

Academy Notebook

NEWS • TIPS • RESOURCES

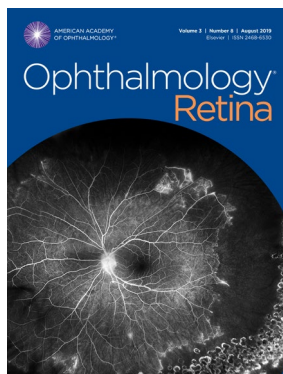
WHAT'S HAPPENING

All Issues of *Ophthalmology Retina* Are Now Indexed in PubMed

As of June, all *Ophthalmology Retina* articles have been indexed in Medline/PubMed. Full indexing means that the journal's articles and authors will gain more visibility due to the database's high traffic.

Back in March, after a rigorous review process, the National Library of Medicine accepted *Ophthalmology Retina* for inclusion in Medline/PubMed, the preeminent global database for biomedical literature. *Ophthalmology Retina* is the first monthly print U.S. ophthalmology journal that has been accepted in 12 years.

Just two years ago, the Academy launched *Ophthalmology Retina* in response to the growing volume of high-quality research within the subspecialty of retina. The new journal provides an additional channel through which retina studies can be published, helping to expedite



dissemination of retina research.

"Now that *Ophthalmology Retina* is indexed in Medline/PubMed, all articles are discoverable through PubMed searches. Indexing in Medline/PubMed is a very nice milestone for us. Thank you to all who helped the journal get here," said Andrew P. Schachat, MD, Editor-in-Chief.

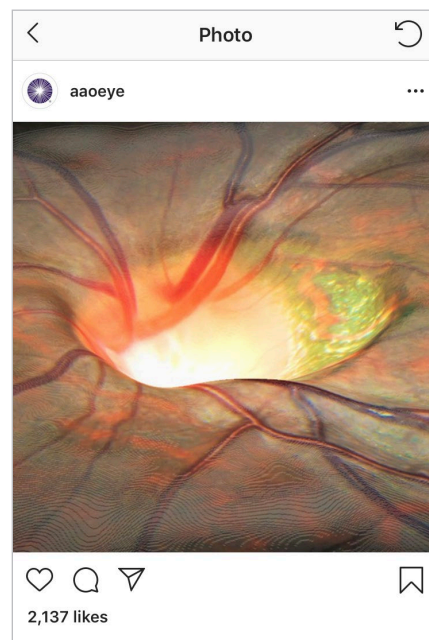
Learn more about the journal and subscribe to new issues at www.ophtalmologyretina.org.

Academy's Instagram Surpasses 10,000 Followers

Aaoeye, the Academy's Instagram account, has surpassed the 10,000-follower mark since its launch last September. Conceived to bring ophthalmic knowledge to the public, the account has both physician and nonphysician followers, and each group has shown high levels of engagement.

Content. The account features a variety of content that is reviewed by a committee of ophthalmologists to ensure posts are accurate and understandable for the public. Content includes:

- video clips from interviews with Academy members;
- advisories about common injuries and eye health issues;
- spotlights on various conditions and how to reduce risk, if possible;
- case reports and patient success stories; and
- lifestyle tips to promote eye health, addressing such topics as the effects of



3-D IMAGE. By Ahnul Ha, Young Kook Kim, and Ki Ho Park (Seoul National University Hospital, Seoul, Korea). Published in *Ophthalmology*, March 2018.

using digital devices and the importance of sleep.

Engagement. An aaoeye post from April 28 set the account's record for engagement, with more than 2,100 likes and 39 comments at time of press. This post, showing a 3-D image of an optic nerve damaged by glaucoma, got the public talking and ophthalmologists responding about their own imaging methods and equipment.

Follow the Academy's Instagram account by searching aaoeye in the Instagram app, and encourage your patients to do so as well.

FOR THE RECORD

Annual Business Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Business Meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology will be held Sunday, Oct. 13, in West 3002 at



AMERICAN ACADEMY
OF OPHTHALMOLOGY®

the Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco, California, from 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Board Nominees

In accordance with Academy bylaws, notice is hereby given of the nominations for elected board positions on the



Dr. Fountain

2020 board. The nominees are:

President-Elect

Tamara R.
Fountain, MD

**Senior Secretary
for Ophthalmic
Practice**

Ravi Goel, MD

Secretary for Annual Meeting

Maria M. Aaron, MD

Trustees-at-Large (two)

Mary Louise Z. Collins, MD

Ron W. Pelton, MD, PhD

Council Chair

Sarwat Salim, MD, FACS

Council Vice Chair

Thomas Gaul, MD

These nominations were made by the Academy Board of Trustees in June. If elected, the individuals will begin their terms on Jan. 1, 2020.

Elections to fill the seven open positions on the 2020 Board of Trustees will take place by ballot after the Oct. 13 Annual Business Meeting.

Additional nominations. To nominate a candidate by petition, submit a written petition to the Academy's CEO no later than Aug. 14. The petition must be signed by at least 50 voting Academy members and fellows.

To suggest a nominee for the 2021 board, watch for the call for nominations that will be published in January's *EyeNet Magazine*.

Read the rules in full at aao.org/about/governance/bylaws/article5.

TAKE NOTICE

Support the New Museum

Construction of the Truhlsen-Marmor Museum of the Eye has begun, and the exhibition crew is busy building visual and interactive displays and models. Help bring the science of sight to the world by making a donation at aao.org/museumcampaign.

D.C. REPORT

Congress' August Recess Is Here: How to Advocate at Home

During August recess, federal lawmakers return to their districts to meet with constituents in order to set priorities for the fall legislative agenda.

Make your voice heard by scheduling a meeting at your congressperson's district office or by inviting them to visit your practice, clinic, or ambulatory surgery center. You will be helping elected officials reconnect with their constituents to better understand voters' primary concerns. It also establishes you as an important resource for health care issues, enabling you to better advocate for ophthalmology's key policy interests.

Academy staff is here to support you. Ready to advocate at home? Simply share a few dates and times that work for you and Academy staff will schedule the meeting, handle logistics, and prepare an agenda, talking points, and documents to share with your lawmaker. Here's how to get started:

- Indicate your interest by filling out the form on aao.org/local.
- Read aao.org/advocacy/action/best-practices for a step-by-step guide on how to have a successful meeting.
- Watch for "Washington Report Express," which will provide additional resources and information on key issues to help inform your talking points.

If you have questions about scheduling, contact Megan Tweed, the Academy's grassroots coordinator, at 202-737-6662 or mtweed@aao.org.

Get Credit for MIPS and MOC

If you have an electronic health record (EHR) system and have integrated it with the IRIS Registry, you can use data from your IRIS Registry dashboard to design and implement an improvement project that can earn you credit for both Maintenance of Certification (MOC) and the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). For the 2019 MIPS performance year, this project would count as a medium-weighted improvement activity.

Submit your plan to the ABO no later than Aug. 31. Using the IRIS Registry dashboard, select one or two quality measures in which to improve your performance. Then, set goals for those measures, make a plan for achieving those goals, and submit that plan to the American Board of Ophthalmology (ABO). Note that two registry-based improvement projects have been pre-approved by the ABO. One involves increased tobacco counseling for patients with age-related macular degeneration and the other involves closing the referral loop.

If the ABO approves your plan,

implement it for 90-120 days. Use the IRIS Registry dashboard to track your progress, and fine-tune your processes as needed. Once the project is complete, review its effectiveness and send a summary to the ABO.

Learn more at aao.org/iris-registry/maintenance-of-certification and <https://abop.org/IRIS>.

Follow @AAOjournal for the Latest Articles

Stay up-to-date on new research from *Ophthalmology*, *Ophthalmology Retina*, and *Ophthalmology Glaucoma* on Twitter. Content is posted daily and includes articles in press, "Pictures & Perspectives," editorials, and new issue alerts.

Follow @AAOjournal by visiting <https://twitter.com/AAOjournal>.

Advice From OMIC: Service Animals

Do you know the two questions that you are allowed to ask about a service animal?*

One ophthalmologist learned the hard way when he did not allow his

patient to bring her service animal into the exam room. The patient filed a complaint with both the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the state medical board. The DOJ required that the practice draft and submit for approval their service animal policy, post a sign informing patients that service animals are welcome, and pay \$1,000.

Be prepared. Familiarize yourself with the requirements and explore helpful resources, including sample office policies, at www.omic.com/do-you-have-a-service-animal-policy/.

***Answer:** Is this animal required because of a disability? What tasks has the animal been trained to perform?

OMIC offers professional liability insurance exclusively to Academy members, their employees, and their practices.

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Keynote Lecture for SOE

On June 14, J. Sebag, MD, FACS, FRCOphth, FARVO, delivered the inaugural Robert Machemer keynote lecture at the European Society of Ophthalmology (SOE) congress. His speech, “Vitreotomy for Vision Degrading Myodesopsia,” highlighted advances in the understanding of how vitreous can negatively impact vision, and the role Dr. Machemer’s invention, vitrectomy, has played in curing the condition. Dr. Sebag is Senior Voluntary Research Scientist at the Doheny Eye Institute and Volunteer Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of California, Los Angeles.



Dr. Sebag (middle) with David W. Parke II, MD, Academy CEO (left), and George A. Williams, MD, Academy President (right).

Ellis Island Medal of Honor

Lawrence V. Najarian, MD, a comprehensive ophthalmologist based in Bedminster, N.J., is part of a select group of individuals who received the 2019 Ellis Island Medal of Honor on May 11. The award, sponsored by the Ellis Island Honors Society, recognizes American citizens who exemplify a life dedicated to community service and extraordinary accomplishments in their field. Past Ellis Island Medalists include seven U.S. presidents, three world leaders, and several Nobel Prize winners.

Dr. Najarian said, “I am deeply grateful to accept this award on behalf of so many people, especially my grandparents, who came from Armenia through Ellis Island with the hope of creating a new life for their family and community.”



Dr. Najarian

ACADEMY RESOURCES

Attend Upcoming Webinars

In September, the Academy is offering two webinars, both of which are free for Academy members. The first, “The 2019 Update on Retina for Non-specialists,” will be held Sept. 12. The second, “Expert Insights Into Thyroid Eye Disease (TED): Viewpoints From an Endocrinologist and Oculoplastic Surgeon,” will be held Sept. 26. Additional updates at aao.org/clinical-webinars.

Simplify the Hiring Process

Through the Academy’s Ophthalmology Job Center, you can find top talent by posting a job online, managing applications, searching resumes, and even having your job posting emailed to relevant job seekers.

Learn more at aao.org/jobcenter.

Get the Academy’s App

The new AAO Ophthalmic Education App provides access to EyeWiki and features material from three areas of the ONE Network: News, 1-Minute Videos, and Diagnose This. The app

offers alerts and a feed customizable by subspecialty.

Download the app on your Android or iOS device at aao.org/education-app.

Benchmarking Tools

Academy and AAOE members can access two key benchmarking tools for the practice.

First, the Academy/AAOE Academic Metrics benchmarking tool compares your financial data to that of similar practices to help you assess staffing levels, optimal number of satellite offices, and more.

Second, the Academic Metrics Ophthalmic Salary Survey tracks specific benchmarks related to optometrist, mid-level provider, and staff salary data to help you benchmark compensation and benefits packages.

Access the tools at aao.org/practice-management/analytics.

2019 AWARDS

Life Achievement Honor Award

Individuals who have cumulatively earned 60 points and have made significant contributions to ophthalmology, as determined by the Academy’s Awards Committee, were nominated to receive this award.

Cynthia Ann Bradford, MD
Fabrizio I. Camesasca, MD
William J. Fishkind, MD, FACS
Evangelos S. Gragoudas, MD
Sadeer B. Hannush, MD
Santosh G. Honavar, MD
Douglas A. Jabs, MD, MBA
A. John Kanellopoulos, MD
Don O. Kikkawa, MD
Thomas Kohnen, MD, PhD, FEBO
Daniel F. Martin, MD
Timothy G. Murray, MD MBA
Ingrid U. Scott, MD, MPH
R. Michael Siatkowski, MD
Arun D. Singh, MD
Kerry D. Solomon, MD
Mark A. Terry, MD
Elias I. Traboulsi, MD



MORE ONLINE. See a list of Achievement, Senior Achievement, and Secretariat Award recipients in this article at aao.org/eyenet.