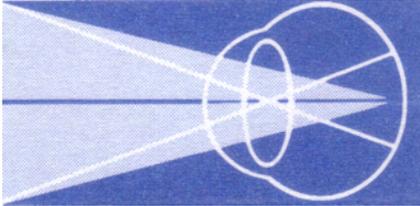


The Retinal Consultants Update

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Sacramento, CA 95819
916/454-4861

GREENBACK

5775 Greenback Lane
Sacramento, CA 95841
916/339-3655

CHICO

19 Ilahee Lane
Chico, CA 95973
530/899-2251

ELK GROVE

9381 E. Stockton Blvd. #106
Elk Grove, CA 95624
916/714-5500

GRASS VALLEY

159 Catherine Lane
Grass Valley, CA 95945
530/273-8062

STOCKTON

1805 N. California #406
Stockton, CA 95204
209/461-5291

MODESTO

1401 Spanos Court #223
Modesto, CA 95355
209/549-8444

VACAVILLE

1001 Nut Tree Rd. #110
Vacaville, CA 95687
707/446-7676

“All Retina All the Time”

New Offices Open in Elk Grove and Grass Valley

We again welcome the opportunity to reconnect with our colleagues by keeping you up-to-date on developments in our field and how our practice strives to bring the latest innovations in retinal care to our mutual patients. In this issue, we spotlight another of our partners, Rob Equi. You may also notice a few more addresses in the column to the left. Our ongoing efforts to improve service have resulted in the opening of two new offices in Elk Grove and Grass Valley. Also, in this issue we provide an update on our continuing mission to innovate and provide new treatments through research and clinical trials. As always, our goal remains to provide the best possible retinal care for our mutual patients and to communicate our findings and plans to you expediently. Please know that we are available for same day consultations, including during our Saturday office hours. We welcome your calls at any time at any of our office numbers.

Spotlight on the Consultant

Rob Equi

Dr. Equi was raised in California and attended college at UCLA, graduating Summa Cum Laude. He began his work in ophthalmology while at UCLA, researching treatments for



retinal diseases at the famous Jules Stein Eye Institute. He subsequently earned his M.D. at the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine. He completed his internship at Scripps-Mercy Hospital in San Diego before heading east to the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hop-

kins University to pursue his residency training in ophthalmology. Following residency, he returned to California to be a fellow in vitreo-retinal surgery at the Doheny Retina Institute, part of USC's Keck School of Medicine. Dr. Equi was awarded the inaugural Heed Foundation Clinician-Scientist award in 2002, one of only two ophthalmologists in the country to receive that award. Following his fellowship, he returned to Johns Hopkins to serve as the Assistant Chief of Service of the Wilmer Eye Institute following in the footsteps of his colleagues, Drs. Arun Patel and Joel Pearlman.

Dr. Equi has published papers and written chapters on treatments for infectious diseases of the retina, diabetic eye disease, and macular degeneration. He has been involved in several national clinical trials in the treatment of macular degeneration. He is a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and is Board Certified.

Dr. Equi is an avid long distance runner and cyclist, having competed in marathons and triathlons, and he describes himself as a diehard family man.



Now Open: Elk Grove and Grass Valley Offices

We are pleased to announce that in February 2009, we opened two new offices.

For the convenience of our referring doctors and patients south of Sacramento, one of the new offices is located in Elk Grove at the Liberty Center II office complex at 9381 East Stockton Boulevard just off of Highway 99. It is a new facility with advanced diagnostic and therapeutic equipment. Along with providing easy access from the highway and ample, free street-level parking, the new office is equipped to handle almost all in-office retinal procedures.

To improve access for our patient from the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains east of Sacramento, the other new office is located in Grass Valley at 159 Catherine Lane, just down the street from Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital. The office has easy access from Highways 49, 20, and 174. Easy parking and a ground level floor plan make the office highly accessible.

As always, we remain committed to providing the highest quality of retinal services. We remain available for same day consultations and we provide the convenience of Saturday office hours. After hours assistance is always available by calling 916-454-4861.



The Grass Valley Office is a newly renovated space down the street from Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital

We continue to have offices at:

- ◆ Sacramento - 3939 J St., Ste. 106
- ◆ North Sacramento at Greenback - 5775 Greenback Lane
- ◆ Chico - 19 Ilahee Lane
- ◆ Modesto - 1401 Spanos Court, Ste. 223
- ◆ Stockton - 1805 N. California, Ste. 406
- ◆ Vacaville - 1001 Nut Tree Rd., Ste. 110



The new Elk Grove office is in Liberty Center II off of Highway 99

Trials

Eligible Patients Sought for Enrollment in Clinical Studies Designed to Assess New Therapies

CATT (National Eye Institute)

The Comparisons of Age-Related Macular Degeneration Treatment Trials (CATT) is a multi-centered randomized treatment trial designed to assess the relative safety and efficacy of Avastin vs. Lucentis for subfoveal neovascular AMD. We have been selected as one of less than 50 sites across the U.S. to participate in the study. Patients are randomized to one of four treatment regimens: monthly Avastin, monthly Lucentis, Avastin on an “as needed” basis, or Lucentis on an “as needed” schedule. The study protocol is two years long.

VIEW (Regeneron)

Aflibercept, also known as VEGF-trap, is being developed as an alternative intravitreal agent to Avastin and Lucentis for the treatment of neovascular AMD. VEGF-trap functions as a soluble decoy receptor and binds to VEGF (vascular endothelial growth factor), thereby preventing VEGF from binding to cell receptors. VEGF-trap may have a favorable duration of action when compared to current therapies. This comparison trial will assess the efficacy of various VEGF-trap dosing regimens when compared with monthly Lucentis.

REGENERON DME (Regeneron)

Avastin and Lucentis are both commonly used in an off-label fashion to treat diabetic macular edema (DME). Aflibercept (VEGF-trap), the same medicine being evaluated in the Regeneron VIEW trial as an alternative intravitreal agent to Avastin and Lucentis, is also being evaluated for the treatment of DME. This one-year trial will compare the efficacy of various VEGF-trap dosing regimens to laser therapy, the current gold standard in the care of diabetic macular edema.

TRUST (Thrombogenics)

This randomized, double-masked, multi-center trial evaluates an intravitreal injection of microplasmin as a non-surgical treatment for focal vitreomacular adhesion. The 6-month study protocol begins with a study drug or placebo injection and this is followed by 5 additional visits to evaluate the treatment efficacy.

PASCAL (OptiMedica)

This prospective pilot study tests the Pattern Scan Laser (PASCAL) photocoagulator for the treatment of clinically significant macular edema in patients with non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy. This data collection study is designed to evaluate the use of this FDA approved device.

HORIZON (Genentech)

This rollover trial is a continuation of our BRAVO and CRUISE trials, which assessed the safety and efficacy of Lucentis therapy for the treatment of branch vein occlusions and central vein occlusions, respectively. The HORIZON study is only open to participants of the original 2 trials and consists of as needed Lucentis injections for the treatment of the retinal vein occlusion diseases. This trial is 2 years in duration.

RETINAL CONSULTANTS

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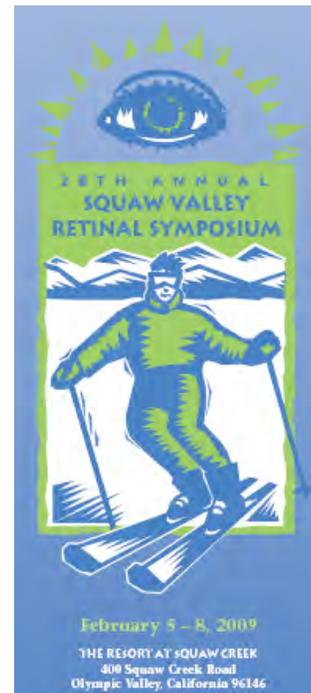
Robert T. Wendel, MD

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Recent Events

Twenty-Eighth Annual Squaw Valley Symposium

The 28th Annual Squaw Valley Retina Symposium was held February 5-8 at Squaw Valley USA, and like last year, conditions were perfect for all major events – continuing medical education, skiing, and fellowship. This year's featured guest faculty included Lee M. Jampol, MD, from Northwestern University, Joan M. O'Brien, MD, from the University of California at San Francisco, Carl D. Regillo, MD, from the Wills Eye Institute, and Richard F. Spaide, MD, from the Vitreous, Retina, and Macula Consultants of New York. Along with Dr. Maurice Landers, our own Rob Wendel served, again, as program director. The symposium was both an academic and social success and the countdown to next years meeting has already begun. (For details see www.squawvalleyretina.com)



The Valley Retina Update Newsletter
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED