



**DECADE OF VISION**  
an initiative of the **2010-2020**  
Alliance For Eye And Vision Research

## **ALLIANCE FOR EYE AND VISION RESEARCH**

**In conjunction with:**

**Research to Prevent Blindness**

**Alliance for Aging Research**

**Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology**

**European Vision Institute**

**American Macular Degeneration Foundation**

**Macula Vision Research Foundation**

**Macular Degeneration Partnership**

**Lighthouse Guild**

*continues education about eye and vision research with a Briefing that begins the  
Third Annual Emerging Vision Scientists Day on Capitol Hill, held during  
International AMD Awareness Week 2017 and Healthy Aging Month*

### *Advances in the Treatment of Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) and Retinal Diseases*

**Wednesday, September 13, 2017**

**12 Noon - 1:15 pm**

**House Rayburn G-2043**

**Mandeep Singh, MD, PhD**

**(Wilmer Eye Institute/Johns Hopkins University)**

**R.S.V.P. to Dina Beaumont @ 202-407-8325 or [dinabeau@aol.com](mailto:dinabeau@aol.com)**

**AEVR, a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Educational Foundation, is pleased to host this  
widely attended event, with support for event management provided by Regeneron.**

***Advances in the Treatment of AMD and Retinal Diseases***  
**Held during *International AMD Awareness Week and Healthy Aging Month***  
**September 13, 2017 12:00 Noon – 1:15 pm, House Rayburn G-2043**  
**RSVP to: 202-407-8325 or [dinabeau@aol.com](mailto:dinabeau@aol.com)**

**What is the burden of AMD?**

AMD is the leading cause of blindness and low vision in the United States and the developed world. It destroys central vision through proliferation of new blood vessels (“wet” AMD) or gradual breakdown of cells (“dry” AMD) in the central part of the retina, or macula, which contains light-sensing cells of the eye. Vision loss from AMD makes it increasingly difficult to read, drive, and perform other everyday tasks, thereby affecting productivity, independence, and quality of life and adding significantly to cost burden. One-third of AMD patients experience clinical depression.

- In 2010, AMD Alliance International estimated that 33 million people worldwide experience vision impairment from AMD at a direct healthcare cost of \$343 billion.
- In 2014, Prevent Blindness projected the annual cost of vision disorders in the United States by 2050 at \$373 billion—or \$717 billion when adjusted for inflation. This cost is driven, in part, by the prevalence of aging eye diseases, such as AMD and other diseases that affect the retina. According to the Alliance for Aging Research, the first wave of 78 million Baby Boomers will turn 65 in 2010, and each day for 18 years afterwards, about 10,000 Americans will turn 65.
- The National Eye Institute (NEI) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) estimates that 200,000 Americans each year go on to develop advanced AMD, with this number expected to double by year 2020.

**What is the Latest Research in AMD?**

In the past 15 years, AMD treatments that have emerged from NIH/NEI research have progressed from few effective therapies to multiple options that prevent progression of advanced disease and even reverse vision loss for wet AMD. Featured speaker Mandeep Singh, MD, PhD will describe these developments as well as the focus of his work in developing a “retina in a dish” 3-D stem cell culture that can serve as a donor source for photoreceptor transplantation.

**About the Speaker.....**

**Mandeep Singh, MD, PhD** is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins Hospital. As a retinal specialist, his clinical expertise includes surgical, medical, and genetic conditions of the retina. He treats patients with genetic retinal diseases such as retinitis pigmentosa, Usher syndrome, Stargardt disease, and macular dystrophies, alongside more common conditions such as diabetic retinopathy and retinal detachment. Since his research focus is retinal regenerative medicine, his laboratory works on translational research in retinal stem cell transplantation with a goal of creating new stem cell treatments that restore vision in patients with retinal degenerative diseases.

**About *Emerging Vision Scientists Day*...**

Since 2015, AEVR has held an annual *Emerging Vision Scientists Day on Capitol Hill* in which early-stage investigators attend the *International AMD Awareness Week* Congressional Briefing and exhibit posters of their breakthrough research to save sight and restore at an evening reception. AEVR is proud to have Dr. Singh as the featured speaker at the 2017 *AMD* Briefing, as he participated as an *EVS* in the 2016 events.

All luncheon Briefing attendees and their colleagues are invited to attend the *EVS* Poster Reception, held on the evening of September 13 from 5:30-7:30 pm in Rayburn 2168 (Gold Room).

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