

Glaucoma Research Foundation Hosts 6th Annual New Horizons Forum

Speeding the development of new therapies and diagnostics for glaucoma patients

Clinicians, entrepreneurs, and leaders in finance and industry will gather for the 6th Annual Glaucoma 360 New Horizons Forum in San Francisco on Feb. 3, 2017. Hosted by Glaucoma Research Foundation, this event provides a unique collaborative exchange on the newest advances in glaucoma.

Glaucoma 360 New Horizons Forum was cofounded by Adrienne L. Graves, PhD, a member of the Glaucoma Research Foundation board, and Andrew G. Iwach, MD, director of the Glaucoma Center of San Francisco and chairman of the Foundation's board. The goal of the meeting is to highlight innovations in glaucoma and unite the various elements needed to bring a new idea into clinical use.

"The New Horizons Forum is a unique platform," said Dr. Iwach. "We have small companies, large companies, inventors, venture capitalists, lawyers, and the FDA all in the same room—the key components to expedite taking a new idea to a new solution for patients. We work together to share information and serve as a catalyst for change. People working in different areas would never have talked, never have realized that ... working together ... would accelerate the development. This will get a solution more quickly and safely to our patients."

Dr. Graves added, "Since we started the New Horizons Forum 5 years ago, 55 early-stage companies have presented. Think about that: 55 companies with new ideas about glaucoma! It has been very exciting. The main purpose of the meeting is to shine a light on these new companies and foster innovation that improves the lives of glaucoma patients."

Joel S. Schuman, MD, will deliver the Drs. Henry and Frederick Sutro Memorial Lecture to kick-start a full day of presentations and industry panel discussions featuring innovations in glaucoma drug delivery, pharmaceuticals, and devices as well as sessions focused on working with the FDA, securing venture capital funding, and advances in telemedicine.

Emphasizing the importance of physicians' attendance, Glaucoma 360 Advisory Board Member Alan Crandall, MD,



said, "Glaucoma 360 is the only meeting that I attend all year where you have this interaction with basic science and practical ophthalmology. Plus, you are seeing what is going to happen down the line. This meeting helps with treatment because it introduces us to all these different concepts. The take-home messages are practical; you get to see how you can use it in your own practice."

Steven Vold, MD, a member of Glaucoma 360's Program Committee, noted the importance of the meeting. "This is a unique meeting because it brings [together] innovative doctors, industry executives, and the venture firms that can actually make these things happen," he said. "It really allows further innovation and hopefully advances our field and the treatment of our patients in a more rapid-fire fashion."

The New Horizons Forum is the centerpiece of Glaucoma 360, Glaucoma Research Foundation's signature 3-day event, which includes the Annual Gala on Feb. 2 to benefit Glaucoma Research Foundation's research and patient education programs. Glaucoma 360 closes on Feb. 4 with the 21st Annual Glaucoma Symposium, which highlights the latest advances in glaucoma management, medication, and surgical technique for practicing clinicians, and the 2nd Annual Optometric Glaucoma Symposium. ■

To learn more and register, visit www.glaucoma360.org.