



**RESEARCH SAVING SIGHT,
RESTORING VISION**
an Initiative of the
Alliance for Eye and Vision Research

THE ALLIANCE FOR EYE AND VISION RESEARCH

In conjunction with:

**Research to Prevent Blindness
American Glaucoma Society
Assoc. for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)
Glaucoma Research Foundation
Optometric Glaucoma Society**

*Invites you to join us for a Virtual Congressional Briefing
Recognizing World Glaucoma Week 2021 (March 7-13)*

Glaucoma: Clinical Practice and Research to Optimize Patient Outcomes

**Thursday, March 11, 2021
12 Noon - 1:15 pm**

Featured Speakers:

Mona Kaleem, MD, Wilmer Eye Institute/Johns Hopkins University
Elyse McGlumphy, MD, Wilmer Eye Institute/Johns Hopkins University
Amanda Eddy, Glaucoma Research Foundation Patient Representative

**Please R.S.V.P. to Dina Beaumont @ 202-407-8325 or
dinabeau@aol.com.**

**Link to: [https://www.arvo.org/advocacy/NAEVR-AEVR-virtual-
events/](https://www.arvo.org/advocacy/NAEVR-AEVR-virtual-events/)**

**AEVR, a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Educational Foundation through its
new *Research Saving Sight, Restoring Vision Initiative*, is pleased to
host this widely attended global event, with streaming support from
the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO).**

Glaucoma: Clinical Practice and Research to Optimize Patient Outcomes

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What is glaucoma and why is it important?

Glaucoma, the second leading cause of preventable vision loss in the United States, is a neurological disease affecting the optic nerve and causing vision loss—and ultimately blindness. It affects more than 2.7 million Americans over age 40, with that number estimated to more than double by year 2050. It includes both diagnosed and undiagnosed cases, as often individuals are unaware that they have the disease until vision is lost. Certain characteristics such as age, ethnicity, high intraocular pressure (IOP), and optic nerve structure are associated with disease development. Groups at highest risk include African Americans over age 40, individuals over age 60, and those with a family history of the disease. Glaucoma is a driving factor in the annual cost of vision impairment projected to reach \$717 billion by year 2050.

How has National Eye Institute (NEI) funding affected glaucoma research and clinical practice?

The NEI within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has a long history of funding glaucoma research, ranging from determining the genetic basis of the disease to development of effective drug and device therapies to treat the disease. Among the many examples:

- An NEI Consortium has identified 133 genetic variants that predict within 75 percent accuracy a person's risk for developing glaucoma related to high intraocular pressure.
- NEI's *Ocular Hypertension Treatment Study (OHTS)* found that pressure-reducing drug regimens delayed disease onset. NEI research resulted in the first generation of such drugs and, in 2018, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved a new generation of drugs that target the eye's trabecular meshwork—which is one of pathways responsible for regulating fluid flow within the eye—reflecting an expanded menu of drugs to lower IOP and better meet the need of patients.

Clinician-scientists Mona Kaleem, MD and Elyse Joelle McGlumphy, MD—both from the Wilmer Eye Institute at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine—will speak about the disease and their respective clinical experiences in treating patients, as well as their research efforts to better understand and optimize the patient experience. Glaucoma Research Foundation's patient representative Amanda Eddy, who was born with glaucoma, will speak about quality-of-life challenges presented by the disease.

About the speakers...

Mona Kaleem, MD is an Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at the Wilmer Eye Institute who sees patients in Bethesda, Maryland. An American Glaucoma Society member, she specializes in glaucoma and anterior segment surgery. In addition to running a busy clinical and surgical service, she is also a dedicated researcher, educator and volunteer. She was a Baltimore Magazine "Top Doctor" in 2018/2019.

Elyse Joelle McGlumphy, MD is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at the Wilmer Eye Institute who sees patients at Baltimore, Frederick, and Lutherville clinics. An American Glaucoma Society member, she is a clinician, researcher, and educator specializing in diagnosis/treatment of open angle and narrow angle glaucoma, glaucoma associated with other eye disorders/previous trauma, and cataracts.

Amanda Eddy, a small business owner, currently serves as the President of the Austin, Texas Chapter of the Women's Jewelry Association.

About World Glaucoma Week 2021...

The first *World Glaucoma Day* was held on March 6, 2008, and the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 981, which recognized the event and supported the NEI's efforts to research the causes of and treatments for glaucoma. That day has expanded into a full week of educational events held worldwide.