In late 2004, the Lions of Colorado and the University of Colorado jointly committed $6,000,000 to construct the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute (RMLEI) at the University of Colorado at UCH for appointments with:

- Dr. Morrisey has accepted
- completed their–

by the Mountain Lions Eye Institute and its growth certificate identifies technicians who have achieved a level of excellence in performing tests in the vision acuity measurements, intraocular pressure measurements, corneal thickness, refractions, pupillary dilation, and their family for their support.

"The Lustig Family Foundation" and the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute for the use in a variety of ways from cornea research to the enhancement of our resident education program. Dr. Samuel Kantor

Dr. Kantor began his career as a flight surgeon on the faculty at RMLEI, was received by our department. 'Dr. Sam' cared deeply about the residents and the patients who have benefited so much from the philanthropy of this organization and we are so pleased that they have especially nice to see so many old and new friends who have made the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute a part of their lives.

Our full-time faculty at the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute is comprised of Ophthalmologists with specialties that serve all of your ophthalmic needs.

- Adult Strabismus
- refractive surgery
- cornea & external diseases
- Retina & vitreous disease
- Ophthalmic genetics
- adult strabismus
- pediatric ophthalmology
- glaucoma
- general ophthalmology
- reconstructive surgery
- vitreoretinal disease
- ophthalmic plastics and reconstructive surgery
- uveitis & immunology

This year we have refocused on the importance of patient satisfaction and improving issues important to patients such as ease of scheduling appointments. The faculty and staff are committed to improving communications with doctors and labs throughout the health sciences center and will allow us to incorporate new technologies and systems for the people who have entrusted their care to us. We are also grateful for the donated time given by our doctors and staff to patients and their families.

We encourage our incoming Class of 2008 residents to attend and participate in the annual Residents’ Orientation Day. This day will be held during the first week of each academic year and will be held at the Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University, in Baltimore, Maryland.

We welcome our incoming Class of 2008.

Suzanne Falkenberry, M.D.
Assistant Professor Assistant Professor

From left: Malik Kahook, M.D., Brian Rothlisberger, M.D.

Rebecca Sands, M.D.
Rebecca Sands, M.D.

Scott Thomas, M.D.

Scott Oliver, M.D.

Ly Nguyen, M.D.

Heather Bartlett, M.D.

Richard Davidson, M.D.

Richard Davidson, M.D.

John Gross, M.D.

Heather Bartlett, M.D.

Heather Bartlett, M.D.

Scott Oliver, M.D.

Ly Nguyen, M.D.

Scott Thomas, M.D.

Scott Gross, M.D.

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Scott Gross, M.D.

Scott Gross, M.D.

Scott Gross, M.D.
**FEATURE FOCUS**

We are pleased to announce that the University of Colorado Department of Ophthalmology and Therapeutics has collaborated to form the Colorado Specialty Services (CSS), a multifacility practice providing electrosurgical procedures. The CSS provides exceptional care to its patients and includes medical surgeons, medical doctors, and surgical assistants. The primary mission of CSS is to provide the highest level of care to our patients.

**FOCUS ON FACULTY**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*To be a nationally recognized department of ophthalmology that serves the people of the Rocky Mountain region by providing uncompromising patient care focused on educational leadership, innovative research, and high ethical standards.*

Dr. Vikram Durairaj, Oculoplastic Surgeon, Lauren Worth, Worth

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**WHAT’S NEW IN THE CORNEA DEPARTMENT: ARTIFICIAL CORNEAS**

Dr. Michael Taravella, assisted by Dr. Michael Efron, has recently completed his first case of implanting the artificial corneas in three patients with keratoconus, a disease that thins the cornea. This technique is cutting edge; in fact, as of March 2009 only 144 of these devices have been implanted worldwide, and only 58 had been implanted in the United States. The artificial corneas are small enough to fit inside a contact lens, so the patient can have clear vision without wearing glasses or contact lenses. These artificial corneas are made of silicone, so the patient will need to wear eye drops to keep eyes lubricated. This treatment is a revolutionary option for patients who are not candidates for corneal grafts. In order to qualify for this treatment, patients must be free of disease and have a central 4-mm corneal thickness in the disease area. Clinical trials have shown that 97% of the artificial corneas remain in place for at least one year, and 80% of the artificial corneas remain in place for at least three years. In addition, 85% of the implantations were successful in the first year and 67% of the implantations were successful in the second year.

**FOCUS ON FELLOWS**

**FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

We are proud to welcome Dr. Carlston, Dr. Mandava, and Dr. Efron to our fellowship program. Dr. Carlston completed his Pediatric and Strabismus fellowship at the University of Colorado in 2009. He will be returning to private practice in Colorado Springs, CO. Dr. Efron completed his Cornea and External Disease fellowship and will be pursuing a career in academic medicine. He will be joining our faculty at the University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington, VT.

**WELCOME**

We welcome Daniel Kaseler, M.D. as our new Cornea service director. Dr. Kaseler completed Medical School at New York University and his ophthalmology residency at the University of Colorado.

**THE SINO-ORBITAL SERVICE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO**

The Sinus and Orbit Service at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center (UCHealth) utilizes a multidisciplinary approach to managing patients with various sinus and orbit disease. This multidisciplinary approach includes a multidisciplinary approach of expertise in clinical and surgical patient management. The Sinus and Orbit Service provides comprehensive care for patients with various sinus and orbit diseases. This service is available to all patients at the University of Colorado Hospital.

The implant is made of medical-grade silicone, and it is placed in a pocket constructed by the surgeon. The diseased portion of the cornea is removed, and the central corneal tissue is then sewn into the pocket. The artificial corneas are then inserted into the pocket for three months. During this period, the corneal tissue grows over the artificial corneas, and the corneal thickness increases. When the artificial corneas are removed, the corneal tissue will have grown over the artificial corneas, and the corneal thickness will have increased. The artificial corneas are then removed, and the corneal tissue will have grown over the artificial corneas, and the corneal thickness will have increased.

**FOCUS ON ALUMNI**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WALL**

The training and education of our residents is one of our primary mandates. In order to achieve this goal, the University of Colorado Department of Ophthalmology is pleased to announce the newly dedicated Ophthalmology Alumni Research Foundation. This foundation is dedicated to supporting the research of our current and former residents.

**MEETING ATTENDANCE**

The faculty continues its active participation in professional meetings.

**FOCUS ON RESEARCH**

**RETINA SERVICE RESEARCH**

**Multi-Center Clinical Trials**

1) A randomized clinical trial designed to study the efficacy of a new drug for the treatment of patients with age-related macular degeneration from the University of Colorado. These studies will be conducted at local and regional hospitals.

2) A clinical trial designed to study the efficacy of a new drug for the treatment of patients with certain types of wet macular degeneration.

We are currently enrolling patients who have been diagnosed with age-related macular degeneration and who are willing to participate in one of these studies. Contact Tim Byrne at 720-848-5011 for details.

3) A clinical trial designed to study the efficacy of a new drug for the treatment of patients with certain types of wet macular degeneration.

We are currently enrolling patients in the next several weeks. Contact Tim Byrne at 720-848-5011 for details.

**Laboratory Studies**

1) A randomised clinical trial designed to study the efficacy of a new drug for the treatment of patients with age-related macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy, and hope to begin studies in the near future.

Funding from the National Institute of Health’s Research Training Program was awarded to this project, allowing James R. Choi and Dr. Naresh Mandava, Dr. Ryan Prall and Dr. Michael Taravella.

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WHAT’S NEW IN THE CORNEA DEPARTMENT: ARTIFICIAL CORNEAS

Dr. Michael Taravella, assisted by Dr. Michael Erlanger has recently completed the implantation of three artificial corneas in three patients with severe blindness from corneal disease. This new technique is cutting edge: in fact as of March 2004 only 141 of these devices had been implanted worldwide, and only 58 had been implanted in the United States.

The cornea is specialized skin that provides a clear window and bends the light entering the eye. Many diseases of the eye can damage this special layer of skin making the proper transmission of light impossible. Until recently the only thing that doctors could do for cloudy corneas was corneal transplantation. Corneal transplantation is a technique in which the cornea of an organ donor is sewn into position after removing the patient’s cloudy cornea. This technique is still the desired way to treat most corneal diseases, but there are certain difficult cases where corneal transplantation has repeatedly failed or the damage is so severe that corneal transplantation is likely to fail. This is when the artificial cornea may be the best option for the patient, because the body can’t reject it. This new artificial cornea is called an AlphaCor keratoprosthesis.

The implant is made from material similar to a contact lens, or PHMEA. The Artificial Cornea is placed in a pocket constructed by the surgeon half thickness in the diseased cornea, with the central posterior portion of the diseased cornea removed. The artificial cornea is then allowed to scar into this pocket for three months. Then the central portion of the anterior diseased cornea is removed. At this point the patient again has a clear window to transmit light to the eye.

Dr. Taravella and the Cornea department which includes Dr. Richard Davidson and Dr. Darren Gregory are using the newest technology to help patients recover the best visual potential possible.

The Sino-Orbital Service at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center (UCDHSC) utilizes a multidisciplinary approach to diseases involving both the sinuses and orbit. Vikram Durairaj, M.D., Department of Ophthalmology and Todd Kingdom, M.D., Department of Otolaryngology, combine their areas of expertise in clinical and surgical patient management. The close functional and anatomic proximity leads to considerable overlap in manifestations of both orbit and sinus disease. Patients receive comprehensive independent evaluations by Kingdom and Durairaj and clinical management is planned jointly. This service is unique in Colorado and represents one of the few programs in the western part of the country.

Combined Sino-Orbital Procedures
- Orbital decompression
- Endoscopic dacrocystorhinostomy (DCR)
- Optic nerve decompression
- Approach to tumors of the orbital apex
- Approach to sino-orbital neoplasms
FOCUS ON RESEARCH

We are grateful for the volunteer service of the advisory board. These members serve as ambassadors and partners in addition to supporting our fundraising efforts.

Jean Appolon
Joseph Bailey
L. Sue Bangert
Patricia Bateman
Robert Daub
Cary Fales
Sue Goodin
Barbara Haller
Sally Hooks
Kenneth Hovland, M.D.
Jean Appleman
Joseph Bailey
Robert Daub
Cary Fales
Sue Goodin
Barbara Haller
Sally Hooks
Kenneth Hovland, M.D.

FOCUS ON OUTREACH

Multi-Center Clinical Trials
1. RANICAL: Currently designed to study the effects of a drug delivered by local injection to the eye to prevent further vascular degeneration from becoming the wet or exudative form of macular degeneration.

2. XAVI: Currently enrolling patients with a history of or affected by wet AMD in both the right and left eyes. Contact Tim Byrne at 720-848-5051 for details.

3. We will also be joining national studies focusing on new treatments for retinal vein occlusions and diabetic retinopathy, and hope to be involved in additional studies in the near future.

Laboratory Studies
1. Using a rodent model of late-onset diabetic retinopathy, we are currently performing various pharmacological compounds to inhibit neovascularization and growth, which may lead to future treatments for diabetic retinopathy and diabetic retinopathy.

For information regarding consultation and treatment, Lauren Worth at 720-948-0588.

When, and if, the patient and practitioners choose a procedural treatment plan, the patient will have the opportunity to speak with a consultant who will know that it will take time and skill to achieve the desired result. It is our belief that cosmetic dermatology is a service, and patients should be given fair and useful consultations based on their specific needs. We feel that an educational approach should be taken regarding cosmetic dermatology, and patients should be given enough time to consider their options before making a decision.

In the University's Division of Ophthalmology, we have the unique opportunity to work with some of the most renowned ophthalmologists in the country. We are committed to providing the highest level of care to our patients. We believe that education is key in our field, and we are dedicated to staying up-to-date with the latest research and advancements in ophthalmology.

The implant is made from materials similar to a contact lens, as it is placed in a pocket created in the conjunctiva of the eye. The tissue is dislodged from the implant material and becomes the new corneal surface. The corneal material is then folded into a tube and placed in three pockets. These pockets are then sewn in the cornea department.

WHAT’S NEW IN THE CORNEA DEPARTMENT: ARTIFICIAL CORNEAS

Dr. Taravella and the Cornea Department which includes Dr. Richard Davidson and Dr. Douglas Rosen currently operating patients.

Drs. Paniker and Durairaj are fellowship trained and experienced in the field of dermatology. Dr. Uma Paniker is a State of Colorado licensed aesthetician.

We are pleased to announce that the University of Colorado School of Medicine, to work with us on this project. Jeffrey L. Olson, M.D.

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We are pleased to announce that the University of Colorado School of Medicine, to work with us on this project. Jeffrey L. Olson, M.D.
Our full-time faculty at the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute is comprised of Ophthalmologists with specialties that are full of professional needs. Over many promising physicians, who generally operate in private practice and are not based here, play a vital role in the department’s activities. We welcome outpatients for the following services:

**FACULTY LISTING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J. Steven Brown, M.D.</td>
<td>Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parin Gohel, M.D.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heather Bartlett, M.D.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eric Hink, M.D.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anand Shah, M.D.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Marsee, M.D.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doug MacKenzie, M.D.</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arlene Drack, M.D.</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Hickenlooper, M.D.</td>
<td>Professor</td>
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</table>

In the future, we will have a larger share of the patient care work. We are very proud of our faculty, and the high level of care and service which they provide.

**FOCUS ON RESIDENTS**

The Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute (RMLEIF) has continued its support of the Department with a focus on resident training. For more information visit us online at.

**SNOISI**

**FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENT**

We are also grateful for the donated time given by representatives of Davis Labs, every day. Every day, Davis makes the RMLEIF receipt desk, giving assistance and directions to our patients. Whether giving skilled or financial support, Lions’ generosity is abundant!

The Department of Ophthalmology recently received an extremely generous donation from the Lions Family Foundation of Denver. This wonderful gift will be put to use in a variety of ways from research resources to the purchase of new equipment. We are extremely grateful for the wonderful building this money helped to construct. This fundraising effort was organized by the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute Foundation (RMLEIF) and a group of Lions’ members were elected from the Lions districts in both states. They continue to work on behalf of the RMLEI.

Recently, RMLEIF donated funds allowing RMLEI to make an important purchase. We obtained advance tubes and beam splitters for five slit lamps, in all. This purchase equips our technicians with the latest technology, enabling them to participate in the examination of a patient’s eye. In addition, a digital camera can be linked to the beam splitter, enabling excellent photographs to be taken.

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We are all grateful for the donated time given by representatives of local Lions Clubs. Every day, Lions make the REMARK reception desk, giving assistance and directions to our patients. Whether giving onclick of financial support, Lions’ generosity is abundant. The Department of Ophthalmology recently received an extremely generous donation from the Lions Family Foundation of Denver, Colorado. This wonderful gift will be put to use in a variety of ways from core research to the undergraduate and graduate education programs. Dr. Richard Davidson, Cornea and External Diseases specialist, along with the Lions Chair of Ophthalmology, Dr. Narasimha Mandava, will supervise the fund. The Lions Club pledge drive continues for Mr. and Mrs. J. Loring and their family for their support. Early in 2005, a bequest left to Dr. Samuel Kantor from Boston University. Among other advantages to the faculty and the technicians to participate in the examination of a patient’s eyes. In addition, a digital camera can be hooked to the beam splitter, enabling excellent photographs to be taken.

FOCUS ON THE INSTITUTE

We welcome our incoming Class of 2008 graduates to the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute. As the Department of Ophthalmology, we are extremely grateful for the wonderful building this money helped to construct. This bonding effort was organized by the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute Foundation (RMLEIF). Lions of Colorado and Wyoming and the Lions Clubs of these two states.

FOCUS ON RESIDENTS

FACULTY LISTING

We note with the incoming Class of 2008.

FOCUS ON RESIDENTS

We welcome our incoming Class of 2008.

FACULTY LISTING

The Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute (RMLEI) has continued its support of the Department with a commitment to provide new equipment. We have benefited much from the philosophy of the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Colorado at Denver.

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Class of 2005

Class of 2005

Class of 2006

Class of 2007

Class of 2009

Class of 2009

Class of 2009

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