



V ISI NARY

THE EYE CANCER FOUNDATION
ANNUAL APPEAL: WINTER 2022

ROADMAP

THE SMALL FOUNDATION THAT GETS BIG RESULTS!



FELLOWS SUPPORTED



ECF SUPPORTED RESEARCH



WAYS TO GIVE



MEETINGS PRESENTED



SOCIAL MEDIA

DISTINGUISHED FELLOWS OF THE EYE CANCER FOUNDATION HAVE COMPLETED EYE CANCER FELLOWSHIPS HERE AT THE NEW YORK EYE CANCER CENTER AND AROUND THE WORLD!



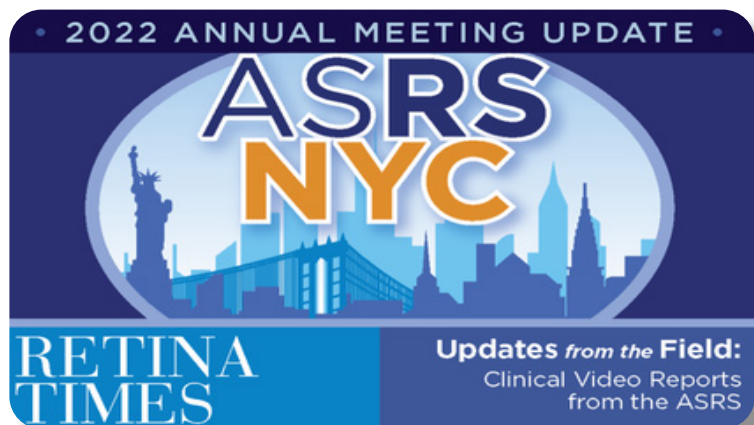
Dr. Alberto Calle-Vásquez, MD, FACS is an Associate Professor of Ophthalmology and Director of Orbit and Oncology Unit at National Institute of Ophthalmology. He's also a program founder and director (oculoplastic, orbit and oncology fellowship program) at Military Central Hospital, affiliated with Nueva Granada Military University and Calle Ophthalmic Center in **Bogotá, Colombia**. Dr. Calle-Vásquez has trained our first South American, ECF-sponsored fellow **Mariana Lopez Posada, MD** in ocular tumor, orbital disease and ophthalmic radiation therapy! Let's all congratulate her on completion of her fellowship!

Abhilasha Maheshwari MD, returned to perform additional research at The New York Eye Cancer Center. Thus far, she has completed a **Clinical Research Fellowship**, having done an astounding 10 projects. Most are now published, and all are impressive! To list some: "Survey of Ophthalmology Major Review on Laser Treatment for Choroidal Melanoma", "The First Use of Palladium-103 Ophthalmic Plaque Brachytherapy for Retinoblastoma (RB)", "Regression Patterns of Uveal Melanoma", and "The First Open-Access Doctors Reported Outcomes". Congratulations to Dr. Abhilasha!



Javiera Araya Cohen, MD, came to The New York Eye Cancer Center and completed an **International Observership** under Dr. Paul T. Finger! During her training here, Dr. Javiera observed Dr. Finger and learned a variety of new skills and techniques to bring back to Chile. "My experience at The New York Eye Cancer Center was excellent. Dr. Finger is an outstanding physician and teacher. It is incredible how much I have learned from him. Every patient I saw in the clinic was pleased with the care received by Dr. Finger and his team."

MEETINGS PRESENTED



ASRS 2022

“Clinical Features in Advanced Retinoblastoma: High-Risk Pathology and Metastatic Death”

- Paul Finger, MD, FACS

Dr. Finger presented about eye cancer supported research involving retrospective, international, multicenter ECF-sponsored registry analysis of 2,190 children with the eye cancer retinoblastoma, investigating whether clinical features and tumor size can predict high-risk

pathological features (HRPF) and thus risk of metastatic death. The data showed that both higher American Joint Commission on Cancer (AJCC) RB staging cT3 subcategories and larger AJCC-Ophthalmic Oncology Task Force (OOTF) size groups could be used to predict factors that risk metastatic death. Therefore, this study showed that for these children with high-risk tumors, prompt eye removal (compared to attempts to save the eye) were more likely to save the child’s life. Clinical features and tumor size can predict risk of metastatic death from RB. Primary enucleation is associated with better survival outcomes in patients with high-risk clinical and pathologic features.

Janki Devi Memorial College: World Cancer Day & International Childhood Cancer Day Presentation 2022

In honor of World Cancer Day, Dr. Finger created and presented an online informational video about Retinoblastoma treatment around the world. He explained the steps that need be taken to improve the care for these eye cancer patients.

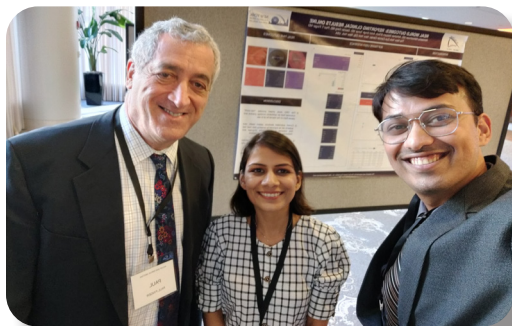


Retinoblastoma is global! Whereas most of the children in high-resource countries are saved, obstacles like lack of awareness, financial instability, lack of specialty care, as well as different social beliefs around the world, can delay treatment resulting in loss of sight and fatal metastasis.

In a video that can be accessed at: <https://www.eyecancercure.com/world-cancer-day--world-retinoblastoma-awareness.html>, Dr. Finger described the “two worlds of retinoblastoma,” How delays in diagnosis cause 70% of children in middle and low resource countries to die of their disease, compared to >2% in North America and Europe. Clearly, we don’t have to invent a new cure, just supply eye cancer specialists and equip them with supplies and methods to stop this disease.

44th Annual Tulane Eye Alumni Day- Paul T. Finger, MD Lectureship in Ophthalmic Oncology: June 10-11, 2022

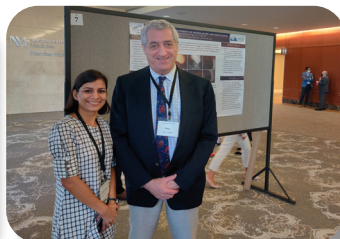
Dr. Ankit Singh Tomar was selected to present Paul T. Finger's lecture in Ophthalmic Oncology due to his outstanding series of published research articles on the diagnosis and treatments for retinoblastoma. Specifically, he spoke on the 5 recent ECF-sponsored, AJCC-OOTF co-authored, peer-review publications from the AJCC-OOTF Retinoblastoma Registry that compares the predictive power of RB staging systems, RB metastasis-related mortality, treatment success, globe salvage, the impact of vitreous seeds, high-risk pathologic features, and how high-risk clinical features can be used to predict high-risk pathologic features.



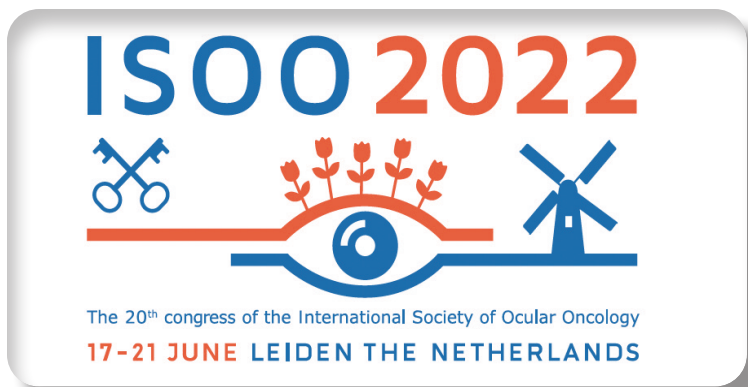
American Academy of Ophthalmology, AAOOP Conference: September 30- October 3, 2022

This conference, held in Chicago, Illinois, USA, was designed to meet the educational needs of ophthalmologists, nurses, ophthalmic technicians, and other allied health personnel who are engaged in the diagnosis and treatment of eye diseases, as well as practice administrators responsible for managing the business aspects of ophthalmic practice.

On September 30th, a series of ECF-sponsored oral presentations and posters exhibitions were given at the American Association of Ophthalmic Oncologists and Pathologists (AAOOP) conference at the AAO. These included groundbreaking information about choroidal melanoma, metastatic eye cancers, and retinoblastoma. Thanks to your support, ECF travel grants were awarded to Drs. Ankit Tomar and Abhilasha Maheshwari.

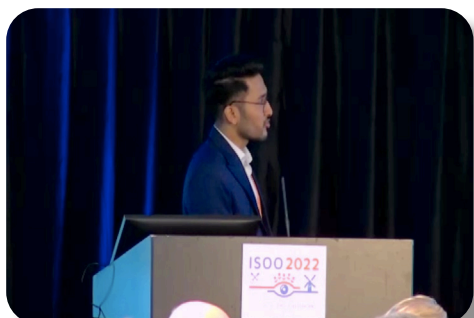


MEETINGS PRESENTED



The ISOO 2022 aims to update eye cancer specialists' knowledge about the best ways to diagnose and treat ocular tumors (for example, uveal melanoma and its metastases, other intraocular tumors including lymphoma, ocular surface, eyelid and orbital malignancies, and retinoblastoma). ECF fellows had the opportunity to do face-to-face meetings with the world's eye cancer specialists, to collaborate in science and build friendships. Staying informed is essential

for physicians who treat patients with cancer, as new developments occur continuously. This is certainly true for ocular oncology, where new diagnostic procedures and scientific discoveries continue to change our patient management paradigms. Once again, The Eye Cancer Foundation provided many presentations, given from teacher-clinicians back in their home countries and here in the USA. Enjoy the images of ECF affiliated presentations from this year's ISOO!



Dr. Gaurav Garg presenting on ocular melanoma metastasis and the need for PET/CT staging.



Dr. Puneet Jain presenting on the AJCC-OOTF world-wide conjunctival melanoma registry findings.

Characteristics	Patient 1	Patient 2	Patient 3	Patient 4	Patient 5
Pathological characteristics					
Tumor diameter (mm)	10 X 10	10 X 10	11 X 10	8 X 10	14 X 10
Tumor laterality	Not present	Present	Present	Present	Present
Histology	Invasive melanoma with CMSPAM with epithelial cells				
Pathological stage (pT)	pT2	pT1	pT2	pT2	pT1

Slide example of patients presenting with metastatic melanoma from multicenter, international, registry data.



Dr. Abhilasha Maheshwari presenting on transparency of Doctors Reported Outcomes.

ISOO 2022



Dr. Ankit Tomar presenting “real world” experience with retinoblastoma.



Our past fellows, Drs. Ekaterina Semenova (NYC) and Yacoub Yousef (Jordan).




Pictured is **Dr. Martine J. Jager** of the Netherlands receiving knighthood from the King. It is called a Knighthood because it is one of the highest honors possible and its significance is that Dr. Jager will have to show up with her soldiers when the King calls upon her. We congratulate her on her outstanding achievement! Here are comments from Dr. Jager about this award!

“The meeting was great, and we were lucky to have beautiful weather. 400 people attended. At the end of the meeting, I received a knighthood from the King, which was really fun as it happened while many friends were present. A nice gift for retirement, which however does not mean that I retire from research. We do not use terms like Dame or Sir. It is mentioned when I die, and while alive, I wear a small badge. The large one is for official ceremonies. Here is a photo showing it: Knight in the order of the Netherlands Lion. Our Rector Magnificus is standing behind me in the photo. I’d like to thank the King, Dr. Paul T. Finger, and The Eye Cancer Foundation for the sponsorship and support!”

RECENT ECF SUPPORTED RESEARCH



Occult anterior uveal melanomas presenting as extrascleral extension

Abhilasha Maheshwari,¹ Paul T Finger ,² Codrin E Iacob³

Clinical science

Occult Anterior Uveal Melanomas Presenting as Extrascleral Extension

Written by ECF doctors, **Paul T. Finger, Abhilasha Maheshwari, and Codrin Iacob**, this article published to the British Journal of Ophthalmology describes the management of patients with nearly undetectable intraocular melanoma who present with the tumor growing out of their eye. Read more on our website!: <https://www.eyecancercure.com/occult-anterior-uveal-melanomas-presenting-as-extrascleral-extension.html>

Here is a list of select publications from 2022!

Global Perspectives in Ocular Oncology:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9397647/>

Laser Treatment for Choroidal Melanoma: Current Concepts:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/survey-of-ophthalmology>

Early Anti-VEGF Treatment for Radiation Maculopathy and Optic Neuropathy: Lessons Learned:

https://trebuchet.public.springernature.app/get_content/bcf68bdf-59b0-4843-8a7d-1a09a056c3cf

OCT-A Evaluation of Radiation Vasculopathy following Slotted Plaque Brachytherapy:

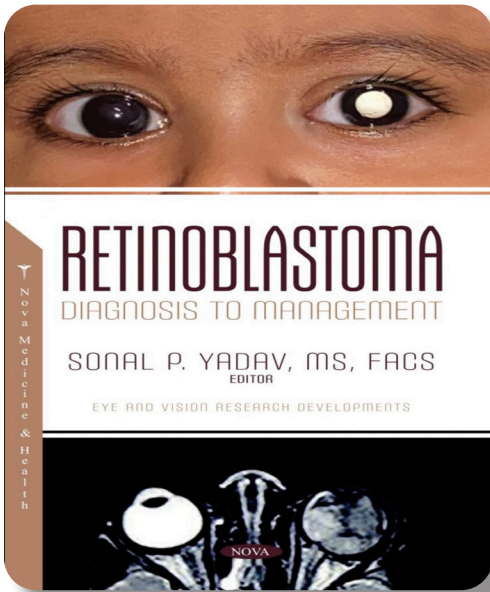
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/11206721211044339>

Palladium-103 Plaque Brachytherapy for Retinoblastoma: Long-term follow up:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9254334/>

Retrobulbar Radiation, Optic Disc Cupping, and Neuroretinal Rim Thinning:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S000841822200117X>

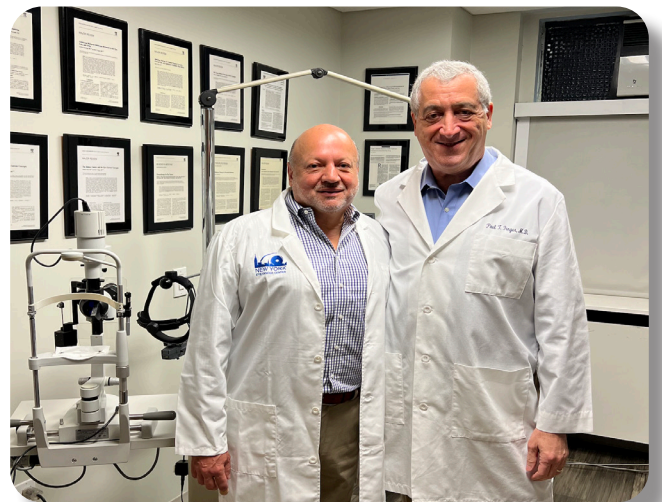


DR. SONAL P. YADAV RELEASES A NEW BOOK ON RETINOBLASTOMA!

Dr. Sonal P. Yadav is a prominent member and doctor of The Eye Cancer Network. She has published a new book on retinoblastoma! It was designed to address the current world experience diagnosing and treating retinoblastoma. There is an undeniable disparity in presentation, accessibility of care, patient compliance and outcomes seen between the developed world and developing or under-developed parts of the world. Experienced contributors from different parts of the world have been invited to address the important aspects of retinoblastoma, namely epidemiology, tumor biology and genetics, clinical diagnosis, treatment options and recent advances in research. Each chapter is aimed at providing evidence-based knowledge via text and illustrations.

DR. C. ALBERTO CALLE-VASQUEZ INDUCTED INTO ECF SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD!

Dr. Alberto Calle-Vásquez, MD, FACS is an Associate Professor of Ophthalmology and Director of Orbit and Oncology Unit at National Institute of Ophthalmology. He's also a program founder and director (oculoplastic, orbit and oncology fellowship program) at Military Central Hospital, affiliated with Nueva Granada Military University and Calle Ophthalmic Center in **Bogotá, Colombia**. Dr. Calle-Vásquez has started the first ECF-sponsored fellowship program to help train eye cancer specialists for unserved countries and underserved areas in South America.



DR. PAUL T. FINGER NAMED A TOP DOCTOR IN 2022 BY CASTLE CONNOLLY!

The Eye Cancer Foundation is proud to congratulate Dr. Paul T. Finger, on being named one of the top 1% of all US Doctors for 2022! Not only has he invented tools that help treat melanoma and other forms of eye cancer, but he has trained over 1500 fellows, residents and medical students for over 35 years. Over the last 10 years, he has concentrated on teaching ocular oncology to ophthalmologists from around the world. His experience, innovations and thus special knowledge allows him to train others how to diagnose, follow-up and treat different types of eye cancers. Despite the pandemic lockdown, Dr. Finger and associates have published important research which allowed eye cancer specialists to progress around the world to learn and improve their skills.



SOCIAL MEDIA

OVER THE LAST YEAR, OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PRESCENCE HAS GROWN! WE WILL CONTINUE TO INFORM, SHARE AND EDUCATE THROUGH THESE VARIOUS CHANNELS. JOIN US!!!



The Eye Cancer Foundation Official Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/eyecancercure>

Ocular Melanoma & Eye Cancer Patient Forum:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ECNPatients>

Retinoblastoma Forum:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1559675794291881/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/eyecancernetwrk> **OR** search: The Eye Cancer Foundation.



Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/eyecancerfoundation/> **OR** search: The Eye Cancer Foundation.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-eye-cancer-foundation/about/> **OR** search: The Eye Cancer Foundation.



YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UChOCMzusZXexVRHZypXi-0zg/featured **OR** search: The Eye Cancer Foundation.

AMAZON SMILE



FACEBOOK BIRTHDAY CAMPAIGNS



WAYS TO GIVE

CHECKS, CREDIT CARDS & CASH ARE PREFERRED. BELOW ARE OTHER WAYS YOU CAN HELP US SAVE SIGHT AND LIFE!



WILLS AND BEQUESTS

The Eye Cancer Foundation accepts gifts of cash, property, securities, etc. that are bequests or designated gifts. These gifts may be outright, residual, or contingent.

LIFE INSURANCE

Consider making The Eye Cancer Foundation a beneficiary of your life insurance policy. Please let us know!

TRUST AND ANNUITIES

Charitable Remainder Trust: The Eye Cancer Foundation accepts designation as remainder beneficiary of a charitable remainder trust. These instruments can provide an upfront tax deduction, while providing growth to your beneficiaries.

WORKPLACE MATCHING GIFTS

The Eye Cancer Foundation encourages individuals to enhance their gifts by taking advantage of matching gift opportunities offered by their employers.

SELF-PLANNED FUNDRAISERS

Another way to give to ECF is to plan your own fundraiser. Any kind of admission- or donation-based event (dinner, cake sale, garage sale, concert, etc.) that designates The Eye Cancer Foundation as the beneficiary of the proceeds is acceptable.

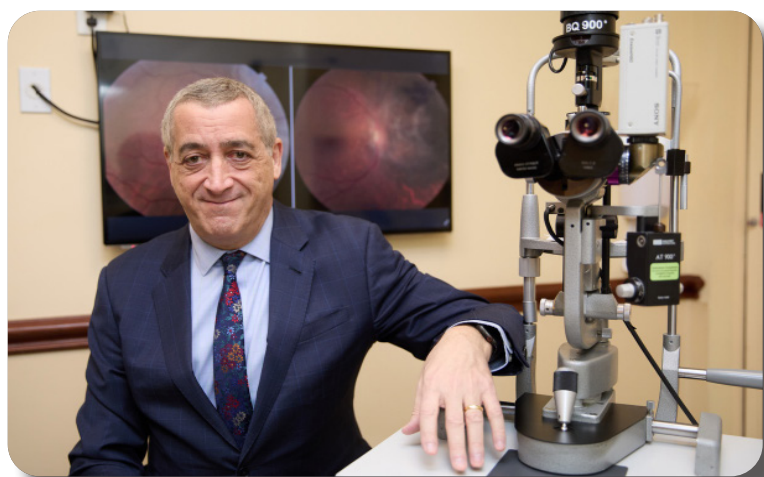
DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

The Eye Cancer Foundation will accept gifts from donor-advised funds. Gifts from a donor-advised fund may be recorded and recognized as coming from the donor at the time funds are transferred to The Eye Cancer Foundation, providing the fund manager has not been advised that the gift is anonymous.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Legal, financial, computer or other assistance is appreciated!

LETTER FROM DR. FINGER



DEAR FRIENDS,

They say, “The best things come in small packages.” It is true our foundation is small, but our roots run deep, and our accomplishments are MANY. While recovering from the devastating effects of the pandemic, the ECF’s mission and values remain the same. This year has been the year of restarting, fellows returning to our world-wide training centers to continue their research work, expansion of our scientific advisory board, and exponential growth of all our social channels.

Confronted by COVID lockdowns, we sponsored an open-access online fellowship course chaired by our once ECF fellow and now veteran ocular oncology specialist, Dr. Yacoub Yousef. He has put together a team of specialists from around the world to produce online, open-access, educational modules to help teach doctors to help their countries’ children with retinoblastoma. Now, with your help, we can fund additional educational modules for all the major types of eye cancers and make them all free to eye specialists around the world.

Adding to our RB training centers worldwide, we welcomed Colombia’s Dr. C. Alberto Calle Vásquez to reach countries in South America. He has trained one, but will continue to train more and more as there exist many countries and regions who have no access to eye cancer care.

In support of our research, we also have issued many travel grants that help our international fellows to present their (our) works around the world. We have been blessed with many hard-working fellows and your support has helped them succeed. This edition of the ECF Visionary, is filled with only some of our current initiatives, projects together with both eye and life-saving research.

Today, The Eye Cancer Foundation needs your support. Though we have done so much, we have more left to do. Help us keep our current and future programs going. With your help, we will be able to work tirelessly to teach best practices and gather the medical evidence needed to answer currently unknown clinical questions.

Help us create the systems needed to improve patient care. Please consider making a new donation. The amount is less important than the act of supporting The Eye Cancer Foundation. If all of our friends and benefactors would make a new contribution now, we can be assured that our current efforts will continue. If you ask your friends to donate, then we can start new projects. Join us in the fight to save both sight and life.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Finger', written in a cursive style.

Visit www.eyecancercure.com or scan the QR code

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SCAN ME