

AUGUST 2017

DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE GIFT OF SIGHT

## TECHNOLOGY – SAVING SIGHT FOR MORE PEOPLE.

A new imaging machine will improve diagnosis and patient comfort at the Sydney Eye Hospital and help to reduce sight loss for more people.

The Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation is raising funds to purchase three new optical coherence tomography (OCT) machines – the Zeiss CIRRUS 5000 HD-OCT – for the hospital.

OCT is a technique that uses light to capture three-dimensional images of the microscopic detail of the retina and other parts of the eye. With a strong light source in the instrumentation, these devices can achieve extremely high resolution, creating images of tiny eye structures that are less than one thousandth of a millimetre. For example, they can image red blood cell flow and distinctive layers of the retina.

Each new generation of OCT equipment is able to do more than the previous models, faster and better.

The Cirrus 5000 will provide the detailed information that, up until now, has only been available with an invasive procedure. The old method to look for leaking or abnormal blood vessels in the eye required dye to be injected into the patient's arm through a cannula. The procedure can be painful and time consuming, and there is a one-in-10,000 risk that the dye may trigger a severe, life-threatening allergic reaction. The dye can also make patients feel nauseous and unwell.

Instead of tracking dye, the new OCT technology tracks the flow of red blood cells through vessels in the retina. It is now a simple scan test which is much more comfortable for patients. It is also much quicker, taking less than 30 seconds for a simple scan.



### *Help for common causes of sight loss*

By mapping and tracking the retina, iris, cornea and other parts of the eye, the OCT helps ophthalmologists to monitor and treat a range of eye diseases, including glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration and diabetic eye disease – three of the most common causes of sight loss today.

The sophisticated system enables high resolution scans to be captured in identical locations of the eye from each patient visit, which provides data for precise assessment of changes and disease progress.

The Sydney Eye Hospital has been testing the effectiveness of a Zeiss CIRRUS 5000 HD-OCT and has noted that overall waiting times during appointments has reduced. The machines are easier for technicians to use and much more comfortable for patients.

As waiting times are reduced – by up to 50 per cent – many more people can be tested each day.

It all adds up to better eye care and saved sight for more people.

# SYDNEY EYE HOSPITAL FOUNDATION CURRENT FELLOWS...



**DR KAY LAM**  
*Glaucoma Fellow*

Kay completed her Ophthalmology specialist training at the University of Toronto in Canada. She has a special interest in medical education and enjoys working with trainees.

Kay is eager to refine her clinical and surgical skills in Glaucoma and is very excited to work with the entire team at the Sydney Eye Hospital. She loves learning new surgical

techniques and hopes to bring new skills back to her hometown.

Outside of work, Kay loves travelling and is thrilled for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to live in Sydney and explore Australia's various regions. Kay hopes to learn how to surf over the coming year, and maximise her experience at world-famous Australian beaches.



**DR NICK TOALSTER**  
*Corneal Fellow*

Dr Nick Toalster undertook honours degrees in both Optometry and then Medicine and Surgery in Queensland, as well as working as a resident doctor before moving to Sydney to complete his training as an eye specialist.

As well as a passion for helping his patients, Nick has a particular interest in medical training and enjoys teaching.

Nick is thrilled to be part of the industry-leading corneal team at Sydney Eye Hospital.



**DR SHAY KEHAT-OFIR**  
*Oculoplastic Fellow*

Shay completed his specialist training in Ophthalmology at Meir Medical Center, Israel, in 2016. He continued his training in Oculoplastic surgery in Israel for another year before joining the Oculoplastic team in Sydney.

He is keen to learn from the highly experienced Oculoplastic surgeons at the

Sydney Eye Hospital and is eager to improve his surgical skills over the next year.

Shay previously took part in several studies and hopes to combine research with his clinical activities while in Sydney. He is looking forward to exploring Sydney with his family and, following his training program, plans to return to Israel to work as an Oculoplastic consultant.



**DR ALESSANDRO INVERNIZZI**  
*Professorial Clinical Research Fellow*

Dr Invernizzi completed his medical and Ophthalmology training in Italy. He further specialized in Infectious Uveitis during a period spent in India at PGIMER Chandigarh. In 2016 he accepted a research position at the University of Milan.

He has spent the last twelve months in Sydney, collaborating with the Save Sight

Institute on several research projects in the fields of Imaging, Uveitis and Medical Retina. After a successful year, Alessandro has prolonged his stay by joining the Sydney Eye Hospital to improve his knowledge and clinical skills, combining clinical and research activities. After completing his Fellowship training, he plans to return to Italy to work as an academic and Uveitis specialist.



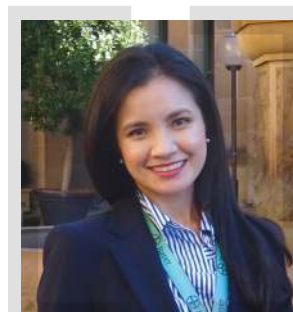
**DR WEI WEI LEE**  
*Dr Eddie Donaldson Vitreoretinal Fellow*

Dr Wei Wei Lee completed her medical and Ophthalmic training in Malaysia. She developed subspecialty interest in Vitreoretina during her residency program and has started her Vitreoretinal Fellowship in Malaysia.

She has a passion to improve the quality of eye care in less resourceful places and is privileged to be involved in a few altruistic

projects in Myanmar, India and Nepal. She is motivated to do more in her own country and the South East Asia region when she returns. Wei Wei is happy to be given the opportunity to be here at the Sydney Eye Hospital and is enthusiastic to learn from the world renowned Vitreoretinal surgeons.

Wei Wei is looking forward to living in Australia. Being an avid diver, she would love to dive the Great Barrier Reef and explore the other dive sites Australia has to offer.



**DR NIKKI ANGBUE TE**  
*Graham Lovett Vitreoretinal Fellow*

Nikki obtained her medical degree at the University of Santo Tomas where she graduated Magna Cum Laude. She completed both her Ophthalmology Residency Training and Fellowship in Medical and Surgical Retina at St. Lukes Medical Center. Her interests are Diabetic Retinopathy, Retinal detachments, age-related macular degeneration, Retinal

vascular disorders and pediatric Retinal diseases such as Retinopathy of prematurity. She also has a keen interest in clinical research.

Nikki's pursuit of clinical excellence brought her to Sydney to do further training. She is honoured to have the opportunity to work alongside world-renowned leaders in the field of Ophthalmology at Sydney Eye Hospital, the premier eye hospital in NSW. After the Fellowship, she will be working in the Philippines as a consultant, providing quality health care to her compatriots.



**DR ELISA CORNISH**  
*Professorial (Uveitis) Fellow*

Elisa completed her Ophthalmology training at the Sydney Eye Hospital.

Prior to this she received a Claffy Scholarship to undertake her PhD in Retinal Photoreceptor development.

Elisa is thrilled to have the opportunity to join this world-renowned Ophthalmology

Unit and to refine her clinical and surgical skills. She is also looking forward to joining the Clinical Research Team at Sydney Eye Hospital, working to develop new treatments for eye disease.



**DR TAMIR WEINBERG**  
*Vitreoretinal Clinical Research Fellow*

Dr Tamir Weinberg completed his five-year Ophthalmology training at Kaplan Medical Center in Israel, where he subsequently started his first Vitreoretinal Fellowship. During that time he trained in both Cataract and Vitreoretinal surgery, while engaging with international clinical trials and original clinical research. Tamir has been involved in teaching medical students

from Hadassah Medical School in Jerusalem, and fellow residents, and is hoping to continue to do so in Sydney.

Tamir is very excited for the opportunity to be able to learn and enhance his knowledge and surgical skills, while working alongside one of the world's best Vitreoretinal teams. For Tamir, doing so in a beautiful and friendly city like Sydney is the best that any Ophthalmologist could ever ask for.



**DR KELVIN TEO**  
*Medical Retinal Fellow*

Dr. Kelvin Teo is from Singapore and completed his Ophthalmology residency training at the Singapore National Eye Centre. He has a strong interest in the translation and clinical aspects of Medical Retina research. He has been awarded several prestigious national level grants in Singapore and hopes to continue his research work during his

Medical Retina Fellowship at the Sydney Eye Hospital.

He is looking forward to working with the Medical Retina Department to enhance his clinical knowledge and skills, and to foster greater research collaboration between Sydney Eye Hospital and the Singapore National Eye Centre.

## FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS

The Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation funds a number of Fellowships involving the following specialist units: Retinal, Glaucoma, Corneal, Oculoplastics and Professorial Clinical Fellowships on the Sydney Eye Hospital campus.

Candidates (Eye Doctors) for these Fellowships come from overseas. Each position is for 12 months and includes a research component. Sydney Eye Hospital benefits in many ways from these programs, including clinical research and publication, both nationally and internationally.

Sydney Eye Hospital is a teaching hospital and has a continuing program in place to teach qualified doctors to become Eye Specialists. These Registrars benefit in their training from the availability of already qualified Eye Doctors who are engaged full time for the period of their Fellowship.

***"Sydney Eye Hospital has a continuing program IN PLACE to teach qualified doctors to become Eye Specialists."***

Some of these Fellows are from developing nations and return to their country with improved skills from their 12 months in this fully operational Eye Hospital.



**Sydney eye**

HOSPITAL FOUNDATION



## HOW TO DONATE...



**DONOR HOTLINE** 02 9382 7408



**ONLINE** [www.sydneyeyehospitalfoundation.org.au/donate](http://www.sydneyeyehospitalfoundation.org.au/donate)



**MAIL** Post this completed form in the reply paid envelope

## A BEQUEST IN YOUR WILL IS A GIFT THAT KEEPS GIVING AFTER YOU PASS ON

A Bequest is your personal legacy to the future. You can make provisions in your Will ensuring that money, property or valuables from your estate are donated to the cause of your choice.

Many people find great relief in knowing they can demonstrate their commitment to a special cause in this way, especially when current circumstances restrict their level of contribution. This was illustrated in a letter we recently received from an enthusiastic supporter. They wrote:

*"I apologise for being unable to make donations at this time. Like many of your supporters, I am now a pensioner. However, I have included a request for information on how I can arrange a Bequest. I feel it is one way I can express my thanks for the help I received while in NSW. I do hope others read your IN-FOCUS and decide to consider a Bequest. Keep up the wonderful work you do"* (T.F. Redcliffe, QLD).

We appreciate the dedication this supporter has shown by including us in their Will. Their enthusiasm for the work of the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation continues.

This warm gesture of generosity ensures the continued work of the Hospital and provides encouragement for our staff and volunteers to plan towards the future. Most importantly, it offers hope to current and future recipients of our care who can be confident that whenever they need assistance, they will receive a high standard of care backed by the latest technology and research.

If you would like to investigate the possibility of donating to the Foundation through a Bequest and would like further information, just tick the Bequest box on the coupon below. You can also contact the Foundation on (02) 9382 7408.

## SYDNEY EYE HOSPITAL FOUNDATION BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

All Members of the Board of Management are financial members of the Foundation. They also give their time freely in the interests of enhancing the ability of Sydney Eye Hospital to provide first class eye care to the public of Sydney and beyond.

### Current Board Members:

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## YES! I WANT TO HELP TO PREVENT PERMANENT BLINDNESS FROM GLAUCOMA



Sydney eye  
HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

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We also accept donations online [www.sydneyeyehospitalfoundation.org.au](http://www.sydneyeyehospitalfoundation.org.au)

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### Please accept my gift of

☐ \$35 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ OR MY CHOICE OF \_\_\_\_\_

☐ My cheque/money order is enclosed.

Made payable to: Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation.

☐ Please debit the above amount to my:

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Yes, I would like further information on (PLEASE TICK) ☐ Bequests ☐ Planned Giving (eg: monthly)

☐ I have already included Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation in my Will ☐ Volunteering

All donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible, a receipt will be sent to you shortly.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.**