Mission

The Macula Vision Research Foundation (MVRF) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to finding a cure for macular degeneration and other retinal diseases. To reach this goal, MVRF funds ground-breaking research projects conducted by the world’s top scientists with the hope of improving the lives of millions of people affected by visual impairment. What makes MVRF unique is that 100% of every dollar donated goes directly to research. All administrative and fundraising expenses are underwritten by the Karen and Herbert Lotman Foundation, allowing MVRF to allocate all donations towards finding a cure.

Along with funding research, MVRF also provides education and outreach to those with visual impairments through three main areas of focus: SupportSightSM Seminars, SupportSightNEWSSM and SupportSightSM Resources.

It takes intensive research to find exceptional researchers. MVRF is guided by an International Scientific Advisory Board (ISAB) comprised of leading retina researchers from around the world.

We award funding to the best of the best. And with no ties to any one institution, our research dollars are directed to the most promising ideas.

International Scientific Advisory Board

Robert S. Molday, PhD
Chairman
Director, Center for Macular Research
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, BC

Colin J. Barnstable, DPhil
Professor and Chair, Department of Neural and Behavioral Sciences
Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, Hershey, PA

Dean Bok, PhD
Distinguished Professor of Neurobiology
Dolly Green Professor of Ophthalmology
University of California, Los Angeles

William W. Hauswirth, PhD
Professor, Department of Molecular Genetics
Rybczki-Bullard Professor, Department of Ophthalmology
College of Medicine, University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

Roderick R. McInnes, MD, PhD
Director, Lady Davis Research Institute, Jewish General Hospital
McGill University, Montréal, Quebec

Philip J. Rosenfeld, MD, PhD
Professor of Ophthalmology, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
University of Miami
Miller School of Medicine
Miami, FL
Founders
Karen & Herbert Lotman

Founding Scientific Director
Marvin L. Sears, MD

Board of Directors
Shelly Lotman-Fisher
George Ginader
Jeffrey Lotman
Robert S. Molday, PhD
Colin J. Barnstable, DPhil
Dean Bok, PhD
William W. Hauswirth, PhD
Roderick R. McInnes, MD, PhD
Philip J. Rosenfeld, MD, PhD

Our MVRF Team
Dawn Prall George
Executive Director
Nikki Grossman
Director of Development
Lynn Rinaldi
SupportSightSM Program Manager

Academic & Institutional Partners (partial list)

Beckman Vision Center – University of California, San Francisco
Casey Eye Institute
Columbia University
Duke University Medical Center
Eccles Institute of Human Genetics
Hadassah Hebrew University Medical Center
Harvard Medical School
Institute of Human Genetics
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Jules Stein Eye Institute
Moran Eye Center
Neural Stem Cell Institute, Rensselaer, NY
Neuroscience Institute, Pisa, Italy
Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
Scheie Eye Institute
St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital
The Cleveland Clinic
The Jackson Laboratory

The Johns Hopkins University
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Tufts University School of Medicine
UCL Institute of Child Health (London)
University of Arizona
University of California Santa Barbara
University of California, Berkeley
University of Florida
University of Iowa
University of North Dakota
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine
University of Southampton (UK)
University of Utah
University of Washington School of Medicine
University of Wisconsin-Madison
W.K. Kellogg Eye Center
Washington University School of Medicine
Weill Medical College of Cornell University
Western General Hospital Edinburgh
Wilmer Eye Institute
Highlights & Accomplishments

• Brought together a group of world renowned vision scientists and medical researchers to dialogue and share ideas about emerging concepts, techniques and treatments for AMD for our 13th International Scientific Conference in Boston.

• Launched a newly re-designed website www.mvrf.org

• Provided continuing funding for nine ongoing research projects

• Co-Sponsored the second annual Emerging Vision Scientists Day and Congressional Reception on Capitol Hill

• Participated in the 2015 Partnering for Cures Conference in New York

• Convened 13 SupportSightSM education sessions

• Presented at the third, invitation-only, Convening of Vision Research Funders hosted by Research to Prevent Blindness in D.C.

• Launched a new clinical trials initiative as part of our SupportSightSM Program, which links patients and families to relevant AMD clinical trials in their area

• Expanded our Anonymous donor match Believing is Seeing 20/20 Campaign, raising more than $44,500 in 2016 to help fund groundbreaking research projects

Financials

Please visit our website www.mvrf.org for the most recent audited information and IRS form 990.

Active Grants

Eyal Banin, MD, PhD, William Hauswirth, PhD & Samuel Jacobson, MD, PhD
Hadassah Hebrew University, et al.
Grant Amount: $450,000
Name of Study: Developing Treatment for CNGA3 Achromatopsia

Frans Cremers, PhD
Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Center
Grant Amount: $300,000
Name of Study: Transcriptome Analysis of iPSC-derived Retinal Cells of Patients with Inherited Retinal Dystrophies

Anneke den Hollander, PhD
Radboud Univ. Nijmegen Medical Center, Dept. of Ophthalmology
Grant Amount: $300,000
Supplemental Grant: $160,000
Name of Study: Genetic and Immunological Causes of Central Serous Retinopathy

Thank you to all of our generous MVRF supporters - you are not just contributing to the potential for a cure that will restore the gift of sight to millions - you are helping to make it happen!
Kazuko Nishikura, PhD
*The Wistar Institute*
Grant Amount: $300,000
**Name of Study:** Involvement of RNA Editing and RNA Interference in AMD Pathogenesis

Rachael Pearson, PhD
*UCL Institute of Ophthalmology*
Grant Amount: $300,000
**Name of Study:** Retinal Repair Using Embryonic Stem Cell Derived Photoreceptors: Defining the Window of Transplantation Competence

Roxana A. Radu, MD
*Jules Stein Eye Institute, UCLA*
Grant Amount: $300,000
**Name of Study:** Gene-therapy to Prevent Visual Loss in Macular Degenerations by Increasing Expression of Complement Negative-Regulatory Proteins in the RPE

SriNivas R. Sadda, MD
*Doheny Eye Institute, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA*
Grant Amount: $300,000
**Name of Study:** Multimodal Image Analysis in Age-Related Macular Degeneration

Enrica Strettoi, PhD
*Istituto di Neuroscienze del CNR*
Grant Amount: $300,000
**Name of Study:** Sphingolipid Ceramide Signaling in Retinal Degeneration: In Vivo Targeting

Sally Temple, PhD
*Neural Stem Cell Institute*
Grant Amount: $300,000
**Name of Study:** Reprogramming the Human Retinal Pigment Epithelial Stem Cells (RPESCs) into Photoreceptor Cells

Nadia Waheed, MD, MPH
*Tufts Medical Center*
Grant Amount: $300,000
**Name of Study:** Ocular Blood Flow Changes in Exudative Macular Degeneration

---

**NO ONE DOES WHAT THE MACULA VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION DOES**

Please do not be confused by organizations with similar names. The Macula Vision Research Foundation (MVRF) devotes 100% of your donation to research. That guarantee will always be included in our appeals and communications.

Thank you again for your continued interest and support.