

Annual Newsletter

of the Department of Ophthalmology

Spring 2023

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Reflections from the Chair: Daniel A. Johnson, MD, MBA



The past year was very productive, with our team completing more than 70,000 patient encounters, continuing to train the next generation of ophthalmologists and ophthalmic subspecialists, and pushing the envelope with leading-edge research.

Our faculty and residents continue to get high praises for their work. The *Texas Monthly Magazine* recently recognized Drs. Sepehr Bahadorani, Lilian Nguyen, and Corey Waldman as "Rising Stars". Dr. Jeong-Hyeon Sohn was recently awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by the American Board of Ophthalmology. Our residents typically rank at or among the top of the consult services at University Hospital by surveys of other hospital services and they continue to maintain a 100% overall pass rate on the Written Qualifying Exam for the American Board of Ophthalmology.

Our faculty and residents continue to be productive academically. Since 2021, they have collectively published 50 peer-reviewed journal articles, nine case reports, and several other publications, and have given numerous presentations at regional and national meetings. They continue to collaborate with UT Health San Antonio's Glenn Biggs Institute for Alzheimer's & Neurodegenerative Diseases; the UT Health San Antonio MD Anderson Cancer Center; and other UT Health entities in innovative research. Dr. Ahmad Kheirkhah is moving forward with the San Antonio Vision and Eye Studies, an epidemiologic study of ocular surface disease in Bexar County in collaboration with investigators from the UT Health SA Department of Medi-

cine and the UTSA Department of Biostatistics. Dr. Kheirkhah was recently selected as a site leader for a clinical trial on neurotrophic keratopathy.

To help with our ever-increasing patient demand, we were fortunate to recruit Dr. Deepthi Rao (vitreoretinal surgery); Dr. Jennifer Wall (comprehensive ophthalmology); and Dr. Nam-Phong Le (optometry). Additional faculty will join us later in 2023, including specialists in vitreoretinal surgery, medical retina, neuro-ophthalmology, and one dual fellowship-trained (pediatric ophthalmology and neuro-ophthalmology) faculty. As we added new faces to our faculty roster, we bittersweetly celebrated the careers and accomplishments of retiring faculty - Carlos Rosende, Randolph Glickman, Martha Schatz, and Frank Scribbick. Thankfully, Drs. Scribbick and Schatz have returned part-time while Dr. Glickman has continued to help our departmental researchers.

To help with our continued growth, we have seated several department Vice Chairs: Dr. Constance Fry (Clinical/Administrative); Dr. Sepehr Bahadorani (Research) and Dr. Kent Anderson (Education). Dr. Jennifer Wall became Director of MARC Ophthalmology and Dr. Amy Mora became Director of Optometry Services. We are expanding our footprint with a seventh clinical site projected to open in early 2024, located at a new multispecialty clinic—the UT Health Kyle Seale Parkway site which will have nine eye lanes, an advanced diagnostic center, and an ambulatory surgery center. We have also converted administrative space into eye lanes within the Lion Eugene W. Eberlin, MD Ophthalmic Clinical Research and Imaging Facility at the University Center for Community Health (UCCH) Texas Diabetes Institute with a generous grant from the Lions District 2-2A and

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Reflections (*continued*)

the Lions Club International Foundation. We have continued to add equipment to the Lions Surgical Skills lab, which is used for resident wet labs and research.

We are forever grateful for the support of our community faculty, military partners, the San Antonio Eye Bank, Lions Sight Research Foundation, Dr. Charles and Ellen

Leone, Dr. Calvin and Mary Mein, Dr. Patrick O'Connor, and most recently, Mr. Richard Powell. Such support allows us to maintain our clinical care, teaching, and research at the highest levels.

Program Director's Update: Kent L. Anderson, MD, PhD



Ophthalmology residency training remains extremely competitive. This year's application cycle we received 576 applications for four positions. Special thanks to Drs. Lilian Nguyen and Edward Chu for

their help in narrowing these applications down to a list of 48, which were invited to interview. The interview process is still required to be virtual and this will most likely be the new normal moving forward. In alignment with national trends, there is a significant focus on a more holistic review of candidates as selection committees must focus more on balancing the qualitative with the quantitative aspects of applications.

USMLE Step 1: As of January 1, 2022, the USMLE Step 1 score no longer is reported numerically, rather it is reported as a Pass or Fail.

MSPE: The traditional Dean's Letter has been long been replaced by the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE). Few schools currently provide a numerical rank and more and more medical schools are abandoning all ranking terminology altogether; e.g. quartile, tertile, quintile, very good, outstanding, etc.

AOA: Increasing numbers of medical school no longer participate in the AOA nomination process and several have petitioned for discontinuing AOA altogether. Schools without AOA currently include Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Mayo along with several others.

Altus Suite: As of 2022, all candidates are now required to complete the on-line Altus

Suite in addition to the standard SF Match Application. The Altus Suite is in a three-part supplement: Casper, Duet, and Snapshot.

Casper: Casper is an online, open-response situational judgment test. It asks what you would do in a tough situation and more importantly, why. This helps determine behavioral tendencies of applicants pursuing people-centered professions in various constructs; e.g., ethics, equity, self awareness, empathy, collaboration, communication, motivation, problem solving, professionalism and resilience. Responses are by text or by video and are graded by "experts". A numerical score along with any "red flag" answers are then reported to programs.

Casper Scenario

In a hypothetical situation, you have been granted the opportunity to be the president of a nation for a day.

1. Which country would you pick and why?
2. What policies would you change and why?
3. If you had to choose between power and money, which would you choose and why?

Duet: In the Duet platform programs complete a value-alignment assessment of their program in terms of teaching style, research opportunities, and interactions with faculty. Applicants then complete the same assessment of values for their ideal program. Duet software then provides a score to best match

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Program Director's Update: (continued)

applicants that are best suited to our program. The analogy is to a dating website; we wish to match applicant profiles that best fit our program profile.

Duet Scenario

What do you value more (sliding scale).

1. Altruism & patient-centered care OR Education and accessibility.
2. Research opportunities OR Promotion of wellness in the student body
3. Culture of diversity, integrity, and respect OR Altruism & patient-centered care

Snapshot: Snapshot is a short, one-way video interview where applicants respond to three questions and highlight their communication skills, self-reflection, and motivation for the profession. There is no score but programs may watch access these videos and provide their own assessments.

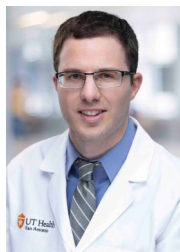
Snapshot Scenario

1. Describe a time you effectively helped another person (or people) in a unique way.
2. What about yourself do you think makes you most suited for a career in healthcare?
3. Consider your work and volunteer experiences. Explain the connection between all of these experiences.



(l-r) Drs. Taylor Lind and Kathryn Lewis, each presented posters of their respective resident research projects at the Women in Ophthalmology 2022 Summer Symposium at the Portola Hotel & Spa in Monterey, California.

Faculty Spotlight: Corey Waldman, M.D.



I joined the UTHSA ophthalmology faculty in August 2017. I had just come out of fellowship and was excited to continue expanding my skillset here and to bring some of the newest glaucoma, cataract, and anterior segment technologies I

had learned about in fellowship to our patients and to our department.

From a cataract standpoint, my goal was to expand the premium services that we offered. From an intraocular lens standpoint I brought onboard the PanOptix, PanOptix toric, Vivity, Vivity Toric, Synergy, Synergy toric, Eyhance, Eyhance Toric, and the new Symphony Intellilight lens. The PanOptix and Synergy lenses are multifocal lenses that provide improved vision correction at distance, intermediate, and near compared to prior generations of multifocal lenses while at the same time minimizing visual side effects compared to these prior lenses. The Vivity lens provides an extended depth of focus to provide distance and intermediate correction while providing a side effect profile similar to that of a monofocal lens. The new, upgraded Symphony lens is another extended depth of focus lens which also attempts to minimize side effects of glare and halos. I think of the Eyhance lenses as “souped up” monofocal lenses which essentially act as regular monofocal lenses with a slight increased depth of focus. While on the topic of intraocular lenses, I’ve also looked into bringing us the latest monofocal lenses, notably the Alcon Clareon monofocal lens which helps prevent development of glisterings compared to prior generations of Alcon monofocal lenses, while at the same time coming with the AutonoMe autoinjector system which is a completely unique system for smoothly injecting a preloaded lens using a CO2 canister-based device.

Aside from intraocular lenses, I have worked to bring us new technologies for cataract surgery to help us perform this procedure in the most modern context possible. In doing this, I have introduced our department to the ORA (Optiwave Refractive Analysis) system which helps us obtain a real-time measurement of the intraocular lens power in hopes of choosing the most accurate lens possible for the patient. I’ve also introduced femtosecond laser-assisted cataract surgery (FLACS) to our department which uses a complex laser system to perform the capsulorrhexis, wound creation, astigmatism correction, and lens fragmentation which has become a popular adjunct to premium cataract surgery throughout

the world in recent years. In the pipeline, Dr. Edward Chu and I have been working on bringing the Ngenuity 3D visualization system on board which should prove helpful from a cataract, glaucoma, and teaching standpoint.

From an anterior segment standpoint, the past few years brought about the FDA approval of what I consider to be a groundbreaking new device: the Customflex Artificial Iris. This is a custom-made artificial iris that is surgically placed to replace an iris missing from trauma, congenital aniridia, or other ocular conditions and is made to match the other eye in such a way that it is difficult to differentiate it from a natural iris without

a microscope. Given that we cover a trauma center, I certainly saw a need for this device and became trained in it and have used this in a few patients. The before and after pictures are striking as are the patient stories!

From an anterior segment/glaucoma standpoint, the past six years has seen the rapid expansion of the “MIGS” space, or Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgery. As a glaucoma specialist, I’ve been on the forefront of these new devices bringing



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Faculty Spotlight *(continued)*

the following to our department: iStent inject, Hydrus microstent, OMNI surgical system, Cy-pass stent, Xen Gel stent, and SION goniotomy blade. While an in-depth discussion of these is beyond the scope of this article, these groundbreaking devices have helped save patients from progressive vision loss from glaucoma while also helping reduce medication burden. We look forward to continuing to explore these new devices.

I am fortunate to be part of a strong academic department that supports innovation which endeavors to be at the forefront of new technologies; for that I am very grateful to our department and chairman. It has also been great to be part of a department which encourages

and supports our research interests as I have been able to research most of the aforementioned lenses and devices. This has led to publishing and presenting at local, national, and international conferences. While specifics of my research on the above lenses and devices are beyond the scope of this article, please don't hesitate to reach out to me for my own data on these topics. Overall, it's been a great journey exploring some of the new technologies in recent years and I hope to continue to do my best to keep up!

Resident Spotlight: Luca Rosignoli, M.D., 2022-23 Chief Resident



"There is no way you're moving to the US," said my childhood best friend, as I broke the news to him after swim practice. I was 14 and clueless. I did not know what my father's new job across the world would bring to me, my sister and my parents as we departed from the rest of our family in Italy. I also did not know what it meant for my dream of becoming a doctor. As I began high school in my new home in Orlando, FL, I was incredibly nervous. I hoped that the English that I had learned before moving had prepared me well enough to succeed in school and make friendships to support me along the way. My English classes taught me how to put together sensible sentences; however, I found that of little use initially, when I could not understand the questions that I was asked. Simply put, I was adrift when I first arrived in this country. Besides the language issue, I was about to graduate from a 300-student middle school – with classmates whom I had known since kindergarten – to a 4,000-student high school where I knew no one.

As I surpassed the initial shock, I developed a strong appreciation for what made the US so different from my previous home, and I became eager to explore this cultural melting pot. I was introduced to some of my close friends' traditions – from drinking an afternoon cup of chai to dancing salsa during a New Year's Eve party – while I shared some of mine, such as the key

steps to making a good pesto.

My curiosity also directed me when confronted with the question of picking a specialty to pursue after medical school. Nobody in my immediate family had received an MD, so I considered myself relatively unbiased in my studies. I was first exposed to the field of Ophthalmology during my second year, through a lecture in the neuroscience block. I was intrigued by the complexity of the visual system and wanted to learn more about it, but I was unfortunately surprised by how quickly those 50 minutes passed. I reached out to the lecturer to inquire about shadowing and was thus introduced to my future mentors.

My interest in Surgical Retina began shortly after my very first exposure to Ophthalmology. My first mentor was a vitreoretinal surgeon. He guided my early learning, facilitated my introduction to ophthalmology research, and calmly walked me through the struggle of learning how to use an indirect ophthalmoscope. As I began shadowing, I appreciated Ophthalmology's balance of specialized care and patient continuity. I particularly admired my mentor's familiarity with his patients, and I was energized by his visible excitement after a successful surgery. Because of such a positive initial exposure to Ophthalmology, I began residency with a strong interest in Retina. As my training progressed,

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Resident Spotlight *(continued)*

this interest became a commitment to a career as a vitreoretinal surgeon. After a busy interview season, I am very excited to move to Oklahoma City with my wonderful and very patient fiancée, Brittany, to pursue fellowship training!

Looking back, I am thankful for the opportunities that my family and I acquired after moving to the US – our new home – despite the initial challenges. I am also incredibly grateful for the mentors and friends I've met during my stay in San Antonio. I fully realize that my accomplishments relied on my strong personal and professional support systems, and I will always look back fondly to my time spent as a resident at UT Health San Antonio.



(l-r) Drs. David Wilde, Taylor Lind, Kathryn Lewis, Michelle Nguyen, Luca Rosignoli, Abby Nieuwsma and Brandon Lam.

Clinic Spotlight: Megan Funkhouser, OD



The Lions Low Vision Center of Texas is located in the Medical Center across the street from the Medical Arts and Research Center. The Low Vision Clinic at the San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SALH) is located closer to the Texas Diabetic Institute clinic. The clinic providers consist of myself, the low vision rehabilitation optometrist, and Melva P. Andrews who is the occupational therapist (OT) and certified low vision therapist. We serve a unique purpose as we are the only low vision clinic with both an optometrist and occupational therapist specialized in low vision rehabilitation in San Antonio and the surrounding areas.

Both locations allow us to serve a diverse population including patients who travel from the Rio Grande Valley. Given our presence in two different locations in the community, we encounter a wide variety of eye diseases including age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, visual field loss from strokes and brain injuries, and congenital eye diseases.

The purpose of the low vision exam is to focus on maximizing an individual's remaining vision and to more effectively compensate for vision

loss, specifically when performing activities of daily living or other meaningful tasks. We focus on the patient as a whole person and the patient's functional vision and goals for each low vision rehabilitation evaluation we perform.

The low vision exam is comprised of different components focused on functional vision. Often, different visual acuity charts are used with larger acuity measurements and variable test distances, as well as trial frame refraction which allows for large changes in lens options or eccentric viewing while refracting. We often perform evaluation of different magnifiers, telescopes, filters to help with light and glare sensitivity, and lighting.

We have a strong focus on education especially for ophthalmology residents and OT students. Both UT Health and military ophthalmology residents rotate through our low vision clinics. We focus on how a low vision evaluation is different from a regular eye exam, how eye diseases impact individuals both functionally and psychosocially, available resources for patients, and when to refer.

We work closely with the SALH Adult and Seniors program to help provide patients with Orientation and Mobility training, counseling services for adjustment to vision loss, diabetic

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Clinic Spotlight (continued)

education, and independent living programs.

We share a close partnership with the Lions Sight Research Foundation, the namesake of the Lions Low Vision Center. Through this partnership, we obtained the latest Humphrey Visual Field Analyzer. Visual field loss has been studied and shown to affect one's mobility at a visual field constriction of 70 degrees. Mobility is crucial for safety and independence. The visual field machine allows for a more accurate and functional visual field assessment for our patients. We use this diagnostic information to further maximize an individual's remaining vision through low vision rehabilitation.

Our clinic actively participates in speaking engagements throughout the San Antonio community including presentations to the Lions Sight Research Foundation and SALH; mostly notably, the Lions Sight Research Foundation International president, Mr. Brian Sheehan, visited our department and clinics on August 3-4, 2022, which further solidified our continuous partnership.

We thank you for your continuous support of the low vision clinics, which allow us to con-

tinue to provide valuable and unique services for our community.



Dr. Kelly Fahey, one of our new interns, on her ophthalmology elective spends Thursdays with Dr. Nam-Phong Le at the MARC clinic location.

Alumni Spotlight: War Stories by Dudley Harris, MD

In 1970 I began my residency when the UTHSC ophthalmology program was staffed with its first full time faculty member, Dr. George Weinstein. Dr. Weinstein and I started on the same day. The first time we met I sat in his office, and he told me this. "Dudley, the next three years are going to be intense. So intense that you really won't have time for any social life outside of ophthalmology." Not a problem for me. I had a wife and a one-month-old child. But I got the idea about what he expected.

Our eye clinic was in the Robert B. Green. The "Hill" was where we operated. The "Green" was green...pale green. My wife and I spent weekends painting the clinic walls red, orange, purple, blue and yellow. We also hung a lot of pictures. The Green clinic had only one phoropter.

It was in the Chief Resident's office. The other two offices had trial lenses. When the Chief Resident was up on the Hill, I'd steal his phoropter and move it into my office. The Green clinic

had three slit lamps. Well, really, one slit lamp. There was a Haag Streit (good), an AO (poor), and a Thorpe (worthless). Naturally the private practice attendings would always want to use the HS...as did the residents.

The Green Clinic had a problem with medical records. We could never seem to get the records we needed from the record room. I had the bright idea of using NCR paper with a copy kept in a file drawer in the eye clinic. It worked. We never again had to see a patient without the record from the previous visit. We did pterygium surgery in the Green Eye Clinic.

A very crude affair, to be sure. Bare sclera and cautery. Makes me cringe now. One day I saw a resident doing a retrobulbar for a pterygium in the clinic. I asked, "Why are you doing a retrobulbar instead of a conjunctiva injection?" He said, "I need the practice doing retrobulbars."

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Alumni Spotlight *(continued)*

I called Dr. Weinstein that night at home and reported what I'd seen. I knew Dr. Weinstein was a great man because I never saw that resident again.

In 1973, after a year of being Chief Resident, I thought I was the smartest thing that walked on two legs. That was the day I graduated. The day after I graduated, when I was on my own, I realized there might be some serious gaps in my fund of ophthalmic knowledge. After serving two years in the Navy I gradually got my confidence back. I entered private practice in San Antonio in 1975. In 1980 I opened the first ASC for ophthalmology in Texas that was Medicare approved. But that's another story.



(l-r) Drs. Huy Nguyen (Class of 2022); Taylor Lind (Class of 2024), Luca Rosignoli (Class of 2023) with Stella Lagunas COT (retired from VA 2022)

Medical Student Research Spotlight: Christopher Zhu (MS-IV)



Beginning my very first semester of medical school, I have had the privilege of working with several faculty and research mentors. Hoping to get started in ophthalmology research early on, I contacted Dr. Ahmad Kheirhah, a generous mentor to many medical students.

My first major project studied the prevalence of ocular surface squamous neoplasia (OSSN) in pterygium specimens. Considering how pterygia, typically a benign growth of the conjunctiva, has a starkly different treatment than OSSN, a malignancy, recognizing demographic factors that could point us towards a diagnosis of OSSN became paramount. We found that Hispanics had a *significantly* higher rate of unsuspected OSSN (4.8%) compared to non-Hispanic whites (0.7%) and reported the *highest-ever rate among a U.S.-only population* with 3.6% of overall pterygia demonstrating OSSN. We presented these findings at Medical Student Research Day, Alamo Day, ARVO 2020, and were ultimately published in the journal, *Current Eye Research*.

During the same period, I also worked with Dr. Daniel Johnson on a project collaborating with the Lions Club of San Antonio's Mobile Eye Screening Unit (MESU). With data from 879

individuals who visited our screenings, we created heatmaps to visualize which Bexar County zip codes had the greatest prevalence of failed vision exams. Stereotypically affluent zip codes like 78260 directly north of Stone Oak had one of the highest fail rates for intraocular pressure in the entire county. This data encouraged us to diversify our screening locations and today, we work in all areas of the city and travel as far as Del Rio and Eagle Pass each month to screen for eye disease. We presented these findings at the 2021 Community Service-Learning Conference at UT Health San Antonio and received a 1st place recognition among more than 60 posters.

Soon after, COVID-19 hit and forever changed medical education. Dr. Brandon Lam, Dr. Lilian Nguyen and I created a simple yet effective system to mentor medical students by matching them with resident mentors to connect them to shadowing and research. Less than 20% of medical schools nationwide require a clinical rotation in ophthalmology, so exposure can be difficult to come by on one's own. We conducted survey-based research to ensure our 20 students and 12 residents found this initiative worthwhile, with 86% of students hoping to continue in the program year-on-year. Now in our third year, we hope to introduce more

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Medical Student Research Spotlight: (continued)

In-person programming to continue helping medical students appreciate and love ophthalmology. Our efforts were recognized in an article by the Bexar County Medical Society's monthly publication, *San Antonio Medicine*, and our initiative was recently presented on-demand at the 2022 American Association of Ophthalmology (AAO) conference in Chicago.

Most recently, I have been working closely with Dr. Jeong-Hyeon Sohn and Dr. Luca Rosignoli on a retrospective study examining whether patients who present to our eye clinics with an existing diagnosis of diabetic foot ulcer (DFU) with neuropathy and/or vasculopathy have worse visual outcomes than DFU patients without additional diabetic symptoms. Our study suggests worse visual outcomes for patients diagnosed with both DFU and neuropathy, and we presented these findings at the *International Ophthalmology Conference* in October 2022.

Thanks to the generous support and mentorship of faculty across our entire department, this is only a sample of the depth and diversity of research I have had the privilege of conducting these past three years. Whether we had the idea of creating a mentorship program during the COVID pandemic or delved into a retrospective study spanning decades of ocular disease data, our faculty and staff unwaveringly helped me exemplify our institution's overall mission: *to make lives better*.

About Me: I am a native San Antonian and 4th-year medical student at UT Health SA applying for ophthalmology residency this cycle. I attended the Keystone School and afterwards stayed in San Antonio for the seven-year BS/MD combined program with UTSA and UT Health SA. Outside of academics and research, I love running long distances, writing poetry, playing classical piano, and watching the latest movies out.



At the 2022 American Academy of Ophthalmology annual meeting this past October at McCormick Place in Chicago presenting research on medical student mentorship.



At the 2022 Millennial Eye Live conference's wet lab in Austin, TX, after receiving a scholarship for my abstract on ocular surface squamous neoplasia in pterygia specimens. This was my first time practicing cataract surgery on a simulation model!



Department Scholarly Activity

(Academic Year: July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022)

Resident Authors (Current Residents, and 2022 Graduates)

Faculty Authors (UT and UT Affiliated Residency Program Faculty and Fellows)

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Bahr T, Woolf S, **Favre H**, **Waldman C**. Comparison of netarsudil and latanoprostene bunod as adjuncts to maximum medical therapy in primary open-angle glaucoma. *Can J Ophthalmol*. 2022 Apr 11:S0008-4182. PMID: 35421360.

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Department Scholarly Activity (*continued*)

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Department Scholarly Activity *(continued)*

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Department Scholarly Activity (*continued*)

Book Chapters

Stradiotto A. Chapter 5.3: Glaucoma pharmacology. In Ohia S, Sharif N (Eds) Handbook of Basic and Clinical Ocular Pharmacology and Therapeutics, 1st Ed. 2002: Academic Press, 672 pages.
Non-Peer Reviewed Publications, On-line Publications, and Media.

Online Articles

Fard S, Kang SN, **Fry CL**. Ophthalmic manifestations of Atopic Dermatitis (June 2022). Medscape on-line article. Available at <https://emedicine.medscape.com/article/1197636-print>

Kay DB, **Offutt ME**, Patel AS, Del Monte MA, DelMonte DW, Hossain K, Houser K, Baartman B, Prakalapakorn G, Puente MA, Osigian CJ (June 2022). Marfan syndrome. EyeWiki, American Academy of Ophthalmology. Available at https://eyewiki.org/Marfan_Syndrome

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Puig M, Uhm SY, **Nguyen L**, Talavera F, Wax MB, Roy Sr H, Choplin NT, Katuri RJ, Pascotto A, Fioretto M, Sacca SC, Orfeo V, Freudenthal J, Moore NA (Nov 2021). Complications and management of glaucoma filtering. Medscape on-line article. Available at <https://emedicine.medscape.com/article/1207755-print>

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Abstract Poster and Platform Presentations

American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) 2021 Annual Meeting: “Where All of Ophthalmology Meets”, New Orleans, LA. November 12 – 15, 2021.

Afshari NA (Course Director), **Caldwell MC**, et al. J. 116: Management of the vitreous for the anterior segment surgeon. Instruction Course and Lab.

Djalilian AR (Course Director), Holland EJ, **Kheirkhah A**, Cortina MS, Gregory DG. J. 145: Surgery for severe corneal and ocular surface disease. Instruction Course and Lab.

Hamrah P (Senior Instructor), Farid M, Massaro-Giordano M, **Kheirkhah A**, Maskin SL, Perez VL, Carlson AN. 449: New treatments for MGD. Instruction Course.

Justin GA (Course Director), DeMartelaere SL, Carson JB, **Caldwell MC**, Hayes BH, Davies BW, Legault GL, Mazzoli RA, Gensheimer WG, Hess RL. 134: Ophthalmic trauma: Military lessons on management. Instruction Course and Lab.

Justin GA (Course Director), **Reddy AK**, Auran JD, Rapuano CJ, Pelton RW. 454: Medical malpractice in ophthalmology. Instruction Course.

Department Scholarly Activity *(continued)*

Kheirkhah A (Senior Instructor), **Johnson DA**, Galor A, Gregory DG, Chodosh J, Tu EY, Djalilian AR, Jeng BH. 443: Management of common allergic and immunologic diseases of the conjunctiva and cornea. Instruction Course.

Kheirkhah A (Senior Instructor), Bunya VY, Perez VL, Djalilian AR, Hamrah P, Jeng BH, Jacobs DS, Gomes J. 234: Step-by-step management of dry eye disease. Instruction Course.

Nguyen L. Challenges with cataract surgery in angle closure. Paper presented at Symposium GLA09 Section VII: Surgery videos intraoperative challenges.

The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) 2022 Annual Meeting: "Accelerating Discovery Through Team Science", Denver, CO. May 1-4, 2022.

Anderson KL, Garcia AI. Compliance with documenting the presence of a teaching physician in a resident ophthalmology clinic.

Azeez LS, Sherry E, Mojica D, **Kheirkhah A**. Work-related musculoskeletal problems among eyecare professionals.

Brooke Z, Harbin Z, Sensenbrenner S, **Kheirkhah A**. Correlation between corneal in vivo confocal microscopy and clinical findings in dry eye disease.

Do TP, Uhm SY, **Lam B**, **Kheirkhah A**. Comparison of corneal tomographic parameters between Hispanic and non-Hispanic populations

Fard S, Lewis JR, Thayer JN, **Carter J**, **Hollsten DA**, Jing FZ, Chevez-Barrios P, **Fry CL**. Orbital masquerade syndromes: When to pursue further evaluation in cases of biopsy proven painful non-specific orbital inflammation, A case series.

Garcia A, **Anderson KL**. Practice compliance in documenting and billing: Gonioscopy and pachymetry in a resident ophthalmology clinic.

Harbin Z, Vasquez L, Brooke Z, **Isteitiya J**, Villanueva C, **Kheirkhah A**. A comparison of patients' perspectives on their dry eye disease between Spanish- and English-speaking patients.

Hoyek S, Patel NA, Acaba-Berrocal LA, Fan KC, Martinez-Castellanos MA, Bauman CR, **Harper III CA**, Berrocal AM. National versus international practice patterns and outcomes of intravitreal anti-VEGF injection for retinopathy of prematurity.

Nguyen H, Ahearn BE, **Sohn J-H**. COVID-era influence on follow-up trends and the impact on retinovascular disease progression.

Nguyen H, Lee S, Whisler E, Logas K, Chen H, Sampathkumar P, Ye J, Suen N, Li Y, Yeh W-C. SZN-413, a monospecific Fzd4 agonist as a potential novel therapeutic for the treatment of diabetic retinopathy.

Puig M, Salem Y, Morrow M, **Waldman C**. Comparison of outcomes of trifocal and extended-depth-of-focus intraocular lenses.

Rosignoli L, **Chu E**, **Carter J**, **Johnson D**, **Sohn J-H**, **Bahadorani S**. Visual outcomes of central retinal artery occlusion treated with hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

Schachter CJ, Sherry E, Azeez LS, Mojica D, **Kheirkhah A**. COVID involvement in eyecare professionals.

Department Scholarly Activity (*continued*)

Sherry EG, Azeez LS, Mojica D, [Kheirkhah A](#). The level of eye care among eyecare professionals themselves.

Uhm SY, Do TP, [Lam B](#), [Kheirkhah A](#). Comparison of corneal pachymetry and anterior chamber dimension between Hispanic and non-Hispanic populations.

Vasquez LE, Harbin Z, Brooke Z, [Isteitiya J](#), Villanueva C, [Kheirkhah A](#). Ocular pain in dry eye disease and its association with clinical parameters.

Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long School of Medicine Annual Research Symposium: From Discovery to Translation. San Antonio, Texas. April 18, 2022.

[Fard S](#), Fields T, [Favre H](#), [Hollsten J](#). Eyelid metastasis as primary presentation of non-small cell lung cancer: Diagnosis, management, and literature review. Trainee Poster Session #1.

Luskey N, Azeez L, [Nguyen H](#), [Weiss M](#), [Fard S](#), [Puig M](#), [Lewis K](#), [Wilde D](#), [Nguyen M](#), [Nieuwsma A](#), [Anderson K](#). Unscheduled cancellations of ophthalmic surgeries: Analysis of drivers. Trainee Poster Session #1.

[Offutt M](#), [Lam B](#), [Heriford A](#), [Hancock S](#), [Lind T](#), [Stradiotto A](#), [Rosignoli L](#), [Favre H](#), [Kheirkhah A](#). Corneal ulcer positivity rate at tertiary referral center. Trainee Poster Session # 1 and #2.

American Glaucoma Society (AGS) Annual Meeting, Nashville, Tennessee, March 3-6, 2022.

[Favre H](#), [Waldman C](#). Endoscopic assisted haptic removal for UGH syndrome. Surgical Video. Ranked as one of the top five videos submitted.

Texas Ophthalmological Association (TOA) Annual Meeting held in conjunction with the Texas Medical Association TexMed Conference, Houston, TX, April 29-30, 2022

[Fard S](#). Eyelid lesion as initial apparent sign of metastatic cancer. Podium Presentation. Selected as one of the five top ophthalmology residents in Texas invited to participate in the Ophthalmology Resident Podium Competition for the Barry Uhr, MD, Memorial Prize in Ophthalmology established by the TOA Foundation.

The North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (NANOS) 48th Annual Meeting, Austin, Texas, February 12-17, 2022.

Ahuja R, [Weiss M](#), [Schatz M](#), Dural arteriovenous fistulas presenting as idiopathic intracranial hypertension. Poster Session.

The American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery (ASOPRS) 2022 Hybrid Spring Scientific Symposium, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, May 12-15, 2022.

Fields T, [Fard S](#), Mascitelli JR, Fakhreddine MH, [Fry CL](#). Hemorrhagic Choroidal Melanoma with Extraocular Extension Requiring Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy in addition to Intra-Arterial Embolization for Bleeding Control and Regression. Oncology Poster Session.

Women in Ophthalmology (WIO) 2021 Summer Symposium: Empowering Aspirations, Amelia Island, Florida, August 26-29, 2021.

[Fard S](#), Lewis JR, Thayer JN, [Carter J](#), [Hollsten D](#), Jing FJ, Chevez-Barrio P, [Fry CL](#). Orbital masquerade syndromes: When to pursue further evaluation in cases of biopsy proven painful non-specific orbital inflammation: A case series. Poster Session.

Department Scholarly Activity (*continued*)

Favre H, Sherry E, Ahuja R, **Waldman C**. Kahook dual blade goniotomy outcomes in Hispanic vs. non-Hispanic patients. Poster Session.

Puig M, Kenny SE, Salinas R, **Johnson DA**, **Kheirkhah A**. Moraxella keratitis: A case series. Poster Session.

The 42nd Annual Alamo City Ophthalmology Clinical Conference, San Antonio, Texas, Virtual, April 9, 2022.

Appelo B, **Kelstrom J**. Utilization of Physician Contact Information in an Ophthalmology Residency Program. Trauma, Hospital Medicine Session.

Blegen IV H, Kostosky N, **Caldwell M**, **Evangelista C**, Legault G. Retrospective review of Small Incision Lenticule Extraction (SMILE) outcomes at the Joint Warfighter Refractive Surgery Center (JWRSC). Cornea Session.

Chung E, Godbole N, **Rodgers S**. Retrospective analysis of near, intermediate, and distance vision after insertion of Eyhance intraocular lens. Cataract Session.

Dennis W, Papp A, Capoaponte J, **Evangelista C**, Legault G, **Caldwell M**. The effect of altitude on vision in military personnel following SMILE refractive surgery. Cornea Session.

Fard S, Lewis J, Thayer J, **Carter J**, **Hollsten D**, Jing FZ, Chévez-Barrios P, **Fry C**. Orbital masquerade syndromes: When to pursue further evaluation in cases of biopsy proven painful non-specific orbital inflammation, A case series. Oculoplastics Session.

Favre H, Luskey N, Caston E, Schachter C, Soekamto C, **Nguyen L**, **Sohn JH**. Glaucoma risk after vitrectomy: A 1-year retrospective chart review. Glaucoma Session.

Nguyen H, Uhm S, **Anderson K**. COVID-19's effect on emergent ophthalmic consultation profile at tertiary referral center in South Texas. Trauma / Hospital Medicine Session.

Offutt M, **Welch M**. Post-operative day one (POD1) intraocular pressure (IOP) spikes among trainees. Glaucoma Session.

Otte B, Nelson F, Pierce K, **Rodgers S**. Electric cataracts: Evaluating the necessity of ophthalmology consultation in the immediate post-injury period. Cataract Session.

Plaster A, Jin S, Palochak C, Nelson F, Reed D, Aden J, **Evangelista C**. 1-year outcomes and military retention rates for patients with corneal ectasia treated with corneal crosslinking using the Dresden Protocol. Cornea Session.

Puig M, Yousef S, Morrow M, **Waldman C**. Comparison of outcomes of trifocal and extended-depth-of-focus intraocular lenses. Cataract Session.

Soekamto C, **Chu E**, **Johnson D**, **Sohn JH**, **Bahadorani S**. Protective role of 360° laser retinopexy in patients with rhegmatogenous retinal detachment: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Retina Session.

Soekamto C, **Rosignoli L**, Zhu C, **Johnson D**, **Sohn JH**, **Bahadorani S**. Outcomes of acute bacterial endophthalmitis treated with adjuvant intravitreal dexamethasone: A meta-analysis of randomized studies. Retina Session.

Stradiotto A, Katuri J, **Isteitiya J**, Scribbick F, **Anderson K**, **Nguyen H**. Diagnostic and management accuracy of resident emergent consultation encounters - Performance analysis. Trauma / Hospital Medicine Session.

Weiss M, Luskey N, **Lewis K**, **Rosignoli L**, Scribbick F. Single vs multi-use CEIOL pre-op medication analysis. Cataract Session

In Other News...

Our Residency Program is now on Instagram!



My name is Michelle Ngu-yen, and I am one of the PGY2 residents! Being a part of the first "COVID" class, I remember being nervous about the transition to a virtual interview season. Both applicants and programs had to adapt to this new challenge and embrace technology and the world of social media. I created our Instagram page because I wanted an easy and fun way for our residency program to showcase all of the amazing things our program has to offer since our applicants are not able to meet us in-person. Our Instagram has not only provided a way for applicants to get to know us, but also for us to connect with other programs and keep in touch with alumni as well. My favorite thing about our Instagram is highlighting the true comradery among our residents. It has been such a fun and rewarding experience! Click on the icon below to check us out!

Special thanks to Paul and James Kavanagh (sons of UTHSA Ophthalmology alumni Joe Kavanagh MD and Sharron Acosta MD) for their

assistance and recommendations in connecting to a younger generation of applicants through social media; i.e., Don't use Facebook (for seniors), use Instagram!



43rd Alamo City Ophthalmology Clinical Conference, April 14-15, 2023



(l) Drs. Kent Anderson, Geoffrey Tabin, Judith Newman after Dr. Tabin's Bajandas Lecture, 4/14/23. (c) Drs. Brett Davies, Tamara Fountain after Dr. Fountain's Hogan-Ferguson Ethics lecture; (r) Dr. Dan Johnson welcomes attendees to Alamo Day, as Dr. Dean Canestrini waits to start off the day's presentations with his own, 4/15/23.



Fellowship-bound

Luca Rosignoli, MD (Retina)
*University of Oklahoma –
Oklahoma City, OK*

Sara Fard, MD (Retina)
*University of Louisville –
Lexington, KY*

Going into Private Practice

Madeleine Puig, MD
Phoenix, AZ

Allision Stradiotto, MD
Farmington, NM

2023

Resident/Fellow Graduation

**Friday, June 23
6–10 PM
UTHSA Long SOM**

2024

**44th Annual Alamo Day
Saturday, April 12**

UTHSA Department of Ophthalmology Education Fund

Please consider a gift today in support of our education program as we continue to provide future ophthalmologists with a diverse and comprehensive education in ophthalmology.

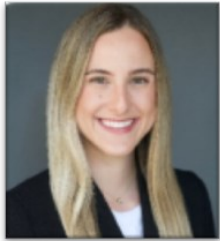
We are currently in Phase II of our campaign to provide a state-of-the-art eye skills laboratory for our trainees.

For more information, please click [here](#).



*The Chief Resident flanked by the Resident Class of 2025.
(l-r): Drs. Brandon Lam, Michelle Nguyen, Luca Rosignoli,
Alexandra Heriford, and Abigail Nieuwsma.*

The Future of Ophthalmology...



Camila Albo, MD (Class of 2026)

- ◆ Internship: UT Health San Antonio - Internal Medicine
- ◆ MD Degree: Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University
- ◆ BSEd degree [Health Science Studies] - Baylor University, Waco, TX



Ludmila "Lily" Chandler, MD (Class of 2026)

- ◆ Internship: UT Health San Antonio - Internal Medicine
- ◆ MD degree: Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine, Quinnipiac University, Stamford, CT
- ◆ BS degree [Chemistry/Biology] - Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant, OK



Anjalee Choudhury, MD (Class of 2026)

- ◆ Internship: UT Health San Antonio - Internal Medicine
- ◆ Research: University of Miami Health System—Ophthalmology, Miami, FL
- ◆ MD degree: University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine, Edinburg, TX
- ◆ BS degree [Biology]: University of Texas - Austin



Kelly Fahey, MD (Class of 2026)

- ◆ Internship: UT Health San Antonio - Internal Medicine
- ◆ MD degree: Oakland University, William Beaumont School of Medicine, Rochester, MI
- ◆ MS degree [Medical Sciences]: Boston University, Boston, MA
- ◆ BS degree [Biopsychology and Community Health]: Tufts University, Medford, MA



Carson Petrash, MD (AUPO Surgical Retina & Vitreous Fellowship, 2023-25)

- ◆ Residency: Univ. of Colorado-Aurora (2020-23)
- ◆ Research: CellSight Laboratory, Aurora, CO (2019-20)
- ◆ Internship: Univ. of Colorado-Aurora (2018-19)
- ◆ MD degree: UT Health San Antonio, Long School of Medicine (2014-18)
- ◆ BS degree [chemical and biologic engineering]: Univ. of Colorado-Boulder



UT Health San Antonio Ophthalmology Faculty

Administration/Education

**Daniel A. Johnson, MD, MBA, Herbert F. Mueller
Chair**

Kent L. Anderson, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Vice
Chair for Education, Residency Program Director
Sepehr Bahadorani, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor,
Vice Chair for Research

Constance L. Fry, MD, Professor, Vice Chair for Clinical
Affairs, Oculoplastics Fellowship Director

Megan Funkhouser, OD, Assistant Professor, Director
of Lions Low Vision

Judianne Kellaway, MD MEd, FACS, Professor, Associ-
ate Dean for Admissions at the School of Medicine

Lilian Nguyen, MD, Assistant Professor, Associate Res-
idency Program Director, Director of Medical Student
Education

Jeong-Hyeon Sohn, MD, Associate Professor, TDI
Medical Director, Retina Fellowship Director

Jennifer Wall, MD, Assistant Professor, MARC Medical
Director

Cataract & Anterior Segment Surgery

Kent L. Anderson, MD, PhD, Associate Professor

Edward R. Chu, MBBS, Assistant Professor

Jihad Isteitiya, MD, Assistant Professor

Daniel A. Johnson, MD, MBA, Professor

Ahmad Kheirkhah, MD, Assistant Professor

Lilian Nguyen, MD, Assistant Professor

Corey Waldman, MD, Assistant Professor

Jennifer Wall, MD, Assistant Professor

Comprehensive Ophthalmology

Kent L. Anderson, MD, PhD, Associate Professor

Sebastian Mora, DO, Specialist

Frank W. Scribbick III, MD, Professor

Jennifer Wall, MD, Assistant Professor

Cornea & External Disease

**Ahmad Kheirkhah, MD, Assistant Professor, Chief of
Service**

Kent L. Anderson, MD, PhD, Associate Professor

Jihad Isteitiya, MD, Assistant Professor

Daniel A. Johnson, MD, MBA, Professor

Glaucoma

**Corey Waldman, MD, Assistant Professor, Chief of
Service**

Edward R. Chu, MBBS, Assistant Professor

Lilian Nguyen, MD, Assistant Professor

Neuro-Ophthalmology

Martha Schatz, MD, Professor, Chief of Service

John E. Carter, MD, Professor

Ophthalmic Pathology

Frank W. Scribbick III, MD, Professor, Director of Li-
ons Eye Pathology Laboratory

Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery & Ophthalmic Oncology

Constance L. Fry, MD, Professor, Chief of Service

Senmiao Zhan, MD, Fellow

Optometry

**Ann-Marie Mora, OD, Assistant Professor, Chief of
Service**

Megan Funkhouser, OD, Assistant Professor, Visual
Rehabilitation

Nam-Phong Le, OD, Assistant Professor

Pediatric Ophthalmology & Adult Strabismus

Martha Schatz, MD, Professor, Chief of Service

Ujwala Saboo, MD, Associate Professor

Retina & Vitreous

**Jeong-Hyeon Sohn, MD, Associate Professor, Chief of
Service**

Sepehr Bahadorani, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor

Deepthi Rao, MD, Specialist

Rushil Rao, MD, Specialist

Ashvini Reddy, MD, Specialist

Jed Assam, MD, Fellow

Ethan Stern, MD, Fellow

Uveitis and Ocular Immunology

Daniel A. Johnson, MD MBA, Professor

Ashvini Reddy, MD, Specialist