

Bequests or Planned Giving

A planned gift allows a donor to contribute to the Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation over a period of years, as part of an estate plan or designed correctly it can generate a charitable income tax deduction. Contributions can be made in the form of trusts, bequests, and endowments.

Matching Gifts

You may be able to double, or even triple, the amount of your gift to the Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation at no additional cost to you. Many company's match the gifts their employees give to non-profit organizations.

For more information on Bequests, Planned Giving and Matching Gifts call the Foundation at 617/494-1431 ext 112.

Make a Donation

To make your donation, please fill out the Donation Information Form on the back of this panel. Checks can be made out to the Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation. If you would like to designate your donation to the Uveitis Support Group Fund, please indicate in the memo. Please mail your check with the Donation Information Form inside.

In Honor and In Memory Donations

Give in honor or memory of someone or donate in lieu of giving or getting a gift for Bat/Bar Mitzvahs, weddings or birthday celebrations.

THE OCULAR
IMMUNOLOGY
AND UVEITIS
FOUNDATION

History



C. Stephen Foster, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.A.C.R., Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School, founded MERSI (Massachusetts Eye Research and Surgery Institution), and the Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation in March 2005 after 30 years

at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary where he began its first Fellowship training in Ocular Immunology and Uveitis. Dr. Foster is a leader in his field and is widely regarded by his colleagues and patients as having revolutionized the care of adults and children with ocular inflammatory disease. Dr. Foster is the author of four textbooks, and 600 articles and chapters in learned texts and journals.

Dr. Foster continues to be devoted to the care of patients that he sees and treats from all over the world with ocular inflammatory disease, such as uveitis, cornea and external eye disease, cataracts, glaucoma and macular degeneration. Dr. Foster also continues to teach fellows and directs a research laboratory at his private institution, MERSI.



Mission

The Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation Inc. is a 501(c)3 national non-profit organization based at the Massachusetts Eye Research and Surgery Institution (MERSI) in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Our mission is to find cures for ocular inflammatory diseases, to erase the worldwide deficit of properly trained ocular immunologists, and to provide education and emotional support for those patients afflicted with ocular inflammatory disease.

Finding A Cure

We believe that only through applied research will we be successful in finding a cure to inflammatory diseases of the eye. This ongoing research is sponsored from government grants, industry funding, and private donations, and takes place at our Foundation in a state-of-the-art research laboratory and clinical center. We also collaborate with physicians from around the world to share ideas, achievements, and new information in an effort to spread valuable knowledge worldwide. It is our goal to create the first research center in the world specifically focused on finding cures for ocular inflammatory diseases to expand our research efforts.

Erasing The Deficit

Few centers of excellence in diagnosing and treating patients with ocular inflammatory diseases exist around the world. Even fewer academic programs exist to train primary care ophthalmologists to meet this need. Our Foundation offers a fellowship program through Harvard Medical School to train future ocular immunologists. We host physicians and students from around the world to train on the latest, most successful treatments for ocular inflammatory diseases. We offer ongoing training sessions for ophthalmologists and optometrists in the treatment of uveitis and other ocular inflammatory diseases. We participate in national and international professional organizations and attend educational conferences to train and educate tomorrow's ocular immunologists.

Patient Support

The Foundation educates patients, their family members and friends, and the medical community about ocular inflammatory disease through educational conferences, literature, and outreach. This support is offered on a worldwide level. We maintain the most complete ocular inflammatory disease web resource which offers all patients and medical personnel a vast amount of information that is easily accessible and available on one website. We provide emotional support through group meetings or online support groups where individuals can confide in others facing the same difficult medical problems they are battling.

THE OCULAR
IMMUNOLOGY
AND UVEITIS
FOUNDATION

5 Cambridge Center, 8th Floor
Cambridge, MA 02142
617-621-6377 • 866-353-6377
Fax: 617-494-1430
Email: fosters@uveitis.org
www.uveitis.org

THE OCULAR
IMMUNOLOGY
AND UVEITIS
FOUNDATION

The Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation is a 501c(3), non-profit, tax-exempt organization.

Our mission is to find cures for ocular inflammatory diseases, to erase the worldwide deficit of properly trained ocular immunologists, and to provide education and emotional support for those patients afflicted with ocular inflammatory disease.



Founded by

C. Stephen Foster, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.A.C.R.
Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology
Harvard Medical School



Research

At our 1000 square foot research lab housed at MERSI, research projects are targeted at blinding inflammatory eye diseases for which there are currently no cures and for which all preliminary data indicate that abnormal immunoregulation plays a significant role in their pathogenesis. Dr. Foster selects projects based on his experience as a world renowned eye surgeon, a chemotherapist and immunologist. The results of the research projects are presented at scientific meetings worldwide and are published in peer-reviewed medical journals. Ground-breaking research projects are constantly in progress and have been made possible by various pharmaceutical companies, NIH as well as individual donors. It is the individual donors that allow the Foundation to do research projects designed by Dr. Foster that may not otherwise be possible.

currently no cures and for which all preliminary data indicate that abnormal immunoregulation plays a significant role in their pathogenesis. Dr. Foster selects projects based on his experience as a world renowned eye surgeon, a chemotherapist and immunologist. The results of the research projects are presented at scientific meetings worldwide and are published in peer-reviewed medical journals. Ground-breaking research projects are constantly in progress and have been made possible by various pharmaceutical companies, NIH as well as individual donors. It is the individual donors that allow the Foundation to do research projects designed by Dr. Foster that may not otherwise be possible.

Physician Education Efforts



The physician education efforts center on the advanced training of ophthalmologists in ocular immunology and uveitis through the fellowship program pioneered by Dr. Foster. Continuing medical education (CME) courses are also offered for ophthalmologists and optometrists on the matter of ocular inflammation.

Continuing medical education (CME) courses are also offered for ophthalmologists and optometrists on the matter of ocular inflammation.

Pathfinders

One of the greatest challenges for patients (and their families) diagnosed with rare inflammatory eye diseases such as uveitis is getting through the initial diagnoses. These patients are often left feeling “alone” and with many questions about their physical and emotional well-being. This program gives new patients an opportunity to speak with and gain from the experiences of existing patients who have similar ocular inflammatory diseases.

Uveitis/(OID) Ocular Inflammatory Disease Support Group

The support group fund helps to support its free resources, which include: on-line support group page for kids, parents, and adults that are accessible through the world wide web free of charge to anyone living with ocular inflammatory disease; a quarterly newsletter,



six support group meetings, along with a pediatric conference and educational and support resources:

Educational Guides

Uveitis: A Guide for Teachers and Parents provides teachers and parents with information about uveitis and suggests some guidelines for adapting to the classroom and school setting.

The Ocular Inflammatory Disease: What is it? Guide provides basic information defining the diseases categorized as OID; treatment protocols; resources and frequently asked questions. Sponsored by Dan Quirk of Quirk Auto Dealerships, Braintree, Massachusetts.

“Living with Uveitis” Documentary Series

Growing up with Uveitis features three females of different ages “living with uveitis” and shows how different treatments have affected their outcome. This documentary includes medical context by Dr. Foster and is a valuable support and educational resource.

The Adult Experience features 3 adults, who all developed uveitis in adulthood. It takes you through their lives from diagnosis to current status. It focuses on how the illness has affected their lives, how they have learned to cope and adjust, their treatment experience, and outcomes to care. This documentary also includes medical context by Dr. Foster.

Please visit www.uveitis.org or call **617-494-1431 ext.112** to learn more about our on-line and in-person support groups and educational resources.

Facts and Figures

- ❖ Destructive inflammatory diseases of the eye such as uveitis are the third leading cause of preventable blindness in developed countries.
- ❖ Each year uveitis affects more than 280,000 people and is the cause of 30,000 new cases of blindness in the United States. Historically, uveitis was considered a single disease entity; however, we now know that uveitis can be caused by autoimmune disorders, infections, malignancy, and exposure to toxins. There are approximately 85 causes of uveitis, although despite huge advances in current diagnostic techniques, 35-50% remain in the idiopathic category or unknown cause.
- ❖ Because the treatment and prognosis of various uveitic entities varies greatly, accurate diagnosis is imperative.
- ❖ The mean age of onset is 30.7 years (+/-15) and of that 5% to 10% of the cases occur in children under the age of 16. Uveitis in children blinds a larger percentage of those affected than in adults.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Volunteer and Plan an Event

OIUF appreciates all the support to help us make a visible difference in the lives of children and adults living with ocular inflammatory disease. If you have any specific fundraising ideas, please share them with us. House parties, fashion shows, and restaurant parties are just some innovative fundraisers that dedicated supporters have organized.

We also appreciate hard working volunteers with administrative and event planning experience for the Foundation’s annual fundraising events and educational conferences.



“Walk for Vision”

Donation Information Form

I would like my contribution of \$_____ to be used towards:

(check one) Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation (research & education) Uveitis Support Group Fund

First Name

Last Name

(If donation is on behalf of a company, organization, foundation, etc., other than name listed above please specify in the space below)

Company/Organization (if company is mailing address)

Address

City

State

Zip

Home Phone

Business Phone

Fax

Email

Enclosed is my check – or – Please charge my credit card: American Express Visa MasterCard Discover

Card Number

Expiration Date

Name as it appears on card

Mail form and check to: Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation, 348 Glen Road, Weston, MA 02493