



infocus

FOR A BETTER TOMORROW



SEP 2013

**Keratoconus
Project
Update**

Fellowships

**How the money
was spent**

Make a Bequest

Keratoconus Project Update

The Keratoconus Research Group, which is based at the Sydney Eye Hospital Campus, is made up of scientists and clinicians whose focus is on unlocking the cause of keratoconus. Keratoconus is a very common eye condition that results in a distortion of the window of the eye and is a major cause of visual impairment in Australia. In fact, it is the most common reason that people undergo corneal transplantation in Australia.

The Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation has been the major financial supporter of our research for the last 3 years. During this time we have identified a number of problems in patients with keratoconus at a molecular level. These scientific discoveries are world first and have opened up a whole new area of research into the causes of this disease.

Apart from 5 major publications in highly regarded journals, we have presented our research at 10 major national and international meetings. Our most recent paper was published in "Plos" in August 2013. We are zeroing in on the superficial area of the cornea (the window of the eye) as the primary problem area in keratoconus. Our current hypothesis is that the problem lies in the cell communication and protein

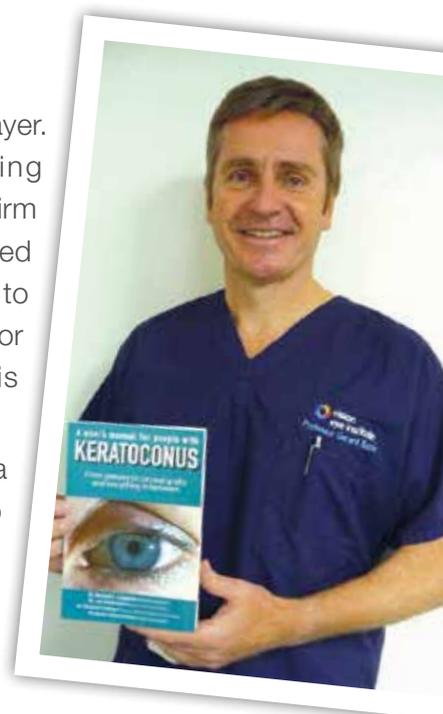
excretion within this layer. We are now undertaking further work to confirm this hypothesis. If proved correct, it will point to therapeutic options for the treatment of this disease.

Dr JingJing Yu is a PhD scientist who works fulltime thanks to the support of the Foundation. She is ably supported in the lab by MS Li Wena

and Associate Professor Michele Madigan. Professor John McAvoy provides valuable scientific advice on the Wnt pathway and Chris Hodge and I provide the clinical input. Chris is currently completing his PhD in Keratoconus.

Without the support of the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation and its generous donors this work would not be possible. We as a team are determined to uncover the secrets of this disease and we are very grateful for the Foundation's support in this endeavour. I look forward to updating you on our continued progress.

Professor Gerard Sutton



Professor Sutton has co-authored a book on keratoconus which has proven useful for many sufferers. Books are available from kati.kenny@visioneyeinstitute.com.au or the Foundation office. Small profits from these sales are put back into ongoing keratoconus research.

Current Fellowships *at Sydney Eye Hospital*

The Foundation funds a number of Fellowships involving the following specialist units: Retinal, Glaucoma, Corneal, Oculoplastics, Intra-Ocular Implant and Professorial Clinical Fellowship with the Save Sight Institute.

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 programmes, including clinical research and publication both nationally and internationally. Sydney Eye Hospital is a teaching hospital and has a continuing programme 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. Some of these Fellows are from third world countries and return to their country with their skills improved from their 12 months in this fully operational Eye Hospital.

The current Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation Fellows are as follows:

Dr Emil Sjahreza – Graham Lovett Vitreoretinal Fellow

Coming from Indonesia, Dr Emil Sjahreza started his Vitreoretinal Fellowship at Sydney Eye Hospital in January 2013. His goal in this fellowship program is to gain as much skills and knowledge as possible from various consultants in the hospital. He will go back to his country to work as vitreoretina surgeon in Klinik Mata Nusantara, Jakarta.



Dr Emil Sjahreza

Dr Farhan Qureshi – Oculoplastic Fellow

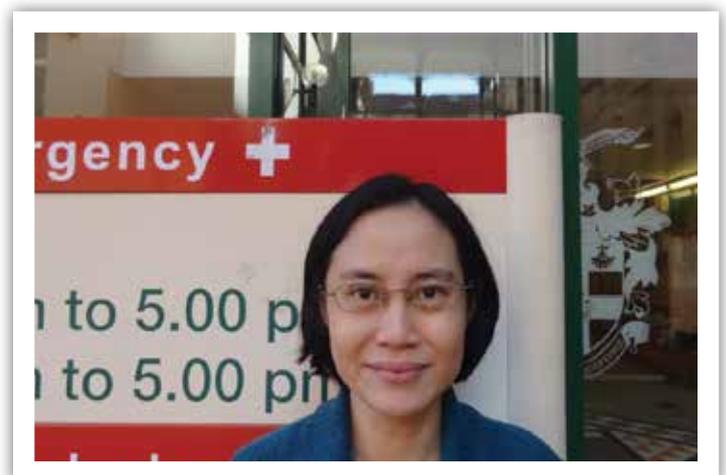
Dr Farhan Qureshi started as the Oculoplastic Fellow in the Sydney Eye Hospital in July 2013. He is from the UK and did his ophthalmology training in Liverpool after which he went on to an Oculoplastic Fellowship in Manchester. He is keen to experience healthcare in Australia and further his skills particularly in endonasal surgery whilst here. He will be returning to the UK to begin as Consultant Oculoplastic Surgeon in Wigan after his time here.



Dr Farhan Qureshi

Dr U-Teng Chan – Corneal Fellow

Dr U-Teng Chan is from Malaysia and she hopes to learn and enhance her clinical and surgical skills in Cornea at Sydney Eye Hospital and will return to Malaysia in June 2014 to continue working in the Corneal Unit.



Dr U-Teng Chan

**Dr Abhishek Kumar – Dr Eddie Donaldson
Vitreoretinal Fellow**

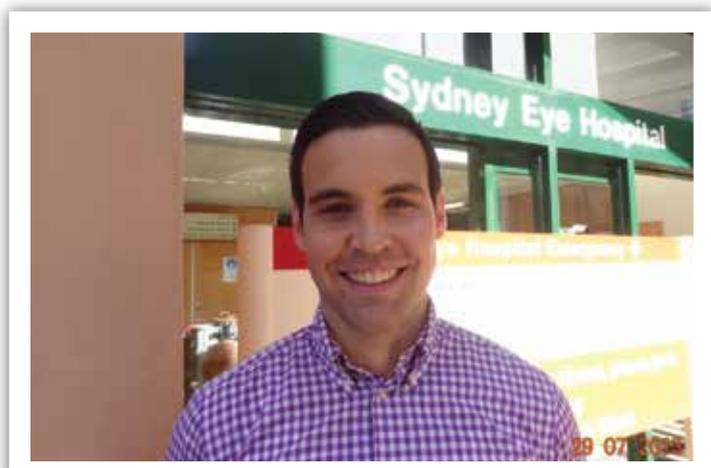
Dr Abhishek Kumar joined the vitreoretinal team in July 2013. He completed his residency in India and did 2 years vitreoretinal fellowship at Aravind Eye Hospital & PG Institute, Coimbatore. His goal is to become a proficient vitreoretinal surgeon and he believes that Sydney Eye Hospital will provide him with excellent opportunities to learn the most advanced management protocols for different eye conditions. After this fellowship he aspires to provide vitreoretinal services to the rural population of India.



Dr Abhishek Kumar

Dr Steven Schendel – Glaucoma Fellow

Dr. Steven Schendel completed his ophthalmology residency training in Vancouver, Canada in June of 2013. He relocated to Sydney in late July to begin his glaucoma fellowship training. He hopes to conduct research into minimally invasive glaucoma surgery while at the Sydney Eye Hospital, and gain further experience in the management of clinical and surgical glaucoma. He looks forward to exploring Sydney and Australia in the coming year.



Dr Steven Schendel

How the money was spent in 2012

Over the years, the Foundation has managed to provide more than \$9 million for the benefit of Sydney Eye Hospital, which in turn benefits many thousands of public patients attending the hospital every year. With the help of our loyal supporters, we have assisted with the building of the new Eye Hospital in Macquarie Street, purchased state-of-the-art equipment and funded numerous research projects into the prevention of blindness.

Today, more than ever, with demand increasing and government funding always under pressure, your generous support is vital to ensuring that the Sydney Eye Hospital can continue to provide the excellent eye care that it has done for some 130 years.

Clinical Fellowships

Graham Lovett Vitreoretinal Fellowship	\$44,460
Dr Eddie Donaldson Vitreoretinal Fellowship	\$44,740
Corneal Fellowship	\$44,954
Glaucoma Fellowship	\$37,922
Oculoplastic Fellowship	\$35,733
Intraocular Implant Fellowship	\$5,462
Professorial Fellowship	\$26,655
Medical Retina Fellowship	\$29,718

Research

Keratoconous Research Project	\$95,000
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Equipment

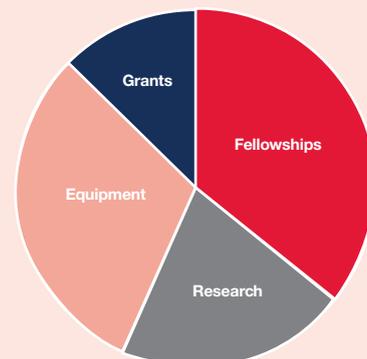
Espion Electrophysiology System	\$144,770
Optimed Endoscope	\$39,750
iPhone Pharmacopeia App	\$13,636

Grants

Nurses Grant including Orthoptists	\$11,680
Eye Operations DVD Grant	\$43,605
Sydney Eye Hospital Alumni	\$3,090

Total \$621,175

- **Fellowships**
\$269,644
- **Research**
\$95,000
- **Equipment**
\$198,156
- **Grants**
\$58,375





Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation Board of Management

All Members of the Board of Management are financial members of the Foundation as well as giving freely of time 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:

- Dr T.J. Playfair (President)
- Prof. F.A. Billson (Snr. Vice President)
- Dr A.B.L. Hunyor (Jnr. Vice President)
- Mr C. Beer
- Mr P. Bower
- Dr J. Gregory-Roberts
- Dr A.P. Hunyor
- Dr G. Kourt
- Dr P. Rumma
- Dr D. Semmonds
- Mr P. Slover
- Dr A.W. Wechsler
- Mrs C. Wilkinson
- Mr K. Gardner (Chief Executive Officer)
- Mrs A. Sharma (Office Manager)

Make a Bequest: It's a different way to help

A Bequest in your Will is a gift that lives on.

It's a way of ensuring that the assets (money, property or valuables) that you need now will eventually be used to help the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation. It's something that you can arrange in addition to – or instead of – giving cash right now.

By making a Bequest, you will be in good company. Bequests from our donors are a major source of income to assist the good work done for people with eye problems at Sydney Eye Hospital. They also provide urgently needed funds for research into the prevention of blindness.

The main advantage of the bequest system is that it allows donors of all means to make a valuable donation to the Foundation in the knowledge that their generosity will help save the sight of thousands of adults and children who come to the Hospital for help each day.

Should you decide to make a Bequest to Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation, clear instructions in your Will are necessary to ensure your wishes are carried out.

If you would like more information, please contact the Foundation's Chief Executive Officer, Mr Kevin Gardner, on (02) 9382 7408 or email:

kevin.gardner@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au

He will be pleased to assist.



YES! I Proudly Support the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation



Sydney eye
HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

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Please accept my gift of:

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Cardholder's Name _____ Expiry Date / _____

Signature _____

OR Please deduct \$ _____ each month from my credit card until I advise otherwise.

Yes, I would like further information on (please tick)

Bequests Planned Giving (eg: monthly) Volunteering

I have already included Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation in my Will

Thank you for your generosity.

All cheques and money orders to be made payable to: SYDNEY EYE HOSPITAL FOUNDATION.