



Date: Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Time: 11:00am – 5:00pm Eastern

Location: Virtual

This year's theme, *Perspectives in Vision*, emphasizes the need for a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach to addressing eye health challenges in an evolving world. The event will bring together professionals, policymakers, patient advocates, and innovators to exchange ideas, share experiences, and forge strategies to promote equitable access to vision care.

AGENDA

Exhibit Hall: 11:00am-5:00pm Eastern

Explore the exhibit hall and download information available from our event sponsors. Email communications will be available with exhibit staff. Some booths will also have video and text chat options available.

11:00am-12:00pm Eastern

SESSION 1: Opening Remarks, Keynote Discussion: Leading the Way: National Lessons in Eye Health Advocacy and Collaboration & Reaction Panel

This session will discuss how the U.S. can take lessons learned from the recent passing of the Canadian [National Strategy for Eye Care Act](#).

- Opening remarks and moderator: Jeff Todd, President & CEO, Prevent Blindness
- Elisabeth Fowler, CEO, Canadian Ophthalmological Society
- Jennifer Jones, President & CEO, Fighting Blindness Canada

Followed by a reaction panel: What can we in the US, along with other countries around the world learn from Canada's efforts as we look to make vision a national governmental priority?

- Philip Goglas II, Managing Partner, Health and Medicine Counsel LLC
- Dan Ignaszewski, Executive Director, Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (AEVR) & National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (NAEVR)

POST-SESSION SPEAKER CHAT ROOM: Session 1 – 12:00-12:30pm Eastern

12:15-1:00pm Eastern

SESSION 2: Fireside Chat: Factors that Matter in Vision Research

The goal of this session is to explore key factors that impact eye health and vision research, including race, ethnicity, gender, and social determinants of health.

- Moderator: Ruth Y. Shoge, OD, MPH, FAAO, Associate Clinical Professor and Chief Diversity Officer, University of California Berkeley School of Optometry & Vision Science
- M. Roy Wilson, MD, MS; President Emeritus, Wayne State University; Distinguished Professor, Wayne State University School of Medicine

1:30 -2:30pm Eastern

Coffee Chats

Join the table with fellow attendees for an informal discussion around the following topics.

- **Topic 1:** What are the key considerations when supporting caregivers of individuals with vision loss?
 - Moderator: Marvell Adam Jr, CEO, Caregiver Action Network
- **Topic 2:** What are key access considerations in myopia treatment and care?
 - Moderator: Afua O. Asare, OD, PhD, MPH, Research Assistant Professor, Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences, John A Moran Eye Center, University of Utah
- **Topic 3:** How can we implement AI in rural populations to improve eye health?
 - Moderator: Roomasa Channa, MD, Associate Professor, co-Director of the Artificial Intelligence Unit, Department of Ophthalmology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- **Topic 4:** What is CVI (Cerebral/Cortical Visual Impairment) and how does it impact quality of life?
 - Moderators:
 - Nicole Homerin, MEd, Director of CVI Education, The CVI Center at Perkins School for the Blind
 - Rachel G. Bennett, MEd, CCVI, Director of CVI Now, The CVI Center at Perkins School for the Blind

2:45-3:45pm Eastern

SESSION 3: Putting Advocacy into Action

This session will discuss how patients can drive advocacy efforts at the government, corporate, and community levels to create meaningful change in eye health and vision care.

- Moderator: Heather Shirk Patrick, President & CEO, Prevent Blindness Texas
- Linda MacLeod, Retired Attorney, Prevent Blindness ASPECT Patient Engagement Program Graduate
- Abubakar Sadik Mohammed, OD, Vision Science Graduate Trainee, School of Optometry, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Prevent Blindness ASPECT Patient Engagement Program Graduate
- Leslie Nwankwo, DNP, RN, Director of Education Services, CareBasics LLC, Prevent Blindness ASPECT Patient Engagement Program Graduate

POST-SESSION SPEAKER CHAT ROOM: Session 3 – 3:45-4:15pm Eastern

4:00-5:00pm Eastern

SESSION 4: The Future of Diagnosis and Treatment in Eye Care & Closing Remarks

The goal of this session is to explore, through a roundtable discussion, the connection between eye health and overall well-being (oculomics), key considerations for genomic research in rare diseases, and innovative device technologies that are transforming the lives of individuals who are blind.

- Moderator: Yvonne Ou, MD, Dr. and Mrs. Stacy J. Mettier Professor of Ophthalmology, Vice Chair of Postgraduate Education, Department of Ophthalmology, University of California San Francisco

- Matthew D. Benson, MD, MSc, FRCSC, Assistant Professor and Clinician-Scientist, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada
- Yun Liu, PhD, Senior Staff Research Scientist, Google Research
- Philip R. Troyk, Executive Director, Pritzker Institute of Biomedical Science and Engineering, Robert A. Pritzker Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Armour College of Engineering, Affiliate Professor, Stuart School of Business, Director, Laboratory of Neural Prosthetic Research, Illinois Institute of Technology, CEO, Sigenics, Inc.
- Closing Remarks: Jeff Todd, President & CEO, Prevent Blindness

POST-SESSION SPEAKER CHAT ROOM: Session 4 – 5:00-5:30pm Eastern