a Cornea Specialist to Perform?" in the "Anterior Segment Surgery—Out of Bounds?" section.

"We selected this as a presentation because these procedures are touted as being easier to perform with a lower incidence of post-op complications than traditional glaucoma surgeries," said Dr. Aldave. "So, do you need to be a glaucoma specialist to perform these surgeries if they don't require as much



This year's Cornea Subspecialty Day should attract a large crowd as the program will cover a range of topics, from surgical controversies to professional development

skill to perform and are not associated with the same level of complexity as far as post-op management?"

The program also will wrestle with controversial surgical questions through point-counterpoint discussions, such as the contrasting views of **Carol L. Shields, MD**, and **Carol L. Karp, MD**, on whether to treat ocular surface neoplasia with surgery or chemotherapy.

"There is controversy in the field of cornea when one has a patient with an ocular surface tumor whether one should do surgery or try chemotherapy first," said **Katherine A. Colby, MD**, another program co-director. "It is a common disease that cornea specialists do see."

Another change added by the program's organizers, who also include **Natalie A. Afshari, MD**, is an increased

focus on student and early career corneal specialists. It will include **Deepinder K. Dhaliwal, MD**, and **Elizabeth A. Davis, MD**, providing academic and private sector perspectives on "What I Know Now That I Wish I'd Learned in Training."

The presenters will address the ethics of incorporating new surgical procedures into a practice. "Cornea is one of the subspecialties where in the last 10 years we have had a dramatic increase in different types of surgical procedures, which means that we are potentially doing things now that we didn't learn when we are in training," said Dr. Colby. "So how does one ethically go about incorporating that into your practice?"

Dr. Aldave said the "Professional Development and Ethics" section was

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The Cornea Society

Fall 2012

Dear Colleagues,

This Fall, be sure to mark your calendar for the Cornea Society/Eye Bank Association of America Fall Educational Symposium, the Society's annual scientific and business meeting, held on Friday, Nov. 9, immediately preceding the annual meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. You can look forward to a full day of free papers selected for their scientific content and along with this, the presentation of the Dohlman Award and Troutman Cornea Prize for Young Clinician Investigators. For those who are new to the Society, the Dohlman Award is presented to an individual in recognition of a lifetime of teaching excellence in the field of cornea and external disease and for contributions to the profession. The Troutman Cornea Prize for Young Clinician Investigators is awarded annually by the Society to the most innovative and outstanding paper published in *Cornea* during the previous year. Not to be missed is the Paton Luncheon, a moderated interactive discussion of clinical challenges and controversies raised by the participants. Also taking place on Nov. 9 is the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Cornea Society and the Asia Cornea Society. My privileged position as president of both societies allows me to bring the societies even closer together.



Cornea Subspecialty Day, cosponsored by AAO, immediately follows on Saturday, Nov. 10. True to its theme, the scientific program will be one that is "Pushing Surgical Boundaries, Professional Development, and Popular Opinions," promising to provide participants with the latest information in our field, with an emphasis on innovative and emerging trends in corneal medical and surgical care. Cornea surgeons, comprehensive ophthalmologists with a keen interest in the anterior segment, and allied health personnel performing and assisting with cornea surgeries will find the scientific program relevant and applicable to their day-to-day practice and patient management. This well-balanced program developed for a diverse audience has been planned by our industrious Program Planning Committee led by **Anthony Aldave, MD**, **Natalie Afshari, MD**, and **Kathryn Colby, MD**.

The Society also developed the theme for the Cornea Society Symposium at the AAO meeting, and this year, the focus will be on non-bacterial keratitis. You can look forward to a series of talks covering the array of fungal, herpetic, and other more unusual forms of keratitis. At this symposium, **James McCulley, MD**, will be delivering the Castroviejo Medalist Lecture, the Society's most prestigious award given in recognition of exceptional contributions in support of the Society's mission of promoting knowledge, research, and understanding in cornea, external eye diseases, and refractive surgery. On behalf of the Board and the Society, I extend the heartiest congratulations to Dr. McCulley for receiving our highest award.

I want to thank **Denise de Frietas, MD**, for her tremendous and invaluable contribution to the remit Society, as she rotates off the Board after her 4-year term. The Board formed a Nomination Committee this summer, which will help to identify new Board members.

Sincerely,
Donald T.H. Tan, FRCS
President

EBAA news

EBAA and Cornea Society partner in advertising campaign

For years, EBAA's medical standards and eye bank accreditation requirements have ensured the quality and safety of corneal tissue in the U.S. and in countries around the world. Now, EBAA and the Cornea Society are partnering in a collaborative advertising campaign to remind corneal surgeons and others in our profession about the work we do every day to protect and enhance the supply of tissue that is essential to successful transplants.

The ad campaign, which will appear in the *Cornea* journal, *Cornea Society News*, and online, will feature leading ophthalmologists talking about their confidence in EBAA's standards and processes. In conjunction with the "Follow the Cornea" course, which will be presented again at this year's AAO meeting, this campaign will give physicians a deeper understanding of the work that EBAA member eye banks do to provide them the best possible tissue.

EBAA's 51st annual meeting overcomes storms to be successful

EBAA held its 51st annual meeting June 20-23 at the Westin Diplomat in Hollywood, Fla. While the weather was less than perfect, the meeting sessions were well received.

In addition to important workshops focusing on eye bank operational areas like Donor and Hospital Development, Quality Assurance, and Technical Skills, the meeting featured a keynote by Molly Foley of Next Generation Consulting whose *Unite and Ignite: Bringing Generations Together for a Successful Workplace* presentation provided tips and tools to help the different generations understand one another and harmonize relationships in order to meet common goals.

The meeting's physician-focused programming on Saturday, June 23 was a huge success, featuring a Scientific Symposium and poster session, during which 15 scientific papers were presented, and a 3-hour Medical Directors' Symposium, which included talks on *The Gift of a Donor Cornea: How Picky Can We Be*, and a presentation by a panel of physicians on *Medical Director Dilemmas: What Would You Do*. The Medical Directors' Symposium also featured an EBAA medical standards, FDA, and legal panel that looked at difficult donor eligibility cases from the three different perspectives with a lot of audience interaction.

EBAA's 52nd annual meeting will take place June 5-8, 2013, at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers. The call for papers for the Scientific Symposium on June 8 will open in December.

EBAA awards over \$50,000 in grants

In its continuing effort to advance the science of eye banking and corneal transplantation, EBAA awarded over \$50,000 in research and networking grants this year.

Research grants, funded by an annuity established by **Richard Lindstrom, MD**, provide support for proposals specifically concerned with issues directly related to eye banking and/or corneal transplantation. This year, seven researchers were awarded research grants for proposals on topics ranging from allograft rejection among dry eye disease patients to the role of cellular stress response mechanisms in the development of Fuchs' dystrophy.

The application process for EBAA's 2013 research grants will open in November; researchers exploring all aspects of corneal transplantation and/or eye banking are encouraged to submit proposals for consideration.

Networking grants are awarded annually to promote an educational interchange of ideas between EBAA member eye banks. The Minnesota Lions Eye Bank and the Eye Bank of Canada (Ontario Division) received networking grants to visit the Utah Lions Eye Bank and Lions VisionGift, respectively.

Please visit www.restoresight.org for more information on these grants. **CS**

Cornea continued from page 1

added partly as an acknowledgement that roughly one-quarter of attendees are either in training or recently out of training.

Another talk in this section that Dr. Aldave highlighted is "Improving Your Odds of Getting Published" by **R. Doyle Stulting, MD**.

The meeting will challenge some of corneal specialists' surgical conventions during the "Contrary to Popular Opinion" section. That includes "Endothelial Keratoplasty Mythbusters:

When 'Common Knowledge' is Wrong," by **Mark A. Terry, MD**.

"I've heard Dr. Terry talk on this topic before, and he makes excellent points, always in his own words as one who is driven by data," Dr. Aldave said. "His talk will be especially enlightening and remind us all that we should strive to practice evidence-based medicine."

The more traditional sections will start with "Management of Ocular Surface Diseases—Show Me the Evidence," which includes "Thermal

Pulsation and Intense Pulsed Light Therapy for Blepharitis" by **James P. McCulley MD**. The section titled "Anterior Segment Surgery—Expanding Your Reach" will begin with **Sadeer B. Hannush, MD**, and **Vincenzo Sarnicola, MD**, providing differing perspectives on whether the big bubble technique or predescemetec dissection is preferable in deep anterior lamellar keratoplasty.

For a complete list of the sessions and presenters, visit www.aao.org. **CS**

Cornea Society symposium at AAO focused on keratitis

This symposium, geared toward both the general ophthalmologist and the anterior segment specialist, will feature management strategies for diverse, and often vexing, forms of keratitis. Advanced diagnostic techniques and treatment strategies for non-bacterial forms of infectious keratitis ranging from the very common (herpes

simplex keratitis) to the newly described (interface infectious keratitis after lamellar keratoplasty) to the rare forms of keratitis (fungal and parasitic keratitis) will be covered. The symposium will also highlight treatment approaches for several challenging forms of non-infectious keratitis and will conclude with the Castroviejo

Lecture on meibomian gland disease by **James McCulley, MD. CS**

Date and time: Monday, Nov. 12, 2012, 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

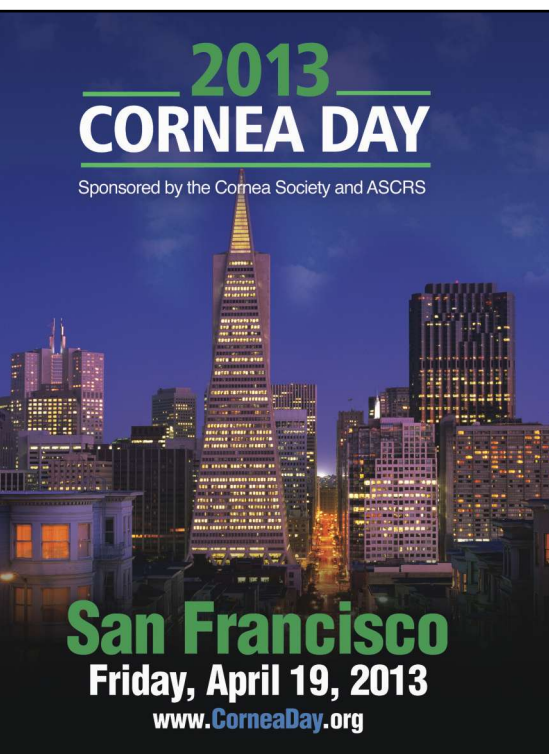
Location: McCormick Place

Room: Grand Ballroom S100AB

Chairs:

William Barry Lee, MD

Joel Sugar, MD



2013 CORNEA DAY
Sponsored by the Cornea Society and ASCRS

San Francisco
Friday, April 19, 2013
www.CorneaDay.org

2013 Cornea Day is geared toward practicing ophthalmologists with an interest in comprehensive ophthalmology, anterior segment surgery, and corneal disease.

Moscone Convention Center
Friday, April 19 2013
8:00AM – 4:30PM

For registration, housing, and program updates, visit
www.CorneaDay.org.

ASCRS This activity has been approved for
AMA PRA category 1 credit.™

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Sonia H. Yoo, MD
Cornea Society

Program Outline (subject to change)

Managing the Atypical Cornea in Cataract Surgery

Moderators: W. Barry Lee, MD, FACS and David T. Vroman, MD

Refractive Dilemmas, Disasters, and Deliverance

Moderators: John A. Hovanesian, MD and Sonia H. Yoo, MD

The Ocular Surface Unsurfaced

Moderators: Marian Macsai, MD and Christopher E. Starr, MD

Around the World and Back Again: A Global Perspective on Corneal Transplantation and Recurrent Corneal Disease

Moderators: Anthony J. Aldave, MD and Neda Shamie, MD

Programming will include presentations for the comprehensive ophthalmologist and cornea specialist.

- 2:02 p.m. **Introduction**
William Barry Lee, MD
- 2:04 p.m. **Diagnostic Advances for Non-bacterial Keratitis**
Stephen C. Kaufman, MD, PhD
- 2:14 p.m. **A Microbial Sandwich: Interface Infectious Keratitis in Lamellar Keratoplasty**
Sadeer B. Hannush, MD
- 2:24 p.m. **Fungus Among Us? Update on Fungal Keratitis**
Donald Tan, MD, FRCS, FRCOphth
- 2:34 p.m. **Acanthamoeba Keratitis: Is It Safe to Go Back Into the Water?**
Elmer Y. Tu, MD
- 2:44 p.m. **Herpetic Simplex Keratitis: Pearls to Prevent Peril**
Ivan R. Schwab, MD, FACS
- 2:54 p.m. **Eradication Strategies for Filamentary Keratitis**
Denise de Freitas, MD
- 3:04 p.m. **Management Strategies for Neurotrophic Keratitis**
Richard S. Davidson, MD
- 3:14 p.m. **Ocular Predictions: Systemic Disease Associations With Keratitis**
Vincent P. de Luise, MD, FACS
- 3:24 p.m. **CASTROVIEJO LECTURE**
- 3:24 p.m. **Introduction of Castroviejo Lecture**
Joel Sugar, MD
- 3:27 p.m. **Castroviejo Lecture: Lids, Lipids, and Dry Eyes**
James P. McCulley, MD, FACS, FRCOphth
- 3:57 p.m. **Conclusion**
William Barry Lee, MD
- 4:00 p.m. **End of Session**



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San Francisco 2013

American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
American Society of Ophthalmic Administrators

Updates from the Cornea journal

The September issue of *Cornea* has been released and should have arrived in your mailbox. As a member of the Cornea Society, you receive a subscription to the journal *Cornea*, which includes a print copy of the journal in addition to online access at www.corneajrnl.com. Make sure to check out the September issue online now, which includes Clinical Science, Basic Investigations, Case Reports, and Technique articles, in addition to Letters to the Editor. Several key articles from this issue are highlighted below.

Highlights from the September issue

Stromal Rejection Following Deep Anterior Lamellar Keratoplasty: Implications for Postoperative Care
Olson, Evan A., Tu, Elmer Y., Basti, Surendra. Cornea. 31(9):969-973, September 2012

Corneal stromal rejection occurs at a significant rate, about 25%, after deep anterior lamellar keratoplasty (DALK), suggesting the value of long-term topical steroid use post-operatively.

Clinical Utility of Objective Tests for Dry Eye Disease: Variability Over Time and Implications for Clinical Trials and Disease Management

Sullivan, Benjamin D., Crews, Leslie A., Sönmez, Bars, de la Paz, Maria F., Comert, Ebru, Charoenrook, Victor, de Araujo, Aline L., Pepose, Jay S., Berg, Michael S., Kosheleff, Valerie P., Lemp, Michael A. Cornea. 31(9):1000-1008, September 2012

Tear film osmolarity may provide a less variable measure of dry eye disease than other markers, and its decrease may predict improvement in ocular symptoms.

Interested in reviewing, getting CME?

The journal is continually looking for new peer reviewers to analyze articles submitted to *Cornea* for quality and relevance to the discipline. If you are interested in reviewing, please contact Leslie Burke, *Cornea* journal production coordinator, at lburke@corneasociety.org. Reviewers of journal articles will soon have the chance to earn three AMA PRA Category 1 Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits for their effort. Stay tuned for more information.

Impact factor released

Thomson Reuters recently released the 2011 Journal Citation Reports (JCR), showing new impact factors for journals in the field of ophthalmology. *Cornea's* two-year impact factor is 1.733, and its five-year impact factor is 2.116, indicating that the average article in the journal is cited a little more than two times.

Impact factor is a measurement of the frequency by which an article in a scholarly journal is cited in a particular year and is calculated by taking the number of citations in a particular time period and dividing it by the number of published articles within that same time period. It is considered by many, particularly researchers, to be a measure of a journal's influence and prestige. Being indexed in the Journal Citation Reports is an impressive feat as only 56 journals in the field of ophthalmology are chosen to be indexed. Congratulations to the editorial and publishing teams and journal editorial board and reviewers for their ongoing commitment and dedication to delivering high-quality content and enabling improved clinical practice and patient care globally. **CS**

Cornea Society Business Meeting

The Cornea Society Business Meeting will take place on Friday November 9 during the Fall Educational Symposium at the Palmer house Hotel. All Member with Thesis of the Cornea Society are encouraged to attend.

FCC program provides quality training, mentorship

Beginning in 2005, the AUPO-FCC (Fellowship Compliance Committee) program was conceived to oversee ophthalmology fellowship training programs in the U.S. and Canada. It offers educational standards for each individual fellowship and, by proxy, serves to protect not only the public but the educational institutions that provide training and, importantly, the trainees. The charter also provides the FCC the powers of accountability and enforce-

ment for this process, overseen by the AUPO. Participation in the program is voluntary, but once certified through an initial application and review, exit surveys from fellows completing the programs are reviewed on a yearly basis, and an extensive review of the program is carried out every 3 years to confirm that programs remain in compliance.

Since its inception, the Cornea Society has played an integral role in

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FCC continued from page 6

the development and sponsorship of the FCC and was one of two founding subspecialties (the other being pediatric ophthalmology) to offer these standards in its first year. The FCC has grown tremendously over the subsequent years to include glaucoma, neuro-ophthalmology, surgical retina, uveitis, and ophthalmic pathology, confirming the benefits of the process. **Michael Belin, MD**, who now serves as vice chair of the FCC, and **David Glasser, MD**, were integral in the development and maintenance of these standards for cornea fellowship training, which are now in the process of being adapted for use internationally. These detail minimum standards for

every aspect of fellowship training including, but not limited to, facilities, surgical and clinical volume, didactics, and faculty qualifications in the area of research and mentorship. The standards and rigorous reviews are designed to not only ensure quality clinical training for the fellows but to provide mentorship for these fellows to become contributors to the field of cornea, external disease, and refractive surgery.

The full description of the requirements and the programs currently in compliance are listed on the AUPO-FCC website (www.aupofcc.org) as well as noted in the program descriptions available through the SF match website.

These programs should be proud of their role in providing corneal fellows with the assurance that they will have the opportunity to achieve their goals and in providing the field of cornea with the next generation of skilled clinicians and leaders. **CS**

DUES NOTICE

2013 Dues Notices will be mailed to members in early November. The Society is requesting members provide a current email address when they renew their dues. The Society is transitioning to an online membership renewal system.

November 27-29, 2012

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www.AsiaCorneaSociety2012Manila.com

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First Announcement:
Registration and Abstract
submission online only
Call for Abstracts

IMPORTANT DATES:
Early Bird Registration: Sept. 30, 2012 to **Oct. 15, 2012**
Abstract Submission: Aug. 30, 2012 to **Sept. 30, 2012**
(12:00 MN, Philippine Standard Time)

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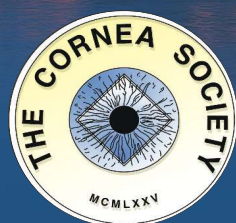
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The Cornea Society



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