



# KONINKLIJKE ACADEMIE VOOR GENEESKUNDE VAN BELGIË

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### PARTICIPATION IS FREE

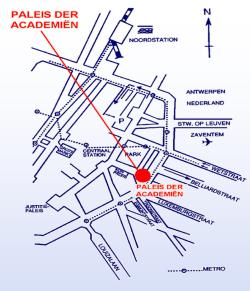
You can follow the symposium on site or online.

Registration is required: https://www.academiegeneeskunde.be/symposium-25-november-2023

Number of participants on site limited to 120.

Application for accreditation submitted

Accreditation only for on-site participants.



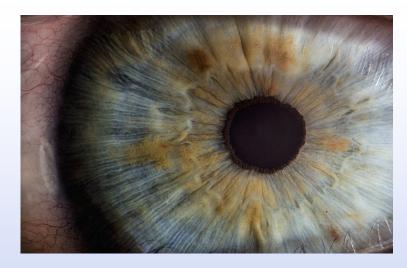
# KONINKLIJKE ACADEMIE VOOR GENEESKUNDE VAN BELGIË



# **Hybrid symposium**

# Recent progress(es) in ophthalmology in an international context

Saturday November 25, 2023



Auditorium Baron Lacquet
Paleis der Academiën
Hertogsstraat 1
1000 BRUSSEL

You are cordially invited to attend a hybrid symposium about recent progresses in ophthalmology. The members of the Commission for International Development prepared this hybrid symposium with the aims to overview important new developments in ophthalmology and how these may contribute to improve medical care in an international context, particularly in low income countries. Therefore, this symposium will not only be useful for the continuous education of Belgian general physicians, ophthalmologists and specialists outside the field of ophthalmology, it will also help international organizations to improve preventive measures to reduce eye diseases and blindness.

# **PROGRAM**

Moderator: Brigitte VELKENIERS (KAGB, VUB)

10.00: Introduction

10.10: Ingeborg STALMANS (KAGB, KU Leuven)

New insights into glaucoma

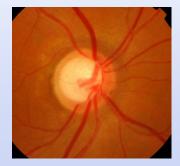
10.40: Luc VAN Os (UAntwerpen)

Innovations in cataract surgery

11.10: Ahmed ABU EL ASRAR (King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia )

Diabetic retinopathy in an international context

11.40: Panel Discussion with Q&A







## **ABSTRACT**

The clinical evaluation of the eye fundus with its direct access to the analysis of small arterial and venous blood vessels has evolved considerably with the development of new technologies. In particular, miniaturization and computer-assisted high-end image analysis are instrumental in refined and early diagnosis of many ophthalmological diseases, thereby helping with optimal therapy without delays. These new methods have been refined to a point that these also become of value for other disciplines than ophthalmology, such as cardiology, neurology and endocrinology.

Basic research has fostered research miniaturization, the use of new digital instruments, per-operative imaging, novel (fluorescent) probes and methods of so-called artificial intelligence (AI) for image analysis as well as big data collection by means of international registries. These do not only lead to novel developments for preclinical and clinical research, they also impact uses in areas where sophisticated eye clinics are not available. With the help of international organizations it will become possible to bring advanced ophthalmological investigative research efforts to any remote area for the benefit of better vision for all patients. In doing so, the regional disparities in medical development will be reduced. Reflections about any disparities and practical solutions may induce structural improvements for local individual patients and communities and for better collaborations within international networks. During this symposium three topics will be addressed: cataract, glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy. These common eye diseases come with specific challenges for high-end versus basic ophthalmological centers and for children versus adult and old patient cohorts.



Uit "History of Ophtalmology in stamps" (Dr. Zeyen, 2019)



Jules Gonin (1870-1935)

Therefore, this symposium will not only be of interest for Belgian ophthalmologists but also for many care givers across many biomedical disciplines.