Envisioning innovation

Sometimes today’s standard care isn’t enough to meet a patient’s needs. That’s why YEC conducts a growing number of clinical trials involving state-of-the-art medicines, drug delivery devices, and newly designed inventions from federal and industry sponsors. John J. Huang, MD, is the director of clinical research for the department. Virtually every subspecialty is engaged in clinical research, offering patients with a broad range of diagnoses access to leading-edge treatments. We are:

- the developers of a new glaucoma drainage implant. The device, pioneered by M. Bruce Shields, MD, is currently being studied internationally.
- a leading Connecticut clinical trials center testing new drugs to treat macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy.
- an NIH-supported clinical site investigating whether high dose vitamins and omega-3 fatty acids are beneficial in macular degeneration (AREDSII).

Other clinical and translational research efforts include:

- a study of the relationship between childhood obesity and eye problems;
- laboratory investigations of neuroprotection / neuroregeneration in animal models of glaucoma;
- a clinical trial of chemotherapy for ocular melanoma to increase the survival rate of these patients;
- exploration of nanotechnology’s potential to better localize and release drugs.

It remains the mission of YEC to carry out leading-edge translational research, thereby continuing our history of groundbreaking discoveries.

Envisioning a new generation of outstanding doctors

The Yale-New Haven Hospital Residency Program, under the direction of C. Robert Bernardino, MD, is committed to preparing leaders in ophthalmology and vision science. We offer residents a unique combination of autonomy and faculty support. Our resident physicians rotate between a broad spectrum of practice settings, including a Veteran’s Administration facility, a community health center, a program in the Bahamas and the Yale Eye Center itself.

Our faculty’s commitment to education extends to select fellowships in several subspecialty areas. A one-year glaucoma fellowship draws on Yale’s longstanding expertise in this field. A two-year vitreoretinal fellowship allows for mentoring by clinicians with broad specializations, including uveitis and ocular oncology. This year we are adding a two-year ophthalmic plastics fellowship to take advantage of faculty expertise in this area. Residents and fellows have ample opportunities to participate in faculty scholarship and complete independent research projects.

Continuing medical education

Our faculty has a long history of contributing to local, national and international symposiums. We offer a robust clinical conference series calendar, the details of which may be found on the enclosed insert and at www.eyes.yale.edu.
Envisioning extraordinary care

FOR CHILDREN

A child with serious eye disease needs a compassionate pediatric-trained ophthalmologist with expertise. In addition, the child needs specialized equipment for accurate diagnosis and/or successful treatment. At the YEC, we offer both, and this combination is inspiring our colleagues to send more children with complex eye problems here every day.

Last year, nearly 5,000 children were seen at the YEC, an increase of more than 1,200 over the previous year. Some were premature infants at risk of retinal detachment, impaired vision, or even blindness. Daniel J. Salchow, MD, director of pediatric ophthalmology for Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital, is an expert in amblyopia, strabismus, and cataract surgery. Our specialists in cornea and external disease, glaucoma, ocular oncology, oculoplastics and vitreoretinal diseases also see many young patients at the YEC. Our superb credentials and experience, combined with resources like a dedicated pediatric waiting room and custom exam rooms in the YEC, and operating rooms at Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital, create an ideal environment to meet the clinical, physical, and social needs of children.

FOR CANCER PATIENTS

Cancers of the eye are rare and so is a multispecialty program equipped to diagnose and treat them. YEC recruited Miguel Materin, MD, an internationally recognized ocul oncology expert, to lead such a team and provide comprehensive care for malignant and benign tumors of the eye. Dr. Materin has a specific interest and experience in the diagnosis and treatment of retinoblastoma and choroidal melanoma in children and adults, respectively.

His clinical team includes Yale physician specialists in adult and pediatric oncology, cytogenetics, ophthalmic pathology, and radiation oncology, as well as our own C. Robert Bernardino, MD, a noted expert in oculoplastics and orbital surgery. Together, they offer leading-edge treatments to save lives and preserve vision. Adult and pediatric patients are seen at the Temple Street location, in Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital and at the new Smillow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven.

Envisioning superior service

We are committed to delivering outstanding patient-centered care in a manner that’s efficient and maximizes patient satisfaction. The new departmental Clinical Practice Committee (CPC), led by Hylyn R. Mayer, MD, and Jimmy Lee, MD, promotes patient care and safety while minimizing wait time. The aim of the committee is to create a practice environment wherein patients consistently experience positive interactions with our physicians and staff. The CPC has already garnered an impressive list of achievements including improved responsiveness of patient communication, elimination of patient care bottlenecks, and enhanced patient scheduling. In patient satisfaction surveys, 95 percent of the respondents say they are likely to recommend our services. As evidence, the department has increased surgical numbers by 200 percent and experienced this growth across all clinical subspecialties areas. Maintaining and raising the standards of quality care during this period of expansion has been a goal shared by all physicians and staff.

YEC welcomes outstanding physicians to our practice

James Kempton, MD
Assistant Professor, Director of the Retina Service (Veteran’s Administration Health Center) and Associate Program Director, Ophthalmology Residency Program

Molecular Medicine Program, Mayo College of Medicine, Rochester, MN and Hamilton Glaucoma Center, Shirley Eye Center, University of California, San Diego, CA

Clinical and research interests: Glaucoma and cataract surgery, novel glaucoma surgeries, complex anterior segment surgery; gene therapy of glaucoma, repopulation dynamics of the outflow tract, lentiviral vectors

Nils A. Loewen, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor, Glaucoma and Anterior Segment

Medical School of the Albert-Ludwigs-University of Freiburg, Germany

Residency: Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL

Fellowship: Molecular Medicine Program, Mayo College of Medicine, Rochester, MN and Hamilton Glaucoma Center, Shirley Eye Center, University of California, San Diego, CA

Clinical and research interests: Glaucoma and cataract surgery, novel glaucoma surgeries, complex anterior segment surgery; gene therapy of glaucoma, repopulation dynamics of the outflow tract, lentiviral vectors

Miguel A. Materin, MD
Assistant Professor, Director of Ocular Oncology

University of Buenos Aires, Argentina

Residency: Santa Lucia Hospital, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Fellowship in Ocular Oncology: With Eye Hospital, Thomas Jefferson University

Clinical and research interests: Melanoma and retinoblastoma; early detection and treatment of ocular melanoma, systemic cancers and ocular complications, role of cytogenetics in ocular oncology, diagnostic and treatment methods for eye malignancies

Envisioning a team dedicated to excellence

The individual expertise and inter-subspecialty collaborative practice of our physicians distinguishes the clinical care at the YEC. Our leadership in translational research provides patients access to innovative treatments often before they become widely available.

Neuro-ophthalmology

Thomas J. Walsh, MD

Ocular Oncology

Miguel A. Materin, MD

Ophthalmic Pathology

John H. Smard, MD, PhD

Ophthalmic Plastic and Orbital Surgery

C. Robert Bernardino, MD, FACS

Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus

Daniel J. Salchow, MD

Refractive Surgery

Jimmy Lee, MD

Retina and Vitreous

Ron A. Adelman, MD, MPhil, FACS

John Huang, MD

James E. Kempton, MD

Miguel A. Materin, MD

Kathleen M. Stoezel, MD

Uveitis and Ocular Immunology

I. Willard Abraham, MD, FACS

Paul A. Gaudio, MD

John J. Huang, MD

For more information and our newest developments, please visit www.eyes.yale.edu