



**DECADE OF VISION**  
an initiative of the **2010-2020**  
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**  
**Glaucoma Research Foundation**  
**Optometric Glaucoma Society**

*Invites you to join us for a Luncheon Briefing to Recognize  
World Glaucoma Week 2018 (March 11-17)*

### ***Toward Customized Glaucoma Care***

**Tuesday, March 6, 2018**

**12 Noon - 1:15 pm**

**House Rayburn 2043**

**Featuring Speaker**  
**Alex Huang, MD, PhD,**  
**University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)**  
**and Doheny Eye Institute**

**Please 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 featuring an eye-healthy luncheon.**

***Toward Customized Glaucoma Care***  
**Recognizing World Glaucoma Week 2018 (March 11-17)**  
**March 6, 2018, 12:00 – 1:15 pm, House Rayburn 2043**  
**RSVP to: 202-407-8325 or [dinabeau@aol.com](mailto:dinabeau@aol.com)**

**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 loss of peripheral vision—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 they have the disease until vision is lost. It is a driving factor—along with cataract and diabetic retinopathy—in the annual cost of vision impairment reaching \$373.2 billion by year 2050, or \$717 billion when adjusted for inflation, as estimated in a 2014 report issued by Prevent Blindness.

Certain characteristics such as age, ethnicity, high blood pressure, high intraocular pressure (IOP), and optic nerve appearance 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. In its most common form—primary open angle glaucoma (POAG)—nerve damage results from high IOP, which occurs when the fluid that circulates in and out of the front part of the eye drains inadequately. Research funded by the National Eye Institute (NEI) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has resulted in pressure-reducing drug regimens, and NEI's *Ocular Hypertension Treatment Study (OHTS)* found that pressure-reducing eye drops delayed disease onset. In addition to drug regimens, glaucoma is also treated through traditional and minimally invasive surgical techniques to the trabecular meshwork—an area of tissue located around the base of the cornea that is responsible for draining the aqueous humor from the eye. Surgery can include trabeculectomy, which makes a new opening for fluid to leave the eye, and trabeculoplasty, where the laser therapy results in enhanced flow of fluid out of the eye. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved a wide variety of glaucoma drainage devices implanted in the trabecular meshwork that also facilitate fluid flow.

**How is glaucoma treatment moving toward customized care?**

Featured speaker Alex Huang, MD, PhD—an NIH-funded clinician-scientist—will detail how his glaucoma clinical practice and research is exploring post-trabecular meshwork outflow resistance and real-time aqueous outflow imaging technologies—including aqueous angiography—for the development of customized glaucoma surgeries. In so doing, he emphasizes a balance of modern surgical techniques with traditional approaches to ensure optimal glaucoma management.

**About the Speaker....**

**Alex Huang, MD, PhD** serves as an Assistant Professor in Ophthalmology at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), affiliated with Doheny Eye Institute. He is a glaucoma specialist and advanced cataract surgeon who supports all current and minimally invasive glaucoma surgical procedures and who applies his clinical experience regarding angle-based approaches and fluid outflow pathway improvement to research for better outcomes. Dr. Huang also studies visual alterations in space through funded work with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) regarding countermeasures to visual changes American astronauts undergo in the International Space Station.

**About World Glaucoma Week 2018...**

The first *World Glaucoma Day* was held on March 6, 2008, and the United States 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, including this annual Briefing to educate Congress about this blinding eye disease.

**AEVR is pleased to host this widely attended event.**