

Preliminary Symposia Sessions

Corneal Infections: What's New and what's next!

Moderators: Marian Macsai, MD and Shahzad Mian, MD

Corneal infections are the source of most corneal blindness around the world. This symposium will feature the latest advances in treating blinding corneal infections from both common and emerging agents. Updates on herpetic and adenoviral infections will improve recognition and treatment of these vexing disorders. Exciting new developments in fungal and parasitic diseases will arm participants with new approaches to these difficult infections. Finally, updates on emerging systemic infections with ocular manifestations will equip attendees to deal with next epidemic.

Innovations and Future Directions Symposium

Moderators: Edward Holland, MD, Marian Macsai, MD, and Jod Mehta, MD

Join us for an “out of the box” symposium that will close the 2020 World Cornea Congress and foreshadow what we might be doing in 2025. Will 3-D printed corneas, artificial intelligence to diagnose corneal diseases, and gene therapy be mainstream by 2025? Will we eliminate the need for transplantation for keratoconus? Will stem cells replace tissue transplantation? Please mark your calendars for what is sure to be a controversial symposium, featuring a stellar panel and the most innovative speakers in our field.

International Symposium

Moderators: Anthony Aldave, MD, Luigi Fontana, MD, and Shigeto Shimmura, MD

Ocular surface disease and dry eyes: new approaches to old problems

Co-sponsored by Asia Cornea Society

Although ocular surface disease and dry eyes continue to plague our patients, a better understanding of these common problems has resulted in novel ways to address the conditions. In this symposium, experts from Asia will discuss new ways of thinking about these conditions, along with the most current treatment options.

Lamellar keratoplasty: techniques, controversies, and complications

Co-sponsored by EuCornea

The field of keratoplasty has continued to evolve during the last 5 years, and during this symposium, leading authorities from Europe will address new techniques to help improve outcomes for our patients. In addition, current controversies in lamellar keratoplasty techniques, as well as its unique complications will be discussed.

Keratoconus and crosslinking

Co-sponsored by PanCornea

Our understanding of keratoconus continues to improve, leading to better ways to manage the condition. In this symposium, experts in the field will discuss newer diagnostic and management techniques for keratoconus.

Cornea Society University Symposium

Moderators: Jessica Ciralsky, MD and Peter Veldman, MD

Thinking Outside the Box: Insights from the Next Generation

This symposium will feature talks on a variety of corneal topics given by up-and-coming young cornea specialists. Join us to see what's new in pediatric corneal transplantation, myopia control, international eye banking, and corneal complications from experimental cancer drugs, among other topics. And, get to know some of the cornea specialists who will be the future of our field.

Surgical Innovations Symposium

Moderators: Deepinder K. Dhaliwal, MD and Parag Majumdar, MD

The Surgical Innovations Symposium will feature the world's experts on both innovative approaches utilizing current surgical techniques as well as new surgical approaches to corneal and ocular surface diseases. The session will feature new approaches to stromal augmentation in corneal ectatic and thinning disorders as well new applications of current technologies. Surgical approaches to neurotrophic keratitis as well as stem cell applications for ocular surface and stromal pathologies will be presented. Finally, a series of video presentations from innovative surgeons will illustrate their favorite techniques. A Symposium that will provide you with techniques you can use today and look forward to tomorrow.

Spotlight Sessions

Fuch's Dystrophy

Moderator: Kathryn Colby, MD, PhD

One of the final talks of the 2015 World Cornea Congress was on a bilateral case of deliberate descemetorhexis without grafting as a treatment for Fuchs dystrophy. Controversial at the time, "Descemet stripping only (DSO)" is now working its way into the cornea mainstream. This symposium will gather Fuchs dystrophy experts to discuss innovations over the last five years. Come hear what's new with our understanding of the disease pathogenesis – is Fuchs a mitochondrial disease? Can Fuchs be treated by anti-oxidants, gene editing or antisense oligonucleotides? What does the future of surgical management of Fuchs hold? Will transplants for Fuchs become obsolete? What is the role of Rho kinase inhibitors? It is an exciting time for those interested in this common corneal disease. This symposium will feature invited talks, point: counterpoint presentations, and a lively panel discussion.