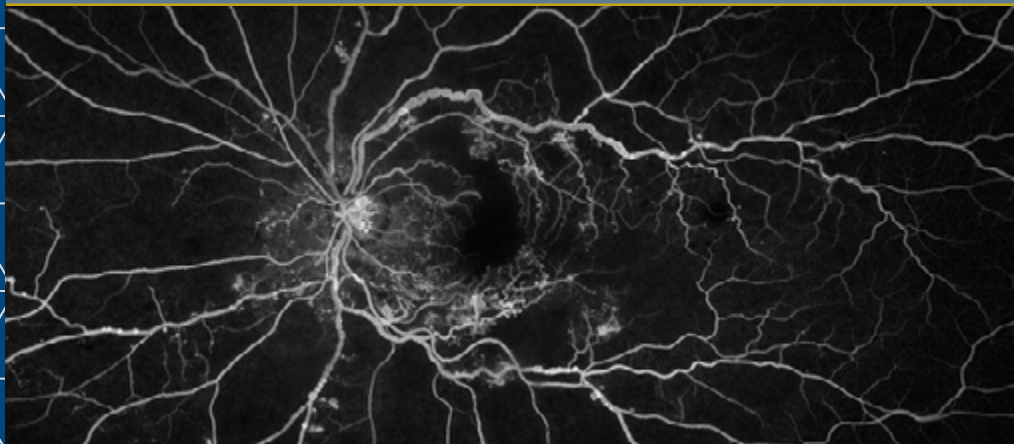


the

LIGHT PIPE

Spring 2022



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THE NEWSLETTER OF



GEORGIA RETINA

If Georgia Retina does not have your current email on file, please go to garetina.com/light-pipe-newsletter and fill out the form or call us at 404-255-9096.

From the Editor's Desk

Springtime in Georgia is always a wonderful time. It is a time of change. Pleasant weather coupled with Daylight savings, it is a fantastic time to be outdoors (ignoring the pollen, of course!). This spring, Georgia Retina has some changes as well. We are continuing to grow with the addition of another retinal specialist, Dr. Alexander Bottini, and a new office in Braselton, GA.



Dr. Paul S. Walla

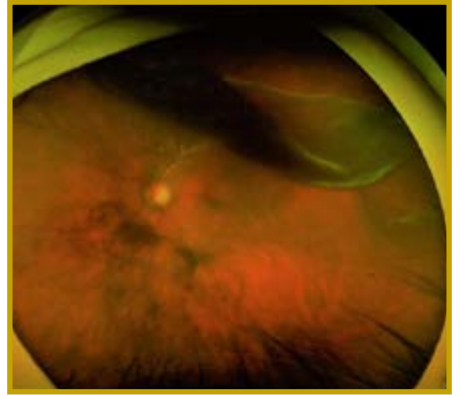
Along with enjoying the pleasant weather, we are reminded of what else we truly enjoy: providing the highest quality of retinal care to your patients. With the introduction of new FDA-approved medications, we now have even more treatment options to help preserve, and often improve, vision from blinding conditions. Providing retinal care to patients is a true privilege that the doctors at Georgia Retina do not take for granted. It is always our pleasure to provide retinal care to your patients!



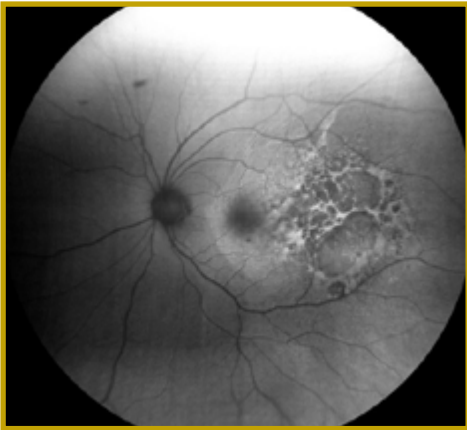
Imaging Corner



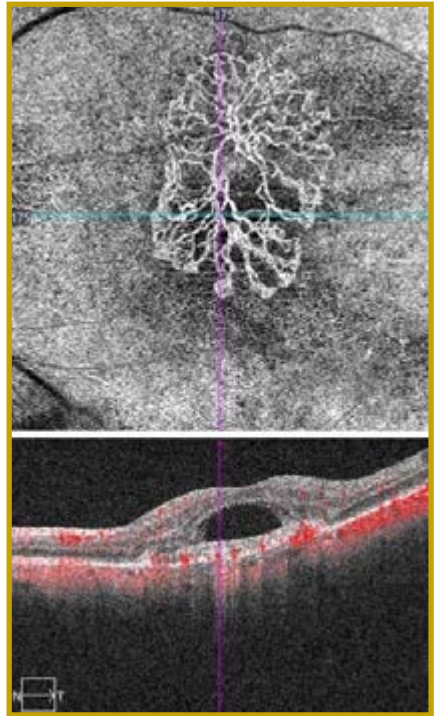
Photograph of a metastatic choroidal lesion arising from carcinoma of the lung



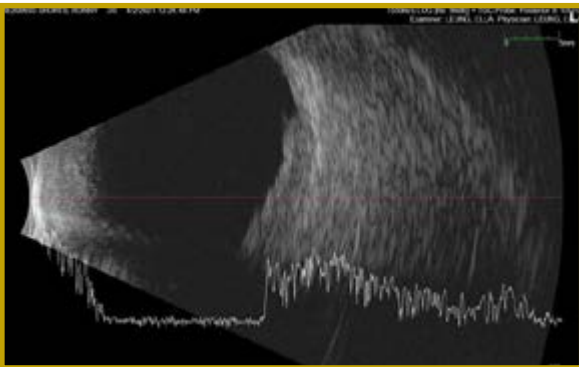
Photograph of a Giant Retinal Tear with Detachment



Autofluorescence of the metastatic choroidal lesion



OCT and OCT Angiography of a choroidal neovascular membrane in neovascular age-related macular degeneration



Ultrasonography of the metastatic lesion reflecting a medium internal reflectivity

Dr. Alexander Bottini Joins Georgia Retina



Georgia Retina is excited to announce the addition of Dr. Alexander Bottini to our practice.

A native of St. Louis, Missouri, Dr. Alexander Bottini earned a bachelor's degree from Yale University. He began his medical career at Emory University School of Medicine, where he also completed his internship. Dr. Bottini completed his residency at New York University School of Medicine, where he served as Chief Resident in his final year of residency. He then completed a vitreoretinal fellowship at The Retina Institute in St. Louis, MO.

Dr. Alexander Bottini is a Board Certified Ophthalmologist who specializes in treating diseases of the retina—including age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and retinal vascular occlusions. In caring for patients with retinal disease Dr. Bottini performs intravitreal injections and laser surgery. He understands that patients with retinal conditions often face chronic, sight-threatening diseases, and he endeavors to serve all his patients with empathy. He enjoys working in a rapidly-evolving field of medicine, and he is committed to bringing the benefits of the latest scientific advancements to all of his patients.

Outside of work Dr. Bottini enjoys spending time with family, reading, writing, and St. Louis Cardinals baseball. Dr. Bottini will be practicing in our Gainesville and Braselton locations.

Practice News: New Office in Braselton



We are thrilled to announce the opening of our newest location in Braselton. Our Braselton office is located in the Riverstone Medical Plaza at 1255 Friendship Road, Suite 160. Dr. Alexander Bottini and Dr. Paul Walia are practicing at this location and are excited to provide retinal care to the Braselton community.

The Georgia Retina Braselton office is fully equipped to provide cutting-edge care to patients with retinal conditions. In addition to state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment, the office is equipped to provide patients with retinal procedures such as intravitreal injections, laser retinopexy, cryosurgery, and pneumatic retinopexy.

Clinical Trial Update

Georgia Retina has a long tradition of commitment to and participation in clinical trials in order to provide our patients access to new, state-of-the-art preventative, or therapeutic treatments. We partner with the National Eye Institute, some of the nation's top pharmaceutical companies, and other clinical practices to explore the causes and cures for many retinal conditions.

Over the years, Georgia Retina has helped pave the way for many new therapies to make it to clinical practice and advance treatment strategies for blinding retinal conditions.

This year Georgia Retina participated in the pivotal Archway trial, which investigated the surgically implanted port delivery system releasing Ranibizumab. This device has earned FDA approval and is now called Susvimo.

We take special care to ensure that our study patients experience the best medical care possible.

This past year we have been active in twenty-six clinical trials for wet age-related macular degeneration, geographic atrophy secondary to dry age-related macular degeneration, retinal vein occlusion, diabetic macular edema, and non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

We hope that as you consider where to refer your patients for retinal care, you will keep in mind that Georgia Retina not only provides exceptional care but can also offer your patients the opportunity to enroll in clinical trials thereby offering them new vision-saving treatments. If you have any questions about whether your patient might be eligible to participate in one of our ongoing clinical trials, please call any one of our doctors or contact our Clinical Research Director, Leslie Marcus (lmarcus@garetina.com).

Current Recruiting Clinical Trials:

- Wet AMD: Amgen Inc. 20170542, Notal Vision Home OCT
- Geographic Atrophy: Genentech GR40973 GAllego, Gyroscope Therapeutics GTSCOPE
- Diabetic Macular Edema: Alimera 01-20-005 The New Day, Kodiak Sciences KS301 GLIMMER
- Diabetic Retinopathy: Novo Nordisk NN9535-4352 FOCUS
- Branch Retinal Vein Occlusion: Roche GR41984 BALATON
- Central Retinal Vein Occlusion: Roche GR41986 COMINO

Spotlight with a Georgia Retina Doctor: Dr. Rahul Komati

For this edition of The Lightpipe, we were able to sit down with Dr. Komati. We are lucky that Dr. Komati joined our practice in 2020 after completing his retinal surgery fellowship at The University of Chicago, which is one of the premier programs in the nation. Dr. Komati is a rising star not only within the practice but in the vitreoretinal field as he is very active in presenting clinical research at prominent national meetings. He practices at our Stockbridge and Macon offices.



Dr. Rahul Komati

Lightpipe: Why did you choose retina?

Dr. Komati: Retina is one of the most fascinating fields in all of medicine, so it was easy to get drawn to it. My med school friends sometimes are puzzled how I could specialize in “just one layer” of the eye. But truthfully, there is so much packed into this tissue that impacts vision and overall health. It’s always gratifying to examine a patient’s eyes and explain their symptoms or diagnose a condition they might be completely unaware of.

Retina is also a seriously innovative field, which keeps every day interesting and exciting. I like explaining to patients that how we practice today looks completely different from a decade or two ago. Yet it is still challenging and humbling to tell patients that we’ve reached the limits of our treatment for their condition. With all of our ongoing clinical trials at Georgia Retina and collaborating research centers, I have no doubt that things will look even better for our patients in the future. I am very grateful to be a part of that.

Lightpipe: What has been your favorite part of practicing at Georgia Retina?

Dr. Komati: Though I haven’t been here long, it was clear immediately that Georgia Retina is a special place. Everybody who works here is committed firstly to our patients and providing superb retinal care to our communities. That goes for the front desk staff, technicians, doctors, and support staff who keep us running behind the scenes. After looking all over the country, I could not find a better group of physicians to call my colleagues. The unique training experiences, personalities, and practice

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Spotlight with a Georgia Retina Doctor: Dr. Rahul Komati

styles have all come together to form a rich and cohesive environment of top-notch retinal care. I have also really enjoyed getting closer to my patients and staff at our Stockbridge and Macon offices, so I now have a second family away from home.

Lightpipe: What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

Dr. Komati: I have enjoyed getting to know our new home in Atlanta with my wife, Bella, and our dog, Fonzi. I don't actually have many hobbies, since I spend most of my spare time trying to see family and friends. Since we've lived all over the country, this requires a lot of travel but is worth it to me to maintain relationships and create memories.

When time allows, my wife and I love to travel internationally. Most recently, we have been fortunate enough to visit Kenya, Turkey, and Colombia. Growing up with two different cultures as an Indian-American, I think I've always been fascinated by seeing how people live, eat, and interact across the world. I love getting out of my comfort zone, which gives me a bit more perspective and energy in my daily life.

Lightpipe: Where do you want to go for your next vacation?

Dr. Komati: Japan is definitely on my list. I studied Japanese for four years in high school, but have never actually been. I would love to go experience the culture and beauty, and of course, have some amazing food. Hopefully, some of the language comes back to me!



Thank you for reading our Spring 2022 Light Pipe Newsletter!

If you have time, please take a moment to answer a few questions about this year's publication.

By doing so, you're helping Georgia Retina become an even better practice.

Click here to begin: <https://forms.gle/HnVkRcyzMe5o7DKVA>

Our Physicians:

Michael S. Jacobson, M.D. | Scott I. Lampert, M.D. | Jay B. Stallman, M.D. | Mark J. Rivellese, M.D. | Sean S. Koh, M.D.
Atul Sharma, M.D. | Robert A. Stoltz, M.D., Ph. D. | John J. Miller, M.D. | Stephanie L. Vanderveldt, M.D. | Hyung Cho, M.D.
S. Krishna Mukkamala, M.D. | David S. Chin Yee, M.D. | Harpreet "Paul" S. Walia, M.D. | Yogin Patel M.D. | Gregory D. Lee, M.D.
Ella H. Leung, M.D. | Rahul Komati M.D. | Alexander Bottini, M.D.

Braselton (Now Open)

1255 Friendship Road, Suite 160, Braselton, GA 30517

Phone: 678-528-1101

Cartersville

100 Market Pl Boulevard, Suite 304, Cartersville, GA 30121

Phone: 478-274-2030

Conyers

2395 Wall St, #280, Conyers, GA 30013

Phone: 678-374-7050

Cumming

990 Sanders Road, Suite 100, Cumming, GA 30041

Phone: 678-679-4830

Douglasville

6095 Professional Pkwy., Suite B-102, Douglasville, GA 30134

Phone: 678-303-0136

Gainesville

1488 Jesse Jewell Pkwy., Suite 200, Gainesville, GA 30501

Phone: 678-317-0326

Gwinnett (Lawrenceville)

575 Professional Drive, Suite 330, Lawrenceville, GA 30046

Phone: 678-405-0922

Macon

6055 Lakeside Commons Drive, Suite 310, Macon, GA 31210

Phone: 478-238-9733

Marietta

833 Campbell Hill Street, Suite 300, Marietta, GA 30060

Phone: 770-218-1888

Northside (Atlanta)

1100 Johnson Ferry Rd NE, Bldg 2, Suite 593,

Sandy Springs, GA 30342

Phone: 404-255-9096

Peachtree City

403 Westpark Court, Suite 110, Peachtree City, GA 30269

Phone: 770-486-5349

Stockbridge

175 Country Club Drive, Bldg. 300, Suite D,

Stockbridge, GA 30281

Phone: 770-907-9400

Tucker

1462 Montreal Road W, Suite 412, Tucker, GA 30084

Phone: 404-299-5209

Participating Insurance Plans:

Aetna U.S. Healthcare

Allwell

Ambetter

Amerigroup Medicaid

Anthem BCBS

Blue Choice

CareSource

Cigna

Cigna Health Spring

Clover

Corvel

Coventry Healthcare

Crescent

First Health

Galaxy

Humana

Kaiser Permanente Dual Choice PPO

Medical Resource Network

Medicare

Medicare Railroad

Memorial Health Services

Multiplan PPO

Northeast Georgia Health Partners

Northside Health Network

NovaNet

Optum

Oscar Health Exchange Plan

PeachState Medicaid

PHCS (MultiPlan)

Pruitt Health Premier

Sonder Medicare

The Empire Plan of NY

TriCare PPO, HMO

United Behavioral Health

United Healthcare Medicare

USA Managed Care Organization

WellCare Medicare HMO

We participate with most insurance plans including national and many regional plans. To check on a specific plan, please call one of the numbers above and our knowledgeable call center staff can advise you.

(678) 826-4620

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