

Glaucoma 360 New Horizons Forum

Vision Restoration: From Promise to Reality

Glaucoma Research Foundation (GRF) will host the 8th Annual Glaucoma 360 New Horizons Forum in San Francisco on February 1, 2019.

This unique meeting showcases new and promising advances in glaucoma and unites clinicians with leaders in ophthalmology, vision science, business, finance, and the FDA in order to speed the development of novel therapies for glaucoma patients.

A full day will be devoted to presentations and panel discussions featuring innovations in glaucoma drug delivery, pharmaceuticals, and devices. There are also sessions focused on working with the FDA and securing venture capital funding. Special sessions will include telemedicine in glaucoma and innovations in vision restoration (Figure 1).

David J. Calkins, PhD, and Joel S. Schuman, MD, FACS, will comoderate “New Horizons in Glaucoma Treatment: From Vision Restoration to Optic Nerve Regeneration,” which will showcase early-stage companies and researchers with developments in the glaucoma field.

GRF recently announced plans to launch the next phase of its breakthrough research program, “Catalyst for a Cure,” to focus on restoring vision in glaucoma patients. Dr. Schuman, a member of GRF’s research committee, notes, “Although there are effective treatments in the clinic now and newer options on the horizon to lower pressure to preserve vision, there is little we can do to restore vision lost from glaucoma. This is an important area to highlight at Glaucoma 360 to encourage further exploration and development, as patients are extremely eager and anxious for this.”

Dr. Calkins, who will lead the Scientific Advisory Board for GRF’s new “Catalyst for a Cure Vision Restoration Initiative,” remarked, “We are excited to have an opportunity at New Horizons Forum to feature innovations focused on restoring vision. In addition, we will spotlight the advances made possible through GRF’s research programs and introduce the new team of investigators they have assembled to achieve this next major breakthrough in glaucoma research.”

To kick off Glaucoma 360, the GRF Annual Gala will be held on January 31st. The 2019 honorees include Robert Stamper, MD (Figure 2). There will also be an announcement of the annual Shaffer Prize for outstanding glaucoma research. On the final day, February 2nd, there will be two continuing education symposia for ophthalmologists and optometrists. All activities will be held at the historic Palace Hotel. ■



Figure 1. Felipe Medeiros, MD, will comoderate the teleglaucoma session with Lama Al-Aswad, MD, to highlight new advances and reimbursement hurdles.



Figure 2. Longtime member of the GRF Board of Directors, Robert Stamper, MD, will receive the 2019 President’s Award at the Annual Gala on January 31st.