

2024 Annual Meeting Abstracts

Updated: 5/1/2024

As a reminder . . . New Club members are expected to give a talk at one of their first two annual meetings!

[View](#) the abstracts submitted so far

[Overview Schedule](#) for the week

View the **Detailed Schedule** for general sessions -- *will be added later*

[Submit an Abstract](#) (electronic form)

Deadline to submit is June 14th.

Lectures typically are 15 minutes each -- 7 minutes for the talk and 7 minutes for discussion.

[CLICK HERE](#) to download and submit the CME conflict of interest form (PDF file)

Email to: Rich@RichardPaulAssociates.com or fax to: 847-680-1682

Please note . . . ALL speakers giving a talk that will receive CME credit must submit the conflict of interest disclosure. We greatly appreciate receiving these forms AT THE SAME TIME as your abstract submission. Please complete both pages and return to the AESC office.

[Go back](#) to the main meeting page

Named Lectures



35th Ruedemann Lecture

[Robert S. Gold, MD](#)

Eye Physicians of Central Florida
Maitland, FL



20th Jerry & Donna Knauer AESC Foundation Lecture

[John Doris](#) , MB BCh BAO MRCP FRCOphth

University Hospital Waterford
Eye and Face Clinic Williamstown Centre
Waterford

□ □

Special OMIC Presentation

We are offering an OMIC Risk Management Presentation which will qualify members who are insured by OMIC for the full 10% premium discount -- day to be announced.

General Session Program

Typical Format for Talks -- We generally organized the talks into 15-minute segments with 7 minutes for a lecture and 7 minutes for discussion and questions. This is a great time to try out new ideas or concepts, or to seek observations and reactions from your fellow Club members. The AESC meeting is *not* the place for a usual "canned" lecture! If you have an idea for a mini-symposium or a panel discussion, we certainly can devote an entire segment to that.

The following abstracts have been submitted for the summer 2024 AESC meeting. □ □ Abstracts will be posted here as they are submitted. □ □

Check the bottom of the page to see when this information was last updated.

+ = New member, first meeting

Sample Name -- "How to Offer X-Ray Vision to your Patients"

- *Summary:* A multi-year study of the effects of x-ray vision will be presented.
- *Educational objectives:* Describe the benefits and risks resulting from adding x-ray vision for patients, as well as new technologies available to the ophthalmologist.
- *Schedule Restrictions:* None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:* YES

Submitted Talks

Updated: 5.1.2024

Baratz, Keith Hugh -- "What to do about corneal epithelium in the anterior chamber"

- *Summary:* Epithelial downgrowth is a rare but serious consequence of trauma or ocular surgery. Several different patterns of down-growth exist, including cystic and diffuse forms. The condition can be self-limited or relentlessly progressive and treatment options vary in technique and prognosis based on these subtypes and other clinical factors. This presentation will include the description of representative cases and review treatment techniques, and prognosis of therapeutic options such as intracameral antimetabolites, cryotherapy, laser and alcohol injection.

- *Educational objectives:* This presentation will inform participants on how to recognize epithelial down-growth, how to differentiate different patterns, and how to select potential treatment options.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*
- *Note:* Willing to lead/moderate a mini-symposium; Rapid fire case presentations. Also happy to moderate any anterior segment session

Berry, Jesse L. -- "Liquid Gold: Progress in Establishing a Molecular Test for Retinoblastoma Using an Aqueous Humor Liquid Biopsy"

- *Summary:* Retinoblastoma is unique among tumors in that it cannot be directly biopsied. In 2017 we discovered that the aqueous humor harbored tumor DNA and could be used as a liquid biopsy. In December 2022 we launched the first CAP-CLIA validated aqueous humor

liquid biopsy laboratory test at CHLA, called LBSeq4KIDS. This presentation reports the initial testing and patient outcomes.

- *Educational objectives:* LBSeq4KIDS is a newly validated clinical test for retinoblastoma liquid biopsy, this lecture discusses the diagnostic and prognostic accuracy of this new test.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐☐ None

- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

+ Cason, John ☐ -- "Small Incisional Lenticule Extraction (SMILE) in the Department of Defense: Low Cylinder Treatments and Expanded Laser Parameters"

- *Summary:* The purpose of this multi-center, randomized, comparative cohort FDA study was to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of low cylinder myopic refractive surgery treatments (0.25 and 0.50 diopters) using the Carl Zeiss Meditec VisuMax™ femtosecond laser and small incisional lenticule extraction (SMILE) technique. These low cylinder treatments were compared to a control cohort in which those refractive errors were not treated. Additionally, expanded laser energy parameters were utilized to optimize laser application per surgeon discretion to facilitate easier lenticular dissection and/or improve inclusion criteria for potential surgical candidates.

- *Educational objectives:* Currently, SMILE is approved for myopic astigmatism but not for low cylinder treatments of 0.25 and 0.50 diopters reportedly because of concern for a large correction ratio for these treatments. This study shows the results of treating these refractive errors.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐☐ None

- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

Chen, John ☐ -- "We can't send our astronauts to Mars if they go blind along the way"

- *Summary:* Spaceflight Associated Neuro-ocular Syndrome, or SANS, is a condition that affects astronauts, characterized by choroidal folds, globe flattening (with hyperopic shift) and papilledema.¹ While the ocular findings mimic what we see in idiopathic intracranial hypertension (IIH), the cause of SANS is from the microgravity environment in space. However, SANS does not appear to affect all astronauts to the same magnitude and the variability of this remains unknown. Our collaborators at NASA have identified that the G allele for the MTRR A66G SNP in the one-carbon metabolic pathway (1C) is associated with a greater risk of choroidal folds and cotton-wool spots after flight, while the C allele for SHMT1 C1420T is protective against optic disc edema.² In a strict head-down tilt experiment for 30 days, the terrestrial model of spaceflight, individuals who developed worse optic disc edema also had the same risk alleles.³ In collaboration with NASA, we are currently investigating the potential connection between the one-carbon pathway SNPs and ophthalmic findings in patients with polycystic ovary syndrome and/or IIH. We are also investigating for potential retinal microvascular changes that occur in astronauts while in space using OCT angiography. Future interventions for SANS may include supplementing astronauts with cofactors in the one-carbon

metabolic pathway and/or utilization of lower body negative pressure. We will need a better understanding and treatment of SANS if we want to send our astronauts to Mars.

REFERENCES

1. Lee AG, Mader TH, Gibson CR, et al. Spaceflight associated neuro-ocular syndrome (SANS) and the neuro-ophthalmologic effects of microgravity: a review and an update. NPJ Microgravity. 2020;6:7.2. Zwart SR, Gregory JF, Zeisel SH, et al. Genotype, B-vitamin status, and androgens affect spaceflight-induced ophthalmic changes. FASEB J. 2016;30(1):141-148.3. Zwart SR, Laurie SS, Chen JJ, et al. Association of genetics and B vitamin status with the magnitude of optic disc edema during 30-day strict head-down tilt bed rest. JAMA Ophthalmol. 2019;137(10):1195-1200.

- *Educational objectives:* In order to send our astronauts to Mars, we need a better understanding of spaceflight associated neuro-ocular syndrome (SANS), a condition characterized by papilledema, hyperopic shifts, and choroidal folds, that affects astronauts during long duration space flight.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

Couch, Steven M. -- "Listen to the TONE of my voice"

- *Summary:* Accessing intracranial pathology through small incisions in the orbit can be time consuming and daunting for most eye surgeons but Transorbital neuroendoscopic surgery (TONES) has become more popular as a less invasive craniotomy method that we can provide access and surgical prowess to even the most talented neurosurgeon. We will discuss the approach, surgical principals and provide examples of transorbital neurosurgical procedures.

- *Educational objectives:* Understanding the role and anatomy of an orbital specialist in the management of intracranial surgery.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

Crane, William G. Jr. -- "Osteoblastic Metastatic Lesions? THAT'S STAGE IV CANCER!"

- *Summary:* Metastatic bone disease has a grim prognosis, with an average life expectancy of 6-48 months depending on the type of primary neoplasm. Metastases to bone originate most commonly from the breast (female), lung, prostate (male), kidney, gut, thyroid, multiple myeloma, lymphoma, and unknown source. Carcinoma travels to bone via hematogenous spread or direct invasion causing pain and pathologic fractures. An interesting case of presumed metastases to the skeleton will be presented and discussed.

- *Educational objectives:* Case presentation and discussion will include elements of general medicine, radiologic diagnosis, oncologic disease, dermatologic disease, genetics, cell biology, somato-ocular disease, and psycho-social impact of disease.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

Cunningham, Matthew A. -- "How to keep practicing when things around you are falling apart"

- *Summary:* This presentation will discuss various tools/techniques that can be utilized when healthcare providers run into unexpected situations that arise in our personal lives. Specifically, will discuss: Mindfulness and Resilience, Self Care, Support Systems, Time Management, Professional Development, Finances, and a Positive Mindset.
- *Educational objectives:* This lecture will address the importance of self-care and crisis management, specifically for physicians.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:* Yes

Ellis, Forrest James -- "Design, ex situ, and in vivo performance of the JelliSee accommodating intraocular lens"

- *Summary:* An effective accommodating prosthetic intraocular lens (IOL) to replace a diseased or dysfunctional lens of an adult or child is not currently available, despite decades of development efforts. Using known biomechanical properties of the pediatric human lens, a shape changing accommodating IOL was designed and tested. The design was tested with FEA analysis and Zemax optical modeling. A prototype IOL was manufactured and tested with a custom lens stretcher and laser measurements. The prototype accommodating IOL was then tested in a primate. Based on the results in bench testing and the primate, the IOL was implanted in 10 human subjects outside the USFEA analysis and Zemax optical modeling using the known forces of the human eye, predicted the accommodating IOL would be capable of an amplitude of accommodation of 7 diopters. Results of optical bench testing and stretcher testing of a prototype accommodating IOL also demonstrated excellent visual quality and an accommodation amplitude of 7 diopters. Primate testing demonstrated 7 diopters amplitude of accommodation up to 15 months post implantation. Results of human implantation have demonstrated a significant and sustained amplitude of accommodation similar to the results of ex-situ modeling and in vivo primate testing.
- *Educational objectives:* This lecture discusses the biomechanics of the youthful human lens, the development of a new accommodating IOL and the performance of the lens in human subjects.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:* Yes

Epley, David & Orge, Faruk -- "To boldly go where no one has gone before: ROP"

- *Summary:* Current methods to teach residents, fellows, and international ophthalmologists how to screen for retinopathy of prematurity require hands-on, direct view methods that prolong the uncomfortable exam on premature infants whose capacity to endure the strain of the exam is limited. This talk will demonstrate a novel application that will allow trainees to immerse themselves in the exam and treatment processes as long as needed to hone skills and grasp key concepts. A demonstration of the upcoming platform will be given.

- *Educational objectives:* Current education of ophthalmologists with regard to examination of infants for ROP and treatment of the retinopathy has limitations due to the duress induced by the examination process. This lecture will address a revolutionary method for how to educate the ophthalmologist to examine and treat ROP.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None
- *Special AV needs:* We will be casting to a computer using the Meta Quest 2. We'll need a laptop connected to the projector and to the same wi-fi as the Quest
- *Notes:* ☐ ☐ This replaces Faruk's original submission. Requesting two time slots.
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

Fish, Robert ☐ -- "Short term refractive outcomes with light adjustable lens in post-refractive keratotomy patients"

- *Summary:* Post-keratorefractive patients still pose a challenge in achieving an acceptable post-operative accurate refractive outcome. Post-radial keratotomy patients still represent a significant amount of patients undergoing cataract surgery today and their outcomes with modern biometry, intraocular lens formulas and techniques still fall below the standard that surgeons strive for in modern day cataract surgery. The light-adjustable lens (RxSight) offers technology that may allow for surgeons to achieve a higher degree of accuracy in their post surgical refractive outcomes.

- *Educational objectives:* To evaluate the post surgical refractive outcomes with the light adjustable lens (RxSight) in post-radial keratotomy patients.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

+ Ford, Carla ☐ -- "How I Almost Lost Dr Tandon Possibly Over Half a Million Dollars"

- *Summary:* To discuss Ohio's current scope of battle challenges, and to obtain comments and advice from AESC members regarding strategy and steps moving forward to defeat optometry's aggressive plan.

- *Educational objectives:* Attempts to address current state of affairs for our profession not only in the state of Ohio but nationwide as optometrists are trying to use various tactics to increase their scope of practice in various states

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None

- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

Goyal, Nina A. -- "Corneal Hysteresis: There may be more to blame than pressure"

- *Summary:* Glaucoma is a chronic progressive disease which affects approximately 3 million Americans and remains the leading cause of irreversible blindness in the world. While intraocular pressure (IOP) remains the primary modifiable risk factor, there are many patients who continue to progress despite controlled IOP's. In one arm of the Early Manifest Glaucoma trial, 45% of treated glaucoma patients experienced decline in visual fields despite an average 25% decrease in IOP. Conversely, in the OHTS trial, the majority of patients who had elevated IOP's, ocular hypertension, never developed glaucoma. With this in mind, we continue to explore other risk factors that may play a role in glaucoma diagnosis and progression such as central corneal thickness (CCT), age, family history, gender and race. One corneal biomechanical property that is of particular interest is corneal hysteresis (CH). Corneal hysteresis represents a cornea's ability to absorb and dissipate energy and is typically measured using the Reichert ocular response analyzer (ORA). The ORA measures CH by applying a pulse of air to the eye that forces the cornea inward and then measures the pressure difference (in mmHg) between the inward depression of the corneal surface and its subsequent re-expansion outward. A lower CH value therefore represents a cornea's decreased ability to withstand changes in applied energy. Given that CH has only recently been gaining traction as a possible additional biomarker for glaucoma severity, research on this topic has been limited. We performed a prospective cross sectional study involving 210 eyes diagnosed with various stages of POAG or glaucoma suspect (GS). CH was measured at the end of routine patient visits using an ORA. Data on IOP, visual field index (VFI), central corneal thickness, current number of medications for POAG, age, gender and race was collected. This presentation will review our results and findings and perhaps allow us to use one more piece of evidence in our glaucoma risk factor analyses.

- *Educational objectives:* To understand the role corneal hysteresis may play in identifying patients at risk for glaucoma and as a risk factor for glaucoma progression in certain glaucoma populations.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* None

- *Notes:* I would be interested in being a panelist if needed. Topics: Glaucoma in general, Glaucoma MIGS, Resident Education, Advocacy

- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:* Yes

Hasan, Sohail -- "Harnessing Private Equity for Enhanced Advocacy in Ophthalmology: Empowering Ophthalmologists Through Strategic Partnerships"

- *Summary:* This presentation will explore the transformative role of private equity in the rapidly evolving field of ophthalmology, where technological innovations meet patient care. It will highlight how strategic partnerships enhance professional practice and patient outcomes, aligning private equity's advocacy with the profession's goals to foster environments conducive to optimal care and practice, especially in the face of Medicare adjustments. By showcasing

examples from the Retina Consultants of America (RCA), including physician-led advocacy initiatives and investments in digital platforms like Brandwatch™, the talk will illustrate the amplification of the ophthalmology community's voice. The presentation will conclude by mapping out a future where private equity-backed advocacy continues to empower ophthalmologists, aiming for unparalleled excellence in patient care and professional growth.

- *Educational objectives:* This lecture addresses the educational need to understand how private equity can be leveraged for stronger advocacy in ophthalmology, bridging the knowledge gap regarding the strategic partnerships that can enhance patient outcomes and professional practice.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:* Yes
- *Note:* ☐ This could be part of a "mini-symposium" with Chris Albanis and any others who wish to participate.

Henderer, Jeffrey ☐ -- "Incorporating AI into a more efficient care delivery model"

- *Summary:* To describe how Temple Ophthalmology has been able to increase access to care by using an AI-assisted diabetic retinopathy screening program.

- *Educational objectives:* Improve access to care in an era of declining providers and increasing patient load

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

Hildebrand, P. Lloyd ☐ -- "A Digital Eye Institute - Designing for the Future"

- *Summary:* The University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) medical school opened seven years ago and has graduated its first three classes. There are relatively few GME programs in Nevada for graduating medical students. Nevada has a shortage of physicians, particularly in ophthalmology. Nevada is the most populous state and Las Vegas (population 2.9 million) is the second largest metropolitan area in the US without a residency program. As nearly half of ophthalmology graduates stay where they complete their training, an academic eye institute makes sense for Nevada. Using a public-private-partnership model, the Nevada Vision Foundation in collaboration with UNLV is launching a public-private eye institute that will host a new UNLV Department of Ophthalmology. As no department or residency program exists, designing from a blank slate has its challenges and opportunities. By design, the new Eye Institute will be structured as a comprehensively digital entity to support all clinical, educational, business, research and community outreach programs. Projecting the changes digitization will bring to ophthalmic workflows, infrastructure design and personnel requirements differ significantly from legacy academic institutions and requires careful consideration in design, staff recruitment and residency curriculum structure. This lecture will review the approach the Nevada Vision Foundation has used and current plans for moving forward with planning, design

and implementation of a digital eye institute for the future.

- *Educational objectives:* The lecture will address requirements to consider when designing a digital academic eye institute for the future.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None

- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

Daniel E. Neely -- "Irish Eyes: Looking to the USA"

- *Summary:* It is estimated that over 6 million Irish people have emigrated to the US since 1820. Of all the emigrants to the US between 1851 and 1860, it is estimated that 81% (990,000) were Irish (National Museum of Ireland). Today one-sixth of US citizens (43 million) identify their national background as Irish. The peak of Irish emigration resulted from the Great Famine of 1845-1852 and it is estimated that nearly two million people - about a quarter of Ireland's population - emigrated to the United States over a ten-year period at that time. However, Irish immigration to the states actually started long before the potato famine, dating back to the American colonial period and occurring in such numbers that the Irish and Scotch-Irish population in America was second in number only to the English population in the American colonies. This discussion will celebrate the rich American-Irish brotherhood and ties to our meeting's beautiful host country.

- *Educational objectives:* Immigration continues to be an important topic in the United States and understanding our history as a nation of immigrants remains a vital perspective.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None

- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:* Yes

- *Note:* ☐ Not for CME

Orge, Faruk -- "AAO Virtual Reality Center and ROP Simulator" WITHDRAWN - See Epley/Orge submission

- *Summary:* This will be the demonstration of the newly formed AAO VR Center and ROP simulator. ROP simulator allows the user to perform indirect ophthalmoscopy, laser via indirect ophthalmoscopy and intravitreal injection through using Metaquest 2/3 headsets. This allow remote teaching and individual guided learning on how to perform ROP examination and related treatment as well as learn about ROP in general.

- *Educational objectives:* Learning about novel & accessible online/virtual ROP training platform, to help prevent blindness from ROP

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None

- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

- *Notes:* Interested in moderating or leading a discussion symposium.

Parke, D. Wilkin -- "An old dog for a hard road: Is bilateral patching underutilized for vitreous pathology?"

- *Summary:* Bilateral patching is an old technique to temporarily reduce vitreous traction. The talk looks at existing literature and our own ongoing prospective studies on We are looking in a prospective, randomized fashion at bilateral patching in the setting of retinal detachment.

- *Educational objectives:* This should highlight the role of bilateral patching in the management of various vitreoretinal pathologies.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None

- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:* Yes

Puente, Michael ☐ -- "Strabismus in Children's Animated Films"

- *Summary:* A team of researchers watched all animated films from Disney, Pixar, DreamWorks, and Studio Ghibli released since 1989 to identify all characters with strabismus. This talk will present the results of a personality and character trait analysis that was performed on all characters found to have strabismus.

- *Educational objectives:* This session will critically evaluate whether characters with strabismus are being portrayed positively or negatively to the young impressionable audience of animated children's movies.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None

- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

- *A/V:* Videos with sound/internet

Saini, Arvind ☐ -- "No Money, No Mission"

- *Summary:* Healthcare is challenging for small to mid sized practices that depend on insurance payments. What are the typical sources of revenue for practices? What is the timing of this revenue? What is the process of seeing a patient and collecting for that encounter. What are different payment types and how this can be confusing for patients and practices to collect (co-insurance, deductibles, co-pays)? What are the steps in the payment cycle and revenue cycle management? How do contracted rates cap practices earning potential and inhibit practices from keeping up with inflation? What are different insurance payment models and the steps needed to obtain payment in these models?

- *Educational objectives:* Practice Management

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None

- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

Schwartz, Stephen G. ☐ -- "Pegcetacoplan-Associated Occlusive Retinal Vasculitis"

- *Summary:* Pegcetacoplan (Syfovre, Apellis) is FDA-approved for the treatment of

geographic atrophy secondary to age-related macular degeneration. No cases of retinal vasculitis were reported during the clinical trials. However, shortly after FDA approval on 2/17/2023, sporadic cases of retinal vasculitis were identified in clinical practice. The American Society of Retina Specialists (ASRS) recently reported 14 eyes of 13 patients, including the present case. An 80 year old female was treated with a single injection of pegcetacoplan and subsequently developed occlusive retinal vasculitis presenting to neovascular glaucoma over a period of several months.

- *Educational objectives:* To review the new phenomenon of occlusive retinal vasculitis following treatment with a new agent, pegcetacoplan.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:* Yes
- *Panels:* Would be interested in a retina panel

Tandon, Amit ☐ -- "Best of Tandy: health update and doppelgängers"

- *Summary:* Will summarize my earlier talks on my health issues (will be brief - I'm doing great!). Will also attempt at some levity with doppelgängers part deux.

- *Educational objectives:* Entertainment value

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*
- *Note:* Not for CME credit

Tao, Jeremiah P. ☐ -- "Reducing Bruising and Inflammation after Oculofacial Surgery - An Evidence-Based Approach"

- *Summary:* Bruising and swelling after surgery is source of embarrassment and time away from work or friends. Also, many patients inversely correlate the amount of ecchymosis with the quality of their surgery. Moreover, in more serious forms, such as an orbit compartment syndrome, neurologic injury is possible. Homeopathic agents such as Arnica montana are sold with bruise prevention labels. Also, there remains confusion and some controversy regarding holding anticoagulant or antiplatelet medications for surgery. Lastly, most routinely prescribe antibiotic ointment with or without corticosteroids for post-operative use and peri-operative tranexamic acid is increasingly popular. This presentation will describe the evidence surrounding all the aforementioned measures.

- *Educational objectives:* This presentation will outline the evidence for or against common measures to reduce bruising and swelling after surgery.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None
- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

Tooley, Andrea ☐ -- "Predictors of Ophthalmology Resident Performance From Medical Student Application Materials"

- *Summary:* We conducted a multi-institutional, cross sectional study of 7 residency programs and 260 residents over 10 years to determine whether elements in ophthalmology residency applications are predictors of future resident performance. This study is a first of its kind to assess resident performance in multiple domains (clinical, surgical, academic, and global performance), and link this to factors within the residency application, as well as to performance on ABO written and oral board examinations. In this new landscape of increasing numbers of applicants to residency programs and changing of the Step 1 score to pass/fail, our findings may help guide selection committees as they holistically review applicants to select exceptional future residents in ophthalmology.

- *Educational objectives:* These data will help the audience understand factors in the residency application predictive of future high performance in residency and beyond.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ None

- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:*

- *Notes:* ☐ Interested in moderating or leading a discussion symposium; happy to help with anything oculoplastics

Tsai, James C. ☐ -- "New Innovative Directions in Ophthalmic Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Digital Health"

- *Summary:* This talk highlights recent advances in ophthalmic AI and digital health. These breakthroughs include linkages between subretinal drusenoid deposits (SDD) in age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and cardiovascular disease and stroke, as well as the utility of adaptive optics imaging in the management of sickle cell disease. In addition, large language models are proficient in diagnostic accuracy and completeness in ophthalmic subspecialty diseases. The transformative role of AI in delivering value to patients and clinicians is discussed.

- *Educational objectives:* Understand the potential role of AI in medicine in augmenting the diagnostic and therapeutic strategies for patients.

- *Schedule Restrictions:* ☐ ☐ Cannot speak on Thursday (8/1)

- *Conflict of interest disclosure received:* Yes

- *Panels:* Interested in Artificial Intelligence in ophthalmology/medicine