

THE LIGHT PIPE

Summer 2023

Editor-in-chief: Paul Walia, MD

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garetina.com/light-pipe-newsletter
and fill out the form or call us at 404-255-9096

The Newsletter of

GEORGIA  **RETINA**

FROM THE EDITORS DESK



Dr. Paul S. Walia

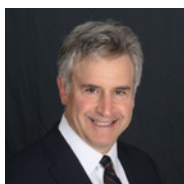
As we head into summer, we have a lot of excitement at Georgia Retina. In this issue of the Lightpipe, we are proud to announce that we have expanded an office location, have a new treatment available to your patients, have implemented text messaging for patient communication, and have another doctor on the verge of joining us!

We hope you have a safe and healthy summer. Likewise, Georgia Retina remains committed to safety when providing exceptional medical and surgical care. We thank you for entrusting us to participate in the retinal care of your patients.

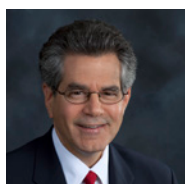
-Dr. Paul S. Walia

MEET OUR DOCTORS

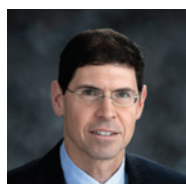
With more than 80 years of combined experience in retinal health care, Georgia Retina's physicians have served the Metro Atlanta community since 1995.



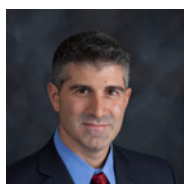
Michael S. Jacobson, M.D.
Tucker



Scott I. Lampert, M.D.
Marietta
Northside/Atlanta
Tucker



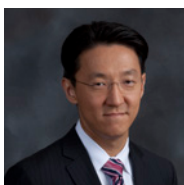
Jay B. Stallman, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Gwinnett



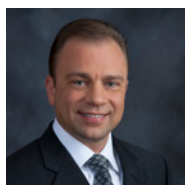
Mark J. Rivelles, M.D.
Northside/Atlanta
Tucker



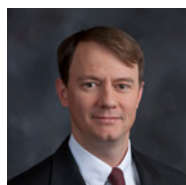
Atul Sharma, M.D.
Douglasville
Marietta



Sean S. Koh, M.D.
Cumming
Gwinnett



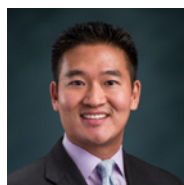
Robert A. Stoltz, M.D., Ph.D.
Cumming
Marietta



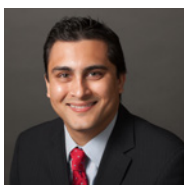
John J. Miller, M.D.
Douglasville
Peachtree City



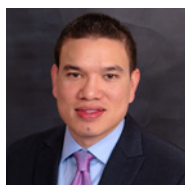
Stephanie L. Vanderveldt, M.D.
Cumming
Northside/Atlanta



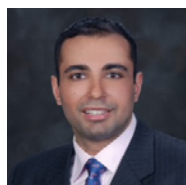
Hyung Cho, M.D.
Conyers
Stockbridge
Gwinnett



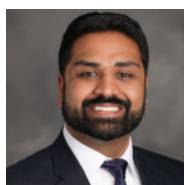
S. Krishna Mukkamala, M.D.
Cartersville
Cumming
Marietta



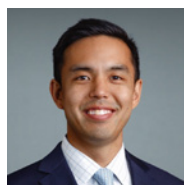
David S. Chin Yee, M.D.
Macon
Peachtree City



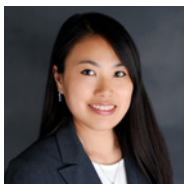
Harpreet "Paul" S. Walia, M.D.
Braselton
Gwinnett
Stockbridge



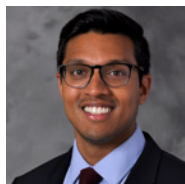
Yogin Patel, M.D.
Conyers
Douglasville
Macon



Gregory D. Lee, M.D.
Gainesville
Northside/Atlanta



Ella H. Leung, M.D.
Cartersville
Marietta



Rahul Komati, M.D.
Macon
Stockbridge



Alexander R. Bottini, M.D.
Braselton
Gainesville

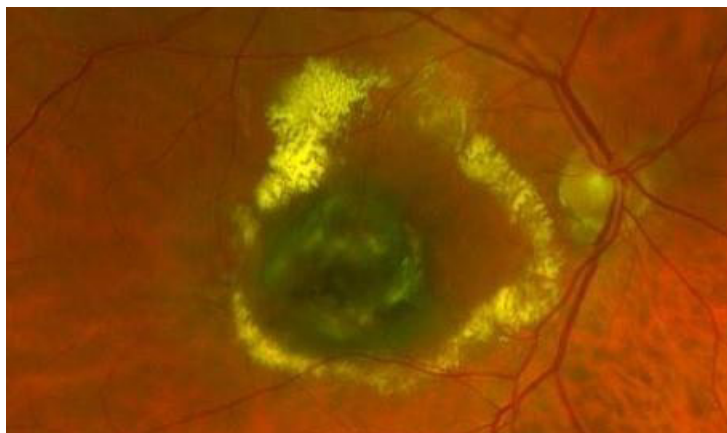


Daniel J. Oh, M.D.
Cartersville
Cumming
Marietta

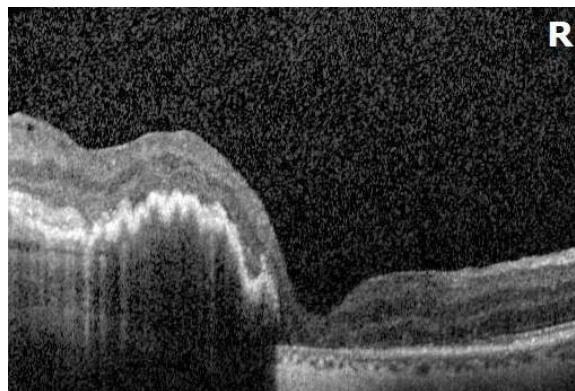


Ross Kenamer-Chapman, M.D.
Macon
Peachtree City
Stockbridge

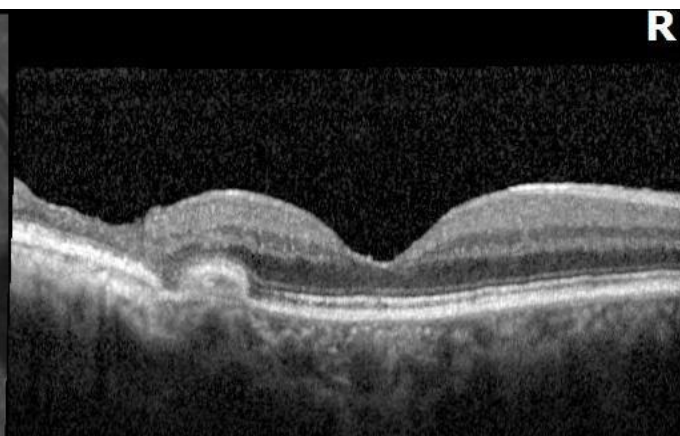
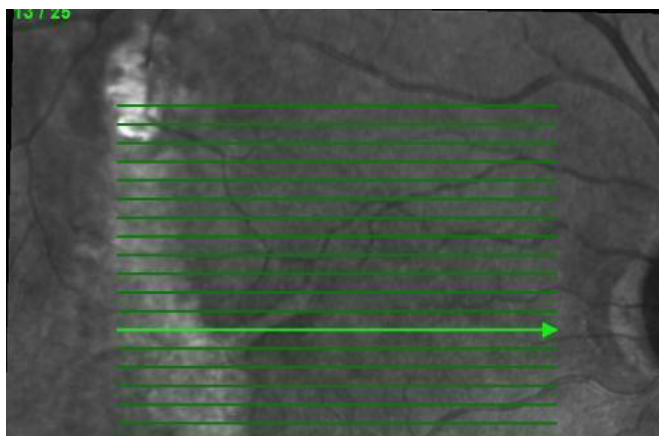
IMAGING CORNER



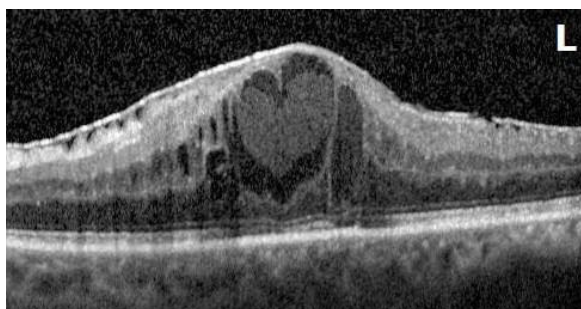
Fundus photograph of a choroidal nevus that developed a choroidal neovascular membrane



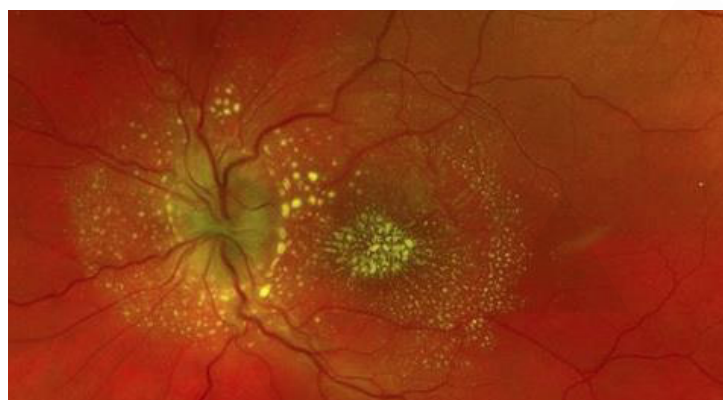
OCT Image of a Pigmented Epithelial Detachment (PED) Rip



OCT Image of a Choroidal Rupture



OCT image of Diabetic macular edema with hyperreflective material mimicking a heart



Fundus photograph of neuroretinitis secondary to Bartonella henslae

DR. ROSS KENNAMER-CHAPMAN

Joins Georgia Retina



Ross Kennamer-Chapman, M.D.

Dr. Ross Kennamer-Chapman was born and raised in Texas. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Texas Medical School at Houston, where he was elected into both the Alpha Omega Alpha and Gold Humanism Honor Societies. His interest in ophthalmology initially developed from an interest in neuroscience while in medical school. He received a research grant to study in a neuroscience and visual science laboratory. During this time, he was able to learn about the intricate and complex nature of the eye. While on his clinical rotations, he was able to see how the basic science could be translated to patient care and, ultimately, help people with something that is very important to them – their sight.

Following medical school, Dr. Kennamer-Chapman pursued ophthalmology residency training at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, where he gained invaluable experience in diagnosing and treating a wide range of ophthalmic conditions. Recognizing his particular interests in the management of vitreoretinal disease, he went on to complete his vitreoretinal surgical fellowship at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. He has participated in basic science and clinical research, authored peer-reviewed publications, and presented at medical conferences.

Dr. Kennamer-Chapman's commitment to excellence extends beyond academic achievements. While focused on the eyes, he believes in treating each patient as an individual and takes time to understand their unique needs and concerns. Dr. Kennamer-Chapman seeks to collaborate with his patients to develop personalized treatment plans that address their specific medical conditions and goals.

When he is not in the office or the operating room, Dr. Kennamer-Chapman enjoys running, biking, and skiing. He and his fiancé can often be found hiking with their two dogs and at sporting events cheering on the Atlanta teams.

PRACTICE NEWS:

Stockbridge Clinic and Additional Clinical Study Department Moving



We are excited to announce that our Stockbridge Location will be expanding! We will have the capacity to run two clinics with two doctors. It is our hope that we can provide more appointment options and flexibility to your patients. Additionally, this Stockbridge expansion will allow us to operate a second Clinical Trials and Study Department, alongside our established center in Marietta. If you are interested in determining if your patient is eligible for a clinical trial, please contact our doctors.

**Our offices are now text friendly!
We have HIPAA compliant text
lines for your offices to schedule
patients for a non-urgent
appointment to an office of their
convenience. Please see the
numbers you can text:**

Office	Phone Number
Braselton	678-528-1101
Cartersville	470-274-2030
Conyers	678-374-7050
Cumming	678-679-4830
Douglasville	678-303-0136
Gainesville	678-317-0326
Gwinnett / Lawrenceville	678-405-0922
Macon	478-238-9733
Marietta	770-218-1888
Northside	404-255-9096
Peachtree City	770-486-5349
Stockbridge	770-907-9400
Tucker	404-299-5209

CLINICAL TRIAL UPDATE

We are excited to share that Georgia Retina is utilizing a newly FDA-approved medication for a previously untreatable form of advanced dry age-related macular degeneration (AMD): geographic atrophy.

Geographic atrophy (GA) affects approximately 1 in 29 people over the age of 75 and 1 in 4 people over the age of 90. It has long been a fearsome diagnosis for patients. In its natural course it leads to progressive and irreversible loss of vision by creating blind spots in the central visual field that expand over time. As these blind spots enlarge, vision can drop to the point that patients lose independence in their daily tasks, such as driving, and experience a diminished quality of life.

Previously geographic atrophy was also a frustrating diagnosis for us, as retinal specialists, since we had no treatments to directly address this disease process. Thus, we are glad to offer this newly approved treatment for geographic atrophy, a ground-breaking development in the world of retina called SYFOVRE (pegcetacoplan).

SYFOVRE is an intravitreal injection for patients with GA. In pivotal phase 3 clinical trials, SYFOVRE reduced the rate of GA progression by 18-22%. Ideally, patients with early diagnosis of GA may find the most benefit. Determining whether a patient may benefit from this medication requires a careful exam and advanced imaging of the retina, all of which Georgia Retina is eager to offer.

The approval of SYFOVRE provides a breakthrough in the management of GA and AMD. At Georgia Retina, we will continue to be at the forefront of emerging treatments to preserve the vision of our mutual patients. You can contact your physician at Georgia Retina at your next visit to discuss whether your patient is a candidate for this treatment.

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. Patel

In this edition of Spotlight with a Georgia Retina Doctor, we sit down with Dr. Yogin Patel.

LightPipe: What made you choose retina?

Dr Patel: I stumbled into ophthalmology at a young age, when a comprehensive ophthalmologist opened up shop in my small home town. I had already shadowed a couple of physicians and thought this might be another interesting opportunity. He allowed me to join him in clinic and the operating room. I was hooked early. I spent that summer in his office full time and did the same the following summer. It was amazing to see what he saw when I learned to use the slit lamp and lenses. Watching him use various lasers and other fascinating gadgets was mesmerizing. Finally, every time I was able to sit at the side scope and watch him divide-and-conquer a cataract or perform a trabeculectomy was amazing. I knew I wanted to be an ophthalmologist before I finished high school. I decided on retina a couple of years into my residency. I just loved the depth of pathology and the combination of various medical and surgical techniques to solve complex problems. Retinal surgery seems to be, in my opinion, one of the most intricate surgical fields in any practice. Additionally, it comes with constant new developments in technique and technology that keep it constantly new and refreshing with a need for lifelong learning.



SPOTLIGHT WITH A GEORGIA RETINA DOCTOR

Dr. Patel

LightPipe: How did you end up at Georgia Retina?

Dr. Patel: My training took me to multiple places away from home. I grew up in a small town in rural southwest Georgia where my parents still live. It was always a goal of mine to get back closer to home. I have also spent a great deal of time in and around Atlanta with a desire to live in the city. When I realized I had Dr. David Chin-Yee, an established physician at Georgia Retina, and previous trainee at my same residency program, I had to reach out. Fortunately, being another alum of the Henry Ford Ophthalmology department, he gave me a shot at an interview, and I did my best not to disappoint. Since that time, I have been here for nearly five years and have never regretted that decision. I love this group and the city of Atlanta. I have been extremely fortunate to land where I am. You would be hard pressed to find a group of physicians with the breadth and depth of talent and experience as well as their attitude of collegiality and friendship that extends outside of the workplace.

LightPipe: What do you do for fun?

Dr. Patel: I am an avid Georgia Bulldogs fan having graduated from there myself. Football season and fall are my favorite times of the year. I try to get to at least one game every year and never miss one on television. I also obsessively track college football statistics throughout the year. I have recently taken up golf and am thoroughly enjoying learning the game and developing a swing. I hope to try getting my children into the game as well for an activity we can share once they are a little older.

LightPipe: Where was your last vacation?

Dr. Patel: Since having children our vacations have changed to be much more family focused. In fact, most have been trips to the beach somewhere in Florida. That being said, I love the water and any chance I get to play in the sand or soak in the surf with my wife and children. Our most recent trip was to Rosemary Beach to enjoy their quiet vacation town with the still clear waters of the Gulf of Mexico

LightPipe: Where do you want to visit for your next vacation?

Dr. Patel: I am hoping to extend my reach for our favorite beach vacations and try taking the family to Aruba. Additionally, I would love to go to South Africa and see some wildlife on a safari.

Thank you for reading our Summer 2023 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/x8fjHud6SYotLZng6>

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. | Daniel Oh, M.D. | Ross Kenamer-Chapman, 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: 470-274-2030

Conyers

1501 Milstead Rd., Suite 180, Conyers, GA 30012
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

350 Country Club Dr., Suite A
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.

1-888-GA-RETINA

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