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Bulletin

NEXT MEETING

Marriott West
600 Maryville Center

August 11 , 2020 7:00 pm

Hope all of you are staying safe and taking precautions in all areas of your life.

Due to the change in the County regulations of group gathering, this months meeting will be a ZOOM ONLY meeting.

7:00 p.m. Business Meeting

Followed by:

Beyond the Basics:
Troubleshooting Scleral Lenses

Julie Dekinder, OD, FAAO, FSLS
and Madison Moss, O.D.

Thank you, Drs DeKinder and Moss, for sharing your expertise with SLOS

Register for this ZOOM meeting no later then August 10, 2020

Beginning at 7:00 you will also be able to join us via ZOOM.

Details on the ZOOM meeting will be sent again via email

COMMITTEES:

2019-2020 Committees:

Membership: Dr. Casey Hamm
Contact Lens: Dr. Rachel Merriman
Technology: Dr. John Bush
Co-Management: Erik Ricker
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MOA Trustees: Dr. Jenna Osseck
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Anti-VEGF 2.0: The next generation of wet AMD treatment

Presented by: Nancy Holekamp, MD
Submitted by : Paul Luong, OD, FAAO

Summary:

1. Four anti-VEGF agents are in use for the treatment of nAMD: bevacizumab, ranibizumab, aflibercept, and brolucizumab
2. The current anti-VEGF have significant treatment burden (requires multiple injections every 1-3 months) for the best vision outcomes
3. Anti-VEGF 2.0 drugs are coming, but still “me too” drugs. They still target VEGF pathway but try to decrease the treatment burden. Many lead to too much inflammation.
4. Faricimab is the first attempt to target another disease mechanism: the Angiopoetin-2 pathway
5. Port Delivery System (PDS) with ranibizumab just reported positive Phase 3 results from the ARCHWAY Study. This makes AMD a surgical disease.

##################

Thank You Dr. Holekamp and Pepose Vision Institute

Pearls from Dr. Holekamp:

15 years into the Anti-VEGF era for treating wet AMD, these are the current anti-VEGF agents and the various dosing schedules doctors use. However, with any anti-VEGF agent, the more injections a patient receives, the better they do visually. This creates a treatment burden for patients and their care-givers. Research is ongoing for the next generation of anti-VEGF agents that will improve and maintain vision with fewer injections."

Here are the links that take you to the MOA conference registration

https://www.moeyecare.org/AnnualConferenceAttendeeRegistration

Please Contact Steve Branstetter, OD if you are interested in Serving on a committee: slbj28@gmail.com

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MOA Report July 2020

Submitted by: Jason Riley, O.D.
Jenna Osseck, O.D.

- The AOA/MOA is fighting back on the FTC Contact Lens Rule, which requires implementation of costly and unnecessary paperwork for the record-keeping mandate on optometry practices. Updates will be provided on this issue.
  - The Contact Lens Rule now mandates doctors who prescribe contact lenses must maintain proof that they released the prescription to the patient for at least three years.
- The American Academy of Ophthalmology and others have exponentially increased their obstructionist efforts by attempting to dismantle Arkansas' current scope of practice by ballot referendum. This ballot effort in Arkansas will affect us all and future scope bills. Ophthalmology-led opposition in Arkansas has raised nearly $2 million through June of this year with contributions from out of state OMD associations. The MOA is looking at ways to contribute as a state organization and asking members to contribute to Arkansans for Healthy Eyes' campaign. Contributions will help preserve the law for which Arkansas optometrists fought so hard to pass and demonstrate that doctors of optometry are working together as one. Contributions can be personal or from a business. Email Lee Ann Barrett (moaed@moaeyecare.org) for information on where checks can be mailed.
- See MOA website for COVID-19 updates and information (moeyecare.org).
- Missouri Department of Labor announced that the rules regarding unemployment will be changing back to normal in July. See MOA memo from 6/18.
- There have also been PPP changes, as well. Refer to MOA memo from 6/11.
- MOA/AOA Dues were sent out in June. April and May dues were waived. Any questions can be directed to Kari at the MOA central office (kari@moeyecare.com).
- MOA Happy Hour, hosted by the MOA Board, will be held tomorrow, July 15th at 7:30pm, on Zoom. This is open to all MOA members who would like to login to chat with the MOA board and ask questions/voice any concerns. Please see the MOA email from 7/9 for the link to join the Zoom meeting.
- The MOA Convention will be held October 15-18th in Branson at Chateau on the Lake. Registration is now open! Early bird registration ends September 11th. The MOA board will meet later in July for the pre-convention and board meeting to discuss further details and modifications that will be made due to COVID-19.

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Technology Report:
Submitted by: John Bush, OD

DARC Glaucoma detection system:

DARC is an acronym for detection of apoptosing retinal cells. It is a method of detecting and monitoring retinal ganglion cells in vivo. Currently, glaucoma is diagnosed after about 40% of the retinal ganglion cells are lost. The goal of DARC technology is earlier diagnosis and therefore earlier treatment. DARC uses fluorescently labelled proteins that bind to phospholipids in neurons to identify dying cells. A photo is taken and the number of labelled cells is determined. The number of stained cells correlates with the severity of the damage. The labelled cells can be counted either manually by a trained observer or through the use of an artificial intelligence program. The AI program makes the process more objective, repeatable and faster. While not currently available commercially, it should be on the market within the next year or two.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

August 11, 2020 7:00 pm

The August Meeting has been changed to a ZOOM only meeting due to changes in the county regulations.

7:00 p.m. Business Meeting

Followed by

Beyond the Basics:

Troubleshooting Scleral Lenses

Julie Dekinder, OD, FAAO, FSLS
and Madison Moss, O.D.

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Beginning at 7:00 you will be able to join us via ZOOM.

Details on the ZOOM meeting Can be found on the e-mail coversheet or by Contacting Paula at slos@mailcan.com

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Dr. Lee Ann Barrett (moaed@moeyecare.org) would like all SLOS members with questions, concerns or thoughts pertaining to optometry and the current COVID-19 situation, as well as the passed stimulus package involving PPP and SBA loans to feel free to contact her directly with their questions answered. (moaed@moeyecare.org)
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