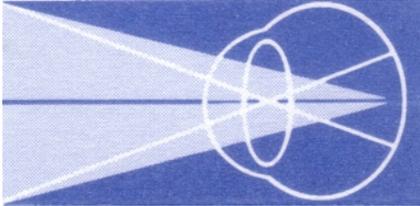


The Retinal Consultants Update

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“All Retina All the Time”

New Office Opens in Tracy and Surgery Begins at Northern California Advanced Surgery Center

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, J. Brian Reed. You may also notice a new address in the column to the left.

Our ongoing efforts to improve service have led to the opening of a new office in Tracy. In addition, in November we began performing surgery at our new surgery center focused on ophthalmic care in north Sacramento. Finally, 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

J. Brian Reed

Dr. J. Brian Reed graduated from Jesuit High School in Sacramento and stayed in California to earn his baccalaureate from Occidental College in Los Angeles. After a distinguished career in graduate physiology research at the University of Nevada, Reno, he entered the military and earned his diploma in medi-



cine with Alpha Omega Alpha honors from the prestigious Uniformed

Services University of the Health Sciences. After serving as a General Medical Officer in the US Air Force, he performed his ophthalmology residency at Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Reed then returned home to the Sacramento valley to complete his fellowship training in vitreoretinal surgery and uveitis at the University of California, Davis Medical Center. He subsequently served as the Chief of the Vitreoretinal and Uveitis Services in the United States Air Force for six years where he distinguished himself as an excellent and compassionate physician.

Dr. Reed has excelled in his field. He has published numerous peer-reviewed articles on the subject of inflammatory disorders of the eye in prominent medical journals, among them *Ophthalmology*, *Archives of Ophthalmology*, the *American Journal of Ophthalmology*, and *Retina*. Besides delivering lectures and seminars at national meetings, he has also written several book chapters on ocular surgery. Dr. Reed has earned accolades throughout his career for his research, teaching, and service, including the Surgeon General's Award for Research in Ophthalmology, the Outstanding Educator Award at Wilford Hall Medical Center, and two Meritorious Service Medals.

Dr. Reed joined the Retinal Consultants in 2005 and, when not at work, he enjoys life with his family in and around his home town of Sacramento.

Now Open: Northern California Advanced Surgery Center and New Tracy Office

We are pleased to announce that in November 2009 we opened two new facilities that will greatly improve convenience for our patients and the efficiency of our care. We began operating at Northern California Advanced Surgery Center, a new facility dedicated to ophthalmic surgery in a calm and patient-focused environment. It is the first independent ambulatory surgery center in Northern California of its kind, with the capabilities to perform both anterior and posterior segment surgeries. It is at 5771 Greenback Lane near our North Sacramento office off of Interstate 80.

Also in November, we opened a new

office in Tracy for the convenience of our referring doctors and patients in the communities "in the Triangle." It is a newly renovated facility with advanced diagnostic and therapeutic equipment conveniently located on 1548 Tracy Blvd. near Sutter Tracy



The Tracy Office is a newly renovated space conveniently located down the street from Sutter Tracy Community Hospital

Community Hospital. 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. For appointments call 209-833-6900.

As always, we remain committed to providing the highest quality of retinal care. 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.



Northern California Advanced Surgery Center is a new facility located at 5771 Greenback Lane in North Sacramento

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 versus Lucentis for subfoveal neovascular AMD. We are one of less than 50 sites in 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” basis. The study protocol is two years long. Nationwide, enrollment is approaching the target of 1200. With completion of enrollment, the CATT takes another step closer to producing results.

COPERNICUS (Regeneron)

Anti-VEGF (vascular endothelial growth factor) medications such as Lucentis and Avastin are in common use for the treatment of macular edema related venous occlusive disease. VEGF Trap is a novel anti-VEGF agent that functions as a soluble decoy receptor that binds to VEGF, thereby preventing VEGF from binding to cell receptors. The Copernicus trial tests the safety and efficacy of VEGF Trap for macular edema secondary to CRVO. Subjects receive either 2mg of VEGF Trap or sham treatment every 4 weeks for the first 24 weeks. Then for weeks 24-52 subjects receive active drug or sham as needed according to retreatment criteria. At the end of the first year, all subjects are eligible for a 1-year extension trial using VEGF Trap as needed. Pan retinal photocoagulation is applied as needed throughout the study.

HARBOR (Genentech)

Intravitreal injection of ranibizumab (Lucentis) given monthly at 0.5mg per injection has been shown to be highly efficacious and is approved by the FDA for the treatment of wet age-related macular degeneration. Higher doses than 0.5mg per injection may have additional benefit. The HARBOR study is a phase III, double-masked, multicenter, randomized, active treatment-controlled study of the efficacy and safety of 0.5 mg versus 2.0 mg ranibizumab administered monthly or on an as-needed basis in patients with subfoveal wet age-related macular degeneration. The study protocol is 24 months long.

EVEROLIMUS (Novartis)

Everolimus (Afinitor) is a new chemotherapeutic agent that comes in tablet form. It acts as an inhibitor of mTOR (mammalian target of rapamycin) and among its effects is reduced expression of VEGF. This study assesses the safety and efficacy of oral Everolimus once daily either alone or added to Lucentis for wet age-related macular degeneration patients who have failed treatment with anti-VEGF intravitreal injections alone. Subjects are randomized to daily Everolimus with sham intravitreal injection at baseline, daily Everolimus and Lucentis injection at baseline, and placebo tablet once daily and Lucentis injection at baseline. All subjects receive Lucentis injection at Day 28. The trial is 56 days in duration.

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Upcoming Events

Twenty-Ninth Annual Squaw Valley Symposium

The 29th Annual Squaw Valley Retina Symposium will be held February 4-7 at Squaw Valley USA. As always, we expect that conditions will be perfect for all major events – continuing medical education, skiing, and fellowship. The 2010 featured guest faculty includes Lee M. Jampol, MD, from Northwestern University, James C. Folk, MD, from the University of Iowa, Michael S. Ip, MD, from the University of Wisconsin, Colin A. McCannel, MD, from the Jules Stein Eye Institute, Tara A. McCannel, MD, PhD, from the Jules Stein 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 will serve, again, as program director. The meeting has always been both an academic and social success. For details and registration information, visit the symposium website at www.squawvalleyretina.com



The Valley Retina Update Newsletter
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