



**APRIL 2018** 

**DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE GIFT OF SIGHT** 



Recent technological developments will replace three pieces of imaging equipment with just one and, at the same time, improve the diagnostic and treatment outcomes for patients.

The latest version of Heidelberg imaging equipment combines OCT, angiography and ultrawide imaging functions into one system.

"Together, these three elements will give us images of peripheral retinal tissues and the blood vessels and associated connective tissues in the choroidal structures, that are not visible with our current equipment," says Mr Kevin Gardner, Chief Executive Officer of the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation.

"Importantly, this combined imaging capacity will improve our diagnosis of different forms of macular degeneration and help ophthalmologists to see damage caused by inflammatory diseases of the eye. Understanding what is happening in the eye enables us to better tailor treatment and intervention, with the ultimate aim of saving sight for more people."

Optical coherence tomography (OCT) uses light waves to take cross-section pictures of the retina, showing each distinctive layer; angiography is radiographic imaging of blood or lymph vessels which have been injected with dye; and the ultrawide imaging captures pictures of structures on the periphery of the eye.

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The impact of integrating all three systems into one piece of equipment is significant. With the current trio of devices, ophthalmologists have to take three sets of images and line them up, making educated guesses about where the three intersect. This understandably introduces a margin of error. The single integrated image, on the other hand, takes away the guess work and means more accurate diagnosis for patients.

# ONE GOOD MACHINE CAN DO MUCH MORE FOR PATIENTS

"Diagnosis and treatment are not the only factors we consider," Mr Gardner points out. "We are also mindful of the comfort of patients and the impact on their quality of life. Eye diseases can make big inroads into a person's life. People can spend a lot of time in our clinics – for tests, consultations and treatments. Anything we can do to improve the efficiency of our services and processes can help to reduce the stresses on our patients."

"To offer world's best care, the specialist teams rely on the very best technology available.

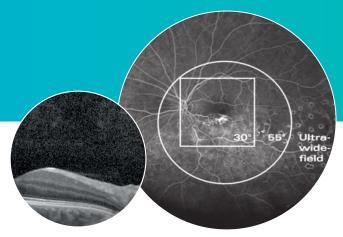
It is thanks to our supporters that we have been able to make sure the technology is the best in the world, to match the expertise of the Hospital's specialists."

The new Heidelberg system will produce scans on a single piece of equipment in a single sitting. Patients won't have to wait to have scans performed on multiple devices; this will return valuable time to them.

The Heidelberg imaging equipment and the Sydney Eye Hospital medical team work hard throughout the year. The teams working with diseases of the retina and inflammatory diseases alone provided more than 22,600 service occasions in the 2016/17 financial year.

The Sydney Eye Hospital prides itself on providing world class care to prevent sight loss and restore sight and the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation is proud to be able to support the Hospital's achievements.





CURRENT IMAGING

**NEW IMAGING QUALITY** 

"We are enormously grateful to the many generous and committed supporters and donors who make that possible," Mr Gardner says. "To offer world's best care, the specialist teams rely on the very best technology available. It is thanks to our supporters that we have been able to make sure the technology is the best in the world, to match the expertise of the Hospital's specialists."

Imaging of the structures of the eye, for example with the Heidelberg equipment, provides essential information for ophthalmologists to make accurate diagnoses and informed decisions about treatment.

Sydney Eye Hospital has been fortunate to have the trio of Heidelberg devices to conduct angiography and OCT tests. They were the best options available at the time they were purchased and have served the Hospital and its patients well. The tests allow ophthalmologists to assess the health of the blood vessels in the eye and to search for signs of damage or disease in the many layers of the reting.

But better technology is now available and it's time to step up to the next level.

The Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation plans to fund the Hospital to upgrade two of its existing Heidelberg machines; the third machine will be traded in to offset the overall cost. To achieve this, the Foundation must raise \$130,000.



### YOUR DONATIONS DO GOOD WORK



The Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation thanks our generous donors, who made it an outstanding year.

The clinical and research fellowships awarded by the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation in 2017 allowed 16 ophthalmologists to build skills and experience and push the envelope within the hospital, creating a more enriched and innovative environment.

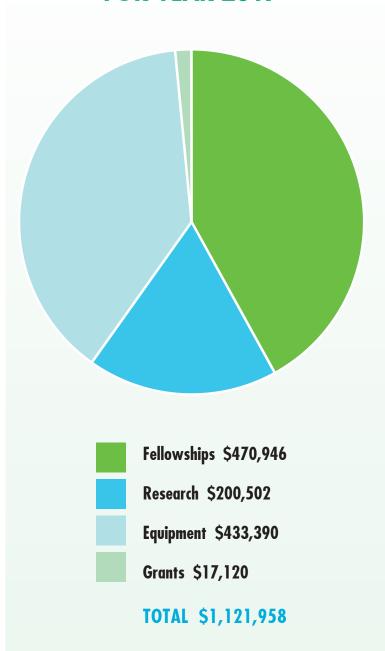
> "The Foundation was able to allocate more than \$200,000 to essential research projects"

The Foundation was able to allocate more than \$200,000 to essential research projects, including investigating diabetic macular Oedema, testing eyes for early signs of MS and Herpes Keratitis study on corneal diseases.

Equipment worth more than \$430,000 was purchased for Sydney Eye Hospital, to keep it up to date with emerging technology, including supporting Keratoprosthesis enabling blind people to see, 3 Carl Zeiss OCT machines, a vision field analyser and IOL Master 700.

Did you know that you can direct your donation to an area that particularly interests you? It's simple: just drop us a note along with your donation response slip indicating what area you would like to support. Whether it's Research, Fellowships or General Support, every area is critical to saving sight and providing the best possible eye care.

## FUNDING BREAKDOWN FOR YEAR 2017







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**ONOR HOTLINE 02 9382 7408** 

ONLINE www.sydneyeyehospitalfoundation.org.au/donate

MAIL Post the completed form below to Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation

#### 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's Chief Executive Officer, Mr Kevin Gardner 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.

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#### YES! I WANT TO HELP SYDNEY EYE HOSPITAL TAKE EYE CARE TO A NEW LEVEL

Sydney eve	GPO Box 1614, Sydney, NSW 2001 P: 02 9382 7408 F: 02 9382 7415 E: kevin.gardner@health.nsw.gov.au ABN 78 002 197 677 We also accept donations online				
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Hospital Foundation, please call (02) 9382 7408

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