

# SETTING THE STAGE FOR LOWERING IOP IN GLAUCOMA

Heather Dealy, MD  
Eye Consultants  
1941 Limestone Road  
Suite 200  
Wilmington DE, 19808

## Polling Question

Which statement is true regarding the new treatment options available for glaucoma?

1. Vision loss is rare
2. Every patient can be controlled medically
3. MIGS controls everyone who is not controlled by meds
4. It's never been simpler to choose the right treatment for a patient
5. All of the above
6. None of the above

## GLAUCOMA =MULTIFACTORIAL PATHOLOGY

Davis BM, et al. Acta Neuropathol. 2016;132:807-826.

## TREATMENT = IOP

"If the only tool you have is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail."  
— Abraham Maslow

Dohman L, et al. Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2019;16.

## Glaucoma Treatment: History

1869	1870	1905	1924	1954	1958	1960s	1969	1970
L. de Wecker - Sclerotomy <sup>1a</sup>	F. Lagrange - Iridoselectomy <sup>1b</sup>	Acetazolamide <sup>1c</sup>	J. Cairns - Trabeculectomy <sup>1d</sup>	Timolol <sup>1e</sup>	J. Jereby - Phocipine <sup>1f</sup>	Cl. Prezio - Thermal sclerotomy <sup>1g</sup>	H. Schree - Thermal sclerotomy <sup>1h</sup>	A. Molteni - Tube shunt <sup>1i</sup>

a. Luxon K, et al. Surg Innov. 2016;23:640-641; b. Packer M, et al. Surv Ophthalmol. 1992;36:357-365; c. Lagrange F. Br J Ophthalmol. 1937;21:477-496; d. Prezio CL. Br J Ophthalmol. 1928;8:414-417; e. Orance SM. Br J Ophthalmol. 1955;39:659-663; f. Schree HG. Am J Ophthalmol. 1958;45:220-229; g. Cairns JE. Am J Ophthalmol. 1968;66:673-679; h. Molteni AC. Br J Ophthalmol. 1969;53:161-168; i. Kozic M, et al. Invest Ophthalmol. 1976;15:458-462.

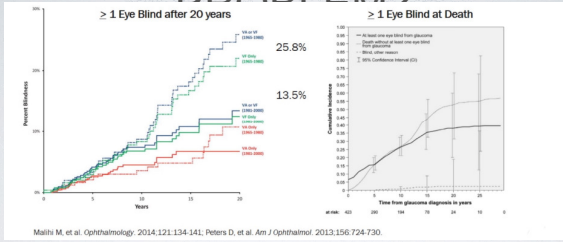
## 1990 AND THE MEDS EXPLOSION

- 5-Fluorouracil
- Mitomycin C
- Apraclonidine
- Brimonidine
- Dorzolamide
- Brinzolamide
- Combination agents...

- Latanoprost
- 2001: Travoprost, bimatoprost

Crawley L, et al. Ophthalmol Eye Dis. 2012;4:43-64.

# DID WE SOLVE THE PROBLEM?



- 13.5 % for cases diagnosed 1981–2000 (blind by VA or VF)
- 25.8% for cases diagnosed 1965-1980

## Necessity Is the Mother of Invention!

### MEDS

- Latanoprostene bunod: new MOA!
- Netarsudil: new MOA!
- Netarsudil/latanoprost
- Tafluprost (preservative free)
- BAK-free latanoprost

### MIGS

- Bypass trabecular meshwork
  - iStent®, Hydrus®, trabectome, GATT, KDB®
  - ABIC®, Omni® 360: visco canalostomy +
  - Site of increased resistance to outflow
  - Intact system distal to TM prevents hypotony
- Divert fluid elsewhere
  - Suprachoroidal shunts: CyPass®, Supra®, STARfit®
  - Transscleral filtration: Xen®, PreserFlo®
- Reduce fluid production
  - ECP
  - Micropulse CPC

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# HOW DO WE SOLVE THE PROBLEM?

- Medication options
- MIGS options
- Diverse patient concerns
  - Stage of disease
  - Ability to take meds
  - Expected longevity
  - Risk factors for bad outcomes
    - From glaucoma
    - From treatment
  - And so many others...

## Polling Question

A patient you placed on latanoprost needs further IOP reduction. What is your usual next step?

1. Switch to a different prostaglandin analogue
2. Add single-agent aqueous suppression
3. Add fixed-combination aqueous suppression
4. Perform selective laser trabeculoplasty

# TREATMENT

- Multiple pathways in treating glaucoma
- Helping patients go thru the most straightforward one
- Factors to consider:
  - Local and systemic side effects
  - Medication adherence
    - Complexity of drop regimen
  - SLT

# LIGHT TRIAL

- SLT is a good first-line choice
- LiGHT trial

- Newly diagnosed OHT or POAG randomly assigned to SLT (n = 356) or drops (n = 362)
- 78.2% in the SLT group were drop free at 36 months
- 95% were at target IOP at 36 months
- No patients required trabeculectomy in SLT group

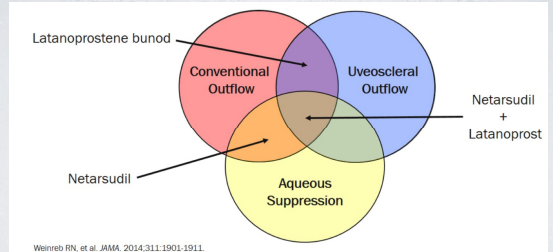
	Control of disease	
	Visits at target (cumulative)	95.2%
<b>Eyes at target IOP at 36 months</b>	<b>499 (93.1%)</b>	<b>509 (95.0%)</b>
Mild OAG	261 (94.6%)	259 (96.3%)
Moderate OAG	69 (94.5%)	55 (96.5%)
Severe OAG	42 (95.2%)	44 (94.6%)
Treatment escalations	348	299
Disease progression during the trial	36 (10.8%)	73 (18.8%)
From OHT to OAG	3	2
OAG progression	33	21
Algorithm defined VF progression	27	18
Algorithm defined optic disc progression	3	2
Algorithm defined VF and disc progression	3	1
Ocular surgeries during the trial		
<b>Trabeculectomy</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>
Trabeculectomy revision	2 (5.5%)	0

# PHARMACEUTICAL APPROACHES



- PGAs are first line class of choice
- 1/3 of Patients will require additional drops with in the first year
- Significant reduction in compliance with each additional medication
  - Increased complexity
  - More topical side effects
- Fixed combinations are increasingly utilized
  - More effective than a single agent
  - Simpler, less exposure to preservative

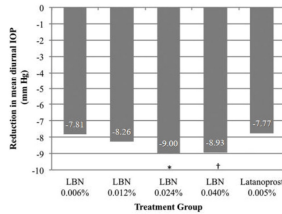
# THE NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK



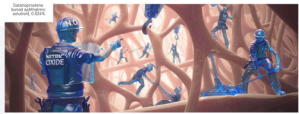
Weinreb RN, et al. JAMA. 2014;311:1901-1911.

## Treatment: Emerging Pharmaceutical Approaches

- Latanoprostene bunod (LBN)**
- Once-daily use
  - Latanoprost acid and NO donating moiety
  - Dual mechanism
    - Uveoscleral outflow and TM
- VOYAGER – phase 2**
- LBN 0.006% (n = 82); LBN 0.012% (n = 85); LBN 0.024% (n = 83); LBN 0.040% (n = 81); latanoprost (n = 82)
- LBN showed significantly greater reduction compared with latanoprost**



\*P = .005 versus latanoprost; † P = .009 versus latanoprost. Weinreb RN, et al. Br J Ophthalmol. 2015;99:738-745.



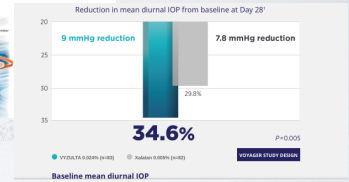
# MECHANISM OF ACTION

## Nitric Oxide and Glaucoma

Patients with primary open-angle glaucoma (POAG) have lower levels of NO synthase activity in the trabecular meshwork (TM), Schlemm's canal, and ciliary muscle and reduced NO metabolites in the aqueous humor.<sup>1,2</sup>

NO donors lower IOP in normal and POAG eyes.<sup>3,4</sup>

A major site of action for NO donors is the TM/Schlemm's canal.<sup>5,6</sup>

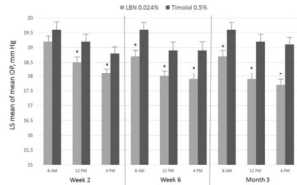


## Treatment: Emerging Pharmaceutical Approaches (cont)

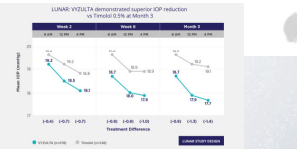
- LUNAR – phase 3<sup>(a)</sup>**
- LBN 0.024% (n = 259); timolol (n = 128)

- APOLLO – phase 3<sup>(b)</sup>**
- LBN 0.024% (n = 264); timolol (n = 123)

LBN noninferior to timolol at all time points



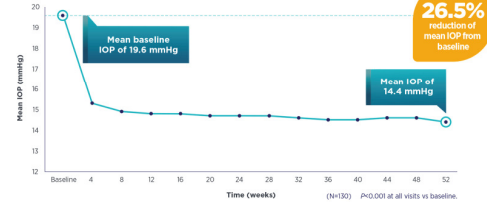
\*P<.002 versus timolol at the same assessment point. a. Medeiros FA, et al. Am J Ophthalmol. 2016;168:250-259. b. Weinreb RN, et al. Ophthalmology. 2016;123:965-973.



# LBN: LONG TERM EFFECTS

## VYZULTA demonstrated significant long-term IOP reduction at 12 months<sup>5†</sup>

VYZULTA reduced mean IOP of 19.6 mmHg to 14.4 mmHg at Year 1



†A single-arm, multicenter, open-label, long-term study.

JUPITER STUDY DESIGN



## TRIPLE ACTION

**Netarsudil 0.02%**

- Once-daily use
- Triple mechanism
  - TM
  - Episcleral venous pressure
  - Aqueous production

**ROCKET-1 and 2 – phase 3**

- ROCKET-1: netarsudil (N = 202); timolol (N = 209)
- ROCKET-2: netarsudil once daily (N = 251); netarsudil twice daily (N = 254); timolol twice daily (N = 251)

**Netarsudil noninferior to timolol**

Series JB, et al. Am J Ophthalmol. 2018;186:116-127

## NETARSUDIL

**ROCKET-4 – phase 3**

- Netarsudil once daily (n = 351)
- Timolol twice daily (n = 357)

**Netarsudil noninferior to timolol**

**Common side effects:**

- Hyperemia
- Pinpoint SCH
- Corneal verticillata

## FIXED COMBO: NETARSUDIL + LATANOPROST

**Netarsudil/latanoprost**

- Once-daily use
- Quadruple mechanism
  - TM
  - Episcleral venous pressure
  - Aqueous production
  - Uveoscleral outflow

**MERCURY - phase 3**

- Netarsudil/latanoprost (n = 238); netarsudil (n = 244); latanoprost (n = 236)

**Netarsudil/latanoprost superior to netarsudil and latanoprost across all time points**

Aparisi S, et al. Am J Ophthalmol. 2019 pii:S0002-9394(19)30284-1

### Treatment: Emerging Pharmaceutical Approaches (cont)

- Common ocular side effects of these novel medications were mild and transient
- No systemic side effects
- Eye AEs occurring at 3 months of treatment:

	Netarsudil/latanoprost <sup>(a)</sup>	Netarsudil <sup>(b)</sup>	LBN <sup>(b)</sup>
Conjunctival hyperemia	53.4%	41.0%	45.5%
Conjunctival hemorrhage	10.5%	13.9%	–
Eye pruritis/irritation	7.6%	7.0%	4.6%
Corneal verticillata	5.0%	4.1%	–

a. Aparisi S, et al. Am J Ophthalmol. 2019 pii:S0002-9394(19)30284-3. b. Weinreb RN, et al. J Glaucoma. 2018;27:7-15.

### Conclusion

- Presurgical treatment strategy for glaucoma is constantly evolving
- There is a shift toward eye drop minimalism
  - SLT as first-line therapy (LIGHT trial)
  - Increasing use of fixed-combination medications
- Novel medications
  - Focus on the conventional outflow pathway
  - Focus on multiple mechanisms
- It is still unclear how the novel medicines fit into the treatment scheme

### Age-Related Changes in Trabecular Meshwork Imaging

Mark E. Gold,<sup>1</sup> Seema Kansara,<sup>1</sup> Kundandeep S. Nagi,<sup>1,2</sup> Nicholas P. Bell,<sup>1,3</sup> Lauren S. Blieden,<sup>1,3</sup> Alice Z. Chuang,<sup>1</sup> Laura A. Baker,<sup>3</sup> Kimberly A. Mankiewicz,<sup>2</sup> and Robert M. Feldman<sup>1,3</sup>

- Thickening of elastic fibers
- Decrease in aqueous drainage thru the pores
- Increase in intra cellular matrix, causing increase resistance to outflow
- Are we picking the wrong patients for these meds?

## CHANGING PRACTICE PATTERNS

- Being a drop minimalist by choosing wisely
- Dual or multiple mech of action
- Moving away from palliative treatment—  
Timolol=decreasing aqueous production
- Moving toward improving aqueous outflow
- Treating where the disease is, but may need to use the meds earlier

## USING MIGS: ANOTHER PIECE OF THE PUZZLE

### MIGS and Beyond

#### Canal surgeries

- Indwelling devices
  - iStent®
  - iStent Inject®
  - Hydrus®
- Incisional/ablative/canal dilation
  - Canaloplasty (iTrack®, Omni®)
  - Segmental goniotomy
    - Trabectome
    - KDB®
    - Omni®
  - GATT

#### Beyond the canal

- Supraciliary – On hold
- Transscleral
  - Xen®/PreserFlo®
  - Trabeculectomy
  - ExPress®
  - Baerveldt®
  - Ahmed ClearPath®
- CPC

## WHO GETS WHAT?

#### Obvious

- Lens status: phakic vs pseudophakic? cataract? refractive status?
- Age, general health, disease severity, disease velocity, risk of progression
- Meds: compliance, tolerability, ability to administer, surface disease

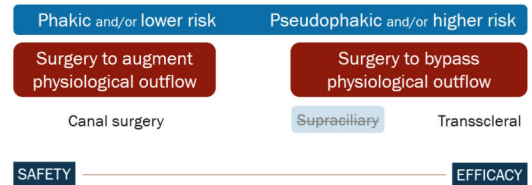
#### Nuanced

- Coagulation status
- Axial length
- Conjunctiva – thin, scarred
- Steroid – perioperative, chronic

## WHY DO I APPROACH GLAUCOMA SURGERY THE WAY I DO?

- Guiding principles:
  - Risk of glaucoma surgery should not exceed the disease risk
  - Individualize for each patient
  - The canal is dynamic and pulsation, not hollow and static
  - Retain normal physiology and anatomy when feasible
  - Respect HYPOTONY as much as HIGH IOPS
  - Iatrogenic vision loss keeps me awake at night

### Two Broad Classes of Incisional Glaucoma Surgery



### Glaucoma Surgery Before, During, and After Cataract Surgery

**Emerging paradigm:**

Medicines and laser until surgical cataract, then surgery for both phaco + canal / transscleral when disease warrants

### Why Canal Surgery for Management of Cataract and Glaucoma?

**Must first understand what happens to IOP following phaco**

Cataract surgery lowers IOP at least modestly for most patients with mild to moderate glaucoma and elevated IOP

**What is the level 1 evidence?**

### Clinical Trials

- 1 US PMA Trial – iStent® OPTHALMOLOGY 2011
- 2 European Hydrus® Trial OPTHALMOLOGY 2015
- 3 US PMA Trial – CyPass® OPTHALMOLOGY 2016
- 4 US PMA Trial – Hydrus® OPTHALMOLOGY 2019
- 5 US PMA Trial – iStent Inject® OPTHALMOLOGY 2019

Randomized Evaluation of the Trabecular Micro-Bypass Stent with Phacomulsification in Patients with Glaucoma and Cataract

A Randomized Trial of a Schlemm's Canal Microstent with Phacomulsification for Reducing Intraocular Pressure in Open-Angle Glaucoma

Two-Year COMPASS Trial Results: Suprachiliary Microstenting with Phacomulsification in Patients with Open-Angle Glaucoma and Cataracts

A Schlemm Canal Microstent for Intraocular Pressure Reduction in Primary Open-Angle Glaucoma and Cataract The HORIZON Study

Prospective, Randomized, Controlled Pivotal Trial of an Ab Interno Implanted Trabecular Micro-Bypass in Primary Open-Angle Glaucoma and Cataract

### 5 Prospective Randomized MIGS Trials

**Phaco alone vs Phaco + MIGS**

- iStent® – Gen 1: iStent® trial
- Hydrus® trial (Europe)
- CyPass® – "COMPASS" trial
- Hydrus® – "Horizon" trial
- iStent Inject®

- In all 5 trials, the control arm (phaco alone) significantly lowered IOP
  - Foundation for phaco + canal MIGS strategy
- Proposed axioms...
  - Perform safe adjunct procedure
  - Retain the elegance of phaco visual outcomes
  - Retain normal anatomy and physiology and don't compete with the favorable phaco effect on IOP
  - For example, if phaco improves canalicular outflow don't divert fluid elsewhere (exceptions exist!)

### The Growing Portfolio of Canal Surgeries

**Indwelling Devices – approved only for use at the time of cataract surgery**

- iStent®
- iStent Inject®
- Hydrus®

**Less tissue disruptive, more stealth**

**Incisional/Ablative/Canal Dilation – covered as standalone procedures**

- GATT
- Canaloplasty (iTrack®, Omni®)

**More tissue disruptive, no device retained**

**Segmental goniotomy**

- Trabectome
- KDB®
- OMNI®

**We must consider the possibility that over time some of our canal procedures could reduce outflow...**

**Due to scarring, tissue reaction, or disruption of normal physiological dynamic function**

### EVOLVING STRATEGY

- Try to pick a procedure synergistic with phaco
- Something to enhance physiologic outflow
- Try the canal first—especially in mild to moderate disease

**Which canal procedure would be most deleterious to normal physiology?**

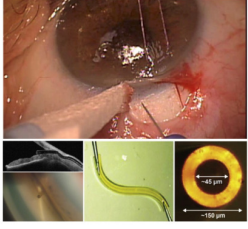
Glaucoma Severity	Outflow Percent of normal
No Glaucoma (Normal)	100%
Mild	~90%
Moderate	~75%
Severe	~50%





### Transscleral Filtration

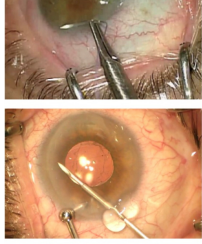
- Greater risk, greater reward
  - Lower IOP
  - Less medication
  - Steroid tolerant
  - May be beneficial in patients with DES



Grover DS, et al. Am J Ophthalmol. 2017;183:25-36

### Transscleral Gel Stent

- Transscleral gel stent vs traditional filtration surgery
  - Standardized
  - Greater intraoperative efficiency
  - Less postoperative care/manipulation (exception needling)
  - Less risk of profound hypotony
  - Trabeculectomy is titratable, gel stent is not



Grover DS, et al. Am J Ophthalmol. 2017;183:25-36

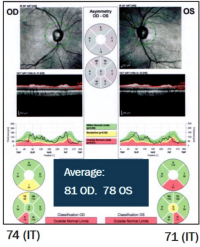
# CASE STUDIES

### Case 1

- 68-year-old woman presents for glaucoma evaluation
- She was told by her primary ophthalmologist that her glaucoma has worsened over the past several years
- Current glaucoma medications
  - Latanoprost once daily OU
  - Fixed combination timolol/brimonidine twice daily OU
- Mother with glaucoma
  - Patient states that she watched her mother's glaucoma get worse once they started with surgery
- SLT OU 2011

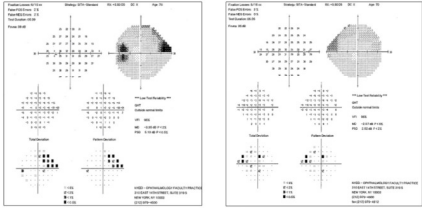
### Case 1: Examination

- VA: 20/30 OU
- Rx: -4.00 OD, -4.50 OS
- CCT: 520 µm OU
- IOP: 18 mm Hg OD, 21 mm Hg OS
- Gonioscopy: Grade 4 OU
- 2+ NS with XFM on anterior lens capsule



74 (IT) 71 (IT) 55

### Case 1: VF From 3 Years Prior: Normal





**Polling Question**

What would you do?

1. Add another topical medication
2. Repeat SLT
3. Standalone MIGS
4. Phaco/trabecular bypass/ablation
5. Phaco/GATT
6. Phaco/subconjunctival MIGS

**Case 1: Treatment**

**Medications**

- Effects of adding a fourth drop
  - CAI, Rho-kinase inhibitor
- Switch to different combination agent
- Compliance
- Cost

**SLT**


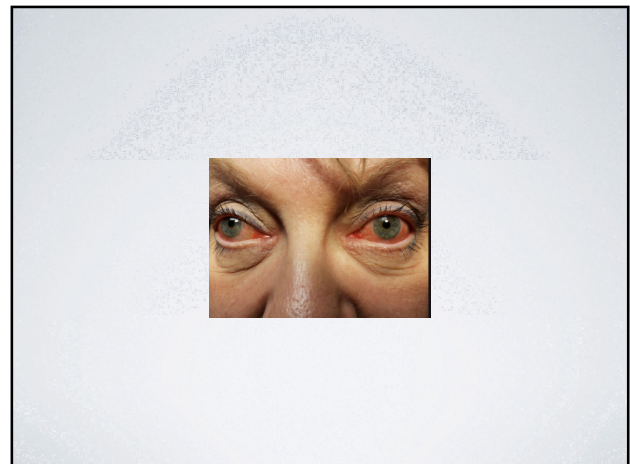
- Does it work as well later in the game?
- When do you repeat?
- What do you tell your patient about chances of success?

**MIGS**

- Standalone vs combination with phaco
- Canal-based vs subconjunctival MIGS
- Better results for patients with XFG?

**CASE 1: FIRST CHANGE**

- Tried Rhopressa with moderate success, IOPS down to 13/15
- But...

**NOW WHAT?**

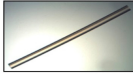
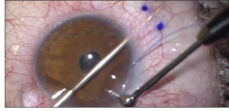

- She's not ready for CE IOL, despite having 2 + NSC
- Still uncomfortable about having surgery given mom's experience

**Case 1: MIGS**

Procedure	Device	Approved in the United States	Standalone
Schlemm canal	iStent®/iStent Inject®	Yes	No
	Hydrus®	Yes	No
	Trabectome	Yes	Yes
	KDB®	Yes	Yes
	iTrack® (for GATT and ABIC®)	Yes	Yes
	Omni®/VISCO360®	Yes	Yes
Suprachoroidal	iStent SUPRA®	No	N/A
Subconjunctival	Xen® Gel Stent	Yes	Yes
	PreserFlo®/MicroShunt®	No	N/A

### Case 1: XEN Gel Stent

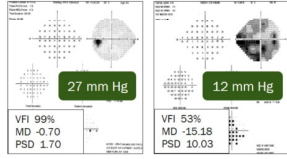
- Made of porcine gelatin
- 6mm in length with a 45 µm luminal diameter
- Material and design mitigate traditional implant issues

Results to date:  
 XEN in ou  
 Better IOP in OD but still  
 requires drops in OD, OS mid  
 teens no drops

### Case 2

- 76-year-old man presents with POAG referred for elevated IOP OS
- On 2 medications OS (latanoprost and dorzolamide)
- ALT OU "many" years prior
- S/p trabeculectomy OD 2014
- S/p GDI OD 2016
- Paternal grandmother (blindness)
- Lawyer who travels A LOT



27 mm Hg

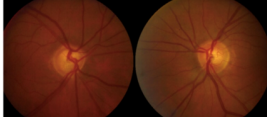
12 mm Hg

VFI 99%  
 MD -0.70  
 PSD 1.70

VFI 53%  
 MD -15.18  
 PSD 10.03

### Case 2 (cont)

• VA:	20/25	20/30
• IOP:	12 mm Hg	27 mm Hg
• CCT:	507 µm	502 µm
• Lens:	PCIOL	2+ NS



### Polling Question

What should I do?

- Add another topical medication
- SLT (Does it matter that he had prior ALT?)
- Standalone MIGS
- Phaco/trabecular bypass/ablation/GATT
- Phaco/subconjunctival MIGS
- Phaco/traditional glaucoma surgery

\*History of COPD  
 What about intracameral medications when they become available?

## PROMISE IN SIGHT

- Shameless plug asking for your future

