



Alliance For Eye  
And Vision Research

**AEVR**

*Educating about the Value of Vision Research*

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

**In conjunction with:**

**Coalition for Imaging and Bioengineering Research (CIBR)**

**American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering  
(AIMBE)**

**Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)**

**Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research**

*continues its series of educational luncheon briefings on  
breakthrough developments in eye and vision research funded by the  
National Institutes of Health (NIH)*

### ***“Visual Imaging: Revolutionizing the Diagnosis and Treatment of Eye Disease”***

Featuring Real-time Analysis of the Retina by Optical Coherence  
Tomography (OCT)

**Tuesday, February 26, 2008**

**12:00 Noon – 1:15 pm**

**House Rayburn 2168**

**Please R.S.V.P. to**

**Dina Beaumont @ 202-530-4672 or [dina.beaumont@bm.com](mailto:dina.beaumont@bm.com)**

**Note: AEVR is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Educational Foundation hosting this  
widely attended event with meal value less than \$50**

**AEVR Luncheon Briefing**  
**“Visual Imaging: Revolutionizing the Diagnosis and Treatment of Eye Disease”**  
**Featuring Real-time Analysis of the Retina by Optical Coherence Tomography**  
**Tuesday, February 26, 2008, House Rayburn 2168, 12 Noon -1:15 pm**  
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**What is the focus of this briefing?**

Emerging from federally funded research conducted by the National Eye Institute (NEI) and the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH), a new digital imaging technology, **Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT)**, is a non-invasive technique that enables practitioners to view key structures within the eye that indicate the presence and degree of many blinding eye diseases. These devices feature real-time three-dimensional visualization and analysis of the retina—the neural tissue which converts light into images. OCT is used to diagnose eye disease by identifying early changes related to age-related macular degeneration (AMD, leading cause of blindness among elderly Americans), diabetic retinopathy (leading cause of blindness among working-age Americans) and glaucoma (leading cause of vision loss in African Americans and Hispanics), as well as to monitor the effectiveness of treatments emerging from breakthrough NEI research, potentially reducing the frequency and cost of treatment.

**Why are these visual imaging technologies important?**

- OCT provides an unparalleled visualization and measurement of retinal changes that can be coupled with a functional measurement of vision, maximizing the use of evidence-based medicine in eye care.
- OCT is increasingly accepted as an outcomes measure by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in clinical trials for new treatments. This should reduce the cost of trials by requiring fewer patients and taking less time, thereby getting new products to patients more expeditiously.
- OCT represents the collaborative nature of two leading NIH Institutes—NEI and NIBIB—as well as NIH’s leadership in facilitating the product approval process at the FDA and potentially reducing the frequency/cost of treatments paid for by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
- OCT demonstrates NIH Director Dr. Elias Zerhouni’s research and clinical practice goal for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, “P4 Medicine”—that which is preemptive, predictive, personalized, and patient-focused.

**About the speaker...**

**Alexander Walsh M.D.** is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Southern California and Director of the Doheny Imaging Exploration and Software Engineering Laboratory (DIESEL) at the Doheny Retina Institute. Dr. Walsh, best described as a young investigator, represents a new generation of clinician-researcher, having had his laboratories “feng shui’d” to ensure a positive environment for research.

**About the Alliance...**

The Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (AEVR) is a 501(c)3 non-profit foundation dedicated to education about the importance of federal funding for eye and vision research. AEVR is pleased to host this widely attended event, with a meal value of less than \$50, in conjunction with:

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American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE)  
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)  
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