

AUTUMN 2019 | NEWSLETTER

THE VIEW

EYE INNOVATION AT THE SAVE SIGHT INSTITUTE



SEE
THE
FUTURE

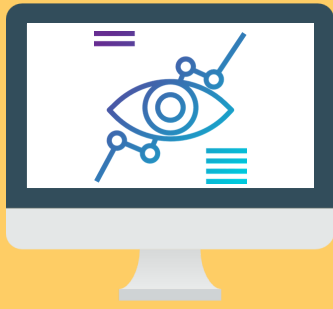
**WE STRIVE TO FIND INNOVATIVE
SOLUTIONS TO RESTORE SIGHT
AND PROMOTE EYE HEALTH**

Stephanie Watson

In this issue of The View, I am pleased to share with you some of our multidisciplinary team of researchers, clinicians and our projects. These projects are all working towards improving outcomes for patients with eye disease and improving eye health.

The work that we do would not be possible without the generosity of donors and supporters. I thank these visionary individuals and organisations for the immense trust that they put in our team.





FIGHT CORNEAL BLINDNESS!

The Fight Corneal Blindness! (FCB!) Project is a web-based registry, which enables the clinicians to securely enter clinical and patient-reported data, and monitor outcomes over time. The purpose of this project is to understand the effectiveness and safety of emerging therapies and surgical techniques to improve the management of corneal diseases such as keratoconus.

BREAST CANCER & DRY EYE

One in eight women is expected to develop breast cancer in her lifetime. In the foreseeable future, millions of women are likely to use Aromatase inhibitors (AI) (i.e. a drug that targets the estrogen pathway). We have reported a higher prevalence of dry eye in women on AI therapy.

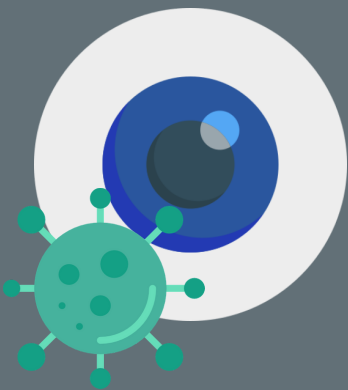
We aim to assess the clinical features of dry eye in AI patients.



HERPES SIMPLEX KERATITIS

Herpes simplex keratitis is an infection of the cornea caused by herpes simplex virus. This infection is an important cause of unilateral blindness in developed countries.

Treatment guidelines for initial therapy were developed at Sydney Eye Hospital to improve clinical outcomes, and reduce complications, recurrent episodes and medical costs.



OCULAR TRAUMA

Eye injuries are the leading cause of monocular blindness. Vision loss impacts quality of life and has significant negative economic impact for the individual and society. Prevention is a key role in saving sight with 90% preventable. We are developing an online platform to collect eye injury data to redefine the way ocular trauma is recorded and measured. Identifying world-wide trends will assist in developing eye injury prevention strategies.





CORNEAL INFECTIONS

Antimicrobial resistance is a global serious problem requiring urgent action. A corneal infection caused by bacteria needs immediate and effective antibiotic treatment to prevent vision loss. The **Keratitis Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Program (KARSP)** was established in 2016 at Sydney Eye Hospital to monitor the antimicrobial resistance to guide appropriate treatment.

OCULAR SEALANT

We have developed a thin-film laser-activated patch to seal full thickness corneal wound. The surgical device will allow eye surgeons to avoid using sutures on an optically sensitive location of the eye.

Currently, we have favourable results in models and seek to further establish efficacy and safety before human use.



KNOW SOMEONE WITH:

MEIBOMIAN GLAND DYSFUNCTION (MGD)

Meibomian are a type of gland in the eyelid.

MGD is a blockage or abnormality of the glands, which prevents secretion of oil into the tears. This causes the tears to evaporate too quickly, leading to dry eyes.



ADENOVIRAL CONJUNCTIVITIS

Viral conjunctivitis is an infection of the eye that is spread through direct contact. Symptoms include redness, tearing, irritation, itching, and/or watery discharge.

See if you qualify <https://rubytrial.com.au/>



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OUR TEAM



TAKE ACTION WITH THE EYE INNOVATION GROUP

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SUPPORT OUR RESEARCH

We can't do what we do without the support of our patients and community. Our research is funded 100% by grants, donations and bequests. To help us find new and improved ways to save sight please consider making a donation to the Eye Innovation Group via our donation form online at **savesightinstitute.org.au** and selecting 'Eye Innovation Group'. **Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible.**



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