

Year in Review



Queensland Eye Institute Foundation

Delivering first class eye care underpinned
by scientific research and education.



Contents.

Acknowledgement to Country	03
Our Purpose	04
Introduction by Chairman and CEO	05
Research	06
Ophthalmic Bioengineering and biomaterials	07
The International Vitreoretinal B-Cell Lymphoma Registry	07
Corneal & Ocular Surface	08
MOU signed with Aix-Marseille Université	09
Grants received	10
Scientific journal publications	11
Other publications	11
Scientific meetings – Lectures and presentations, workshops, posters and wet labs	12
Clinical Trials	14
Education and training	17
OSCE practice exam at Queensland Eye Institute	18
Optometry education	19
Visiting students	20
Award for excellence in teaching	21
National training role for QEI ophthalmologist	21
Teaching overseas	22
Clinical care	24
Patient visits 2025	24
QEI Ophthalmologists	25
Advocacy and outreach	26
Global Eye Health	27
Exploring collaboration with Indian eye hospital	28
Sustainable Funding	29
Profit-for-purpose day hospitals	29
Financial Snapshot	30
Board of Directors	32
Research Advisory Committee	34
Our 2025 Team	35
Help the Queensland Eye Institute save sight	36

Acknowledgement to Country.

We acknowledge the Turrbal and Yuggera peoples as the traditional custodians of the lands where the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation now works to save sight. We pay respect to their Elders, past, current and emerging. We recognise these lands have always been places of teaching, research, learning and healing.

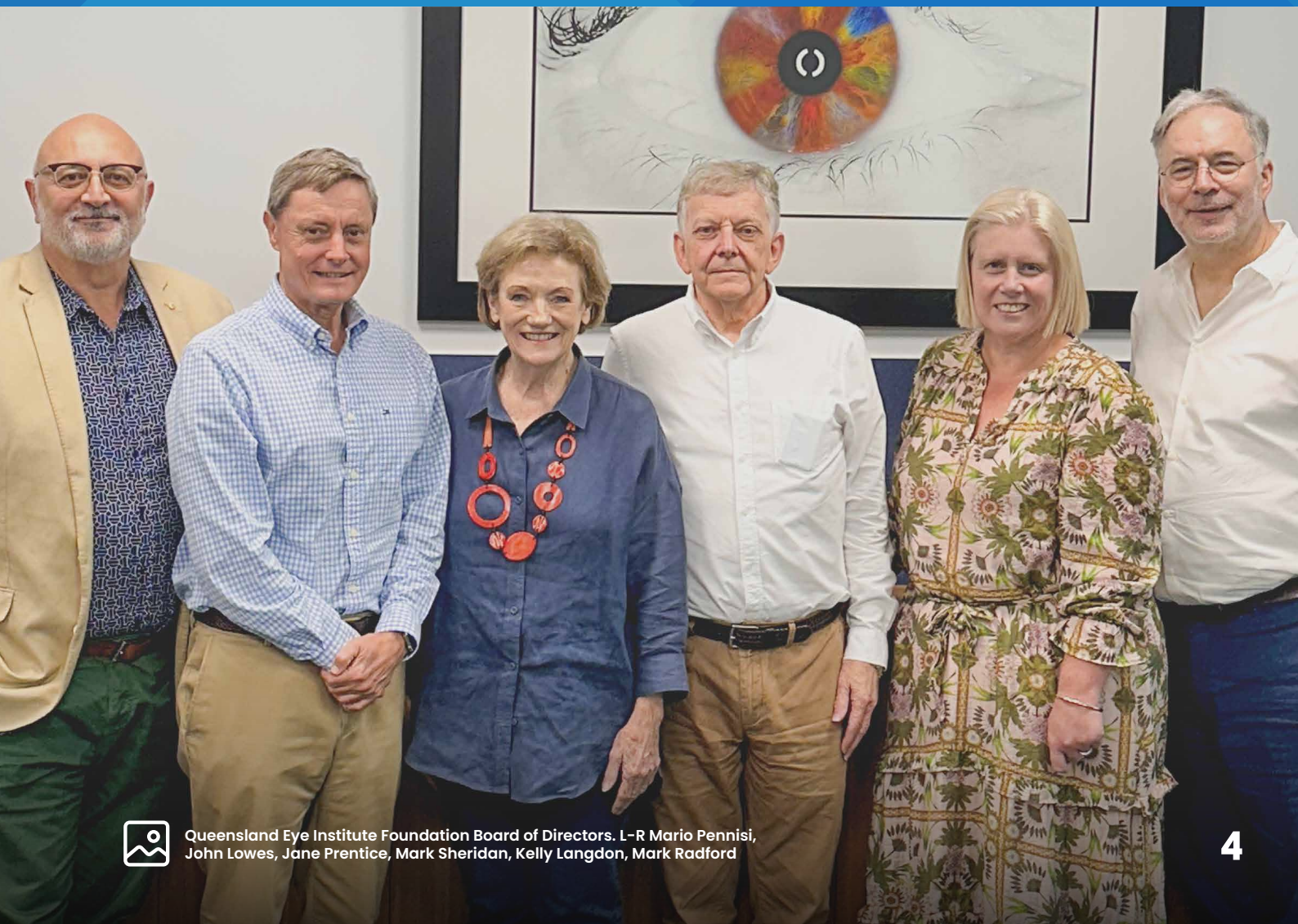


Our Purpose.

The Queensland Eye Institute (QEI) is Queensland's largest independent academic research institute devoted to eye-related health and diseases.

Supported by the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation and profits from South Brisbane Day Hospital, QEI works to save sight by providing innovation and excellence in research, education and clinical care to

reduce eye disease, improve eye health, and ultimately eliminate preventable blindness in the community. Its state-of-the-art facilities in Woolloongabba and Clayfield include tertiary referral clinics run by ophthalmologists active in research, and medical research and microsurgical teaching laboratories.



Queensland Eye Institute Foundation Board of Directors. L-R Mario Pennisi, John Lowes, Jane Prentice, Mark Sheridan, Kelly Langdon, Mark Radford

Introduction by Chairman and CEO.

There was much to celebrate in 2025, particularly the 60th anniversary of the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation and 20 years offering advanced clinical care through the Queensland Eye Institute clinic.

The volume and breadth of QEI's contributions to scientific meetings in 2025, by both its scientific and clinical teams, is testament to the model of eye health research adopted by the Foundation in 2005. From its first iteration in a modest corner of the Mater Hospital, the Queensland Eye Institute now operates from a custom-built clinical and research campus in Woolloongabba, where highly skilled ophthalmologists work with a dedicated clinical trials team towards future cures, while offering advanced treatment options to all Australians.

Our goal of achieving sustainable funding for research is edging closer, with the profit-for-purpose South Brisbane Day Hospital contributing a little more than \$2 million to the Foundation in 2025.

Community donors continue to show their support too. In spring the QEI Foundation ran a fundraising appeal to replace a microplate reader, equipment essential for efficient screening in research, diagnostics, and drug discovery. Generous donors contributed nearly \$15,000 to the equipment purchase, with remaining funds coming from a special purpose grant from the Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund.

The new equipment will ensure current programs can progress faster and more efficiently and potentially open opportunities for new areas of research, leading to better treatments and cures for Queenslanders facing vision loss and blindness.

The Queensland Eye Institute continued to drive Australia's involvement in Global Eye Health, acting as co-convenors of the annual Global Eye Health workshop and seminar at the RANZCO Annual Scientific Congress. The seminar brought together ophthalmologists from Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific and Asia to examine challenges, innovations and opportunities in global ophthalmology.

This year also marked a changing of the guard, with Carmel Johnston, executive assistant to Professor Mark Radford for the past 12 years, retiring in December. Carmel played a significant role helping QEI navigate flooding, the COVID pandemic and relocating to its new home. Many QEI supporters, suppliers, scientists and clinicians dealt with Carmel over her time with the Foundation and she will be missed greatly.

Please enjoy the 2025 Year in Review.



Mark Sheridan
Chair



Professor Mark Radford
Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director



Research.

25

Lectures and presentations

7

Posters

11

Journal articles

4

Grants

2

Patent applications

4

Seminars and workshops (external)

1

Wet labs

1

Other publications

In 2025 work continued across projects within the ophthalmic bioengineering and biomaterials platform, corneal and ocular surface research and the vitreoretinal lymphoma registry.

Ophthalmic Bioengineering and biomaterials.

QEI researchers are working to develop materials to treat or replace damaged or diseased tissue in the eye. These projects are directed from QEI in Brisbane with significant work undertaken through the George E. Palade University of Medicine, Science, Pharmacy and Technology in Romania.

Significant findings published in 2025

- Investigations found natural antioxidants can protect retinal photoreceptor cells which may support new treatments for age-related macular degeneration and other eye diseases associated with oxidative stress
- Irradiation of tarsal tissue with ultraviolet-A light appears to be a safe and effective method for reducing eyelid laxity and ensuring proper secretion of meibum into the tear film, which offers therapeutic benefits in treating floppy eyelid syndrome and dry eye disease

New research on stem cell preservation for future therapies

- A new research partnership between QEI and the University of Queensland began work on improving adipose-derived stem cell preservation for use in therapies treating eye disease

The International Vitreoretinal B-Cell Lymphoma Registry.

The International Vitreoretinal B-Cell Lymphoma Registry continues to build momentum from its modest beginnings. In 2025 the research team expanded the co-investigator network to include 66 ophthalmologists and other expert clinicians across 18 countries.

A series of substantial articles focused on clinical approaches, outcomes and clinical predictors of outcomes commenced, with the first paper available in open access from December.

This research is conducted by Professor Justine Smith at Flinders University with financial support from, and scientific collaboration with, QEI.

Corneal & Ocular Surface.

The clinical research undertaken by QEI's cornea and refractive specialists is widely valued and the team is regularly invited to speak at national and international conferences.

In 2025 Dr David Gunn presented the prestigious Harold Ridley Memorial Lecture at the 37th International Congress of German Ophthalmic Surgery (DOC 2025). The lecture is named for British ophthalmologist Sir Harold Ridley, a pioneer of intra-ocular lens surgery for cataract patients.

Dr Gunn's lecture showcased Australian innovation, demonstrating how Corneal Allogenic Intrastromal Ring Segments (CAIRS) are redefining treatment for progressive keratoconus and post-LASIK ectasia. Dr Gunn presented long-term biomechanical data and outcomes showing significant gains in corneal symmetry and uncorrected visual acuity.

Widely regarded as Europe's premier cataract, corneal and refractive surgery meeting, DOC brought together more than 6,700 surgeons, researchers and industry innovators for three days of live surgery, plenary debates and hands-on training.



Dr David Gunn delivering the DOC Ridley Lecture and receiving an award acknowledging the honour



> Research

MOU signed with Aix-Marseille Université.

A new memorandum of understanding, executed in June in Marseille by Professor Mark Radford on behalf of QEI, commits Aix Marseille Université, Polytech Marseille and QEI to collaborate across the materials and biomedical engineering programs common to both for the next five years.

The agreement supports a continuing exchange of students, academic, research and administrative staff, conducting collaborative research and education projects, and exchanging research and materials.



Professor Mark Radford, second from right, with representatives of Aix Marseille Université, Polytech Marseille – June 2025

Congress Handover

of the Asia-Pacific Vitreo-Retina Society

APVRS
2025
MANILA



QEI's Associate Professor Anthony Kwan (second from right) chaired a panel discussion on age related macular degeneration at the Asia-Pacific Vitreo Retina Society annual conference in Manila. He also accepted the mantle on behalf of Australia, which will host this international research congress at the Gold Coast in 2026.

Manila, Philippines
(2025)



Queensland, Australia
(2026)



> Research

Grants received.

\$64,368

Australian Vision Research grant

3D printed collagen construct for Keratoconus treatment

\$50,000 over
two years

Australian and New Zealand Eye Foundation

Global eye health training and education for ophthalmologists from the Western Pacific

\$75,000 over
three years

Perth Eye Foundation Vision Impact Fund 2025

Pacific Ophthalmology Education Initiative

\$64,790

Queensland Government Gaming Community Benefit Fund

Funding to purchase new microplate reader for QEI laboratory

> Research

Scientific journal publications.

1. Hayashi, T., Hara, Y., Sunouchi, C., Yuda, K., Kojima, T., Kato, N., Cronin, B. and Yamagami, S., 2025. A Manual Technique for Corneal Allogeneic Intrastromal Ring Segments Without a Femtosecond Laser. *Cornea*, 44(8), pp.1053–1057.
2. Manta, A.I., Suzuki, S. and Chirila, T.V., 2025. Crosslinking of tarsal collagen as a hypothetical therapy for dry eye disease. *Medical Hypothesis, Discovery and Innovation in Ophthalmology*, 14(4), p.233.
3. Pop, NE, Suzuki, S, Manta, AI, Harkin, D, Andrei George Cocisiu, Radford, MHB, Tripon, RG & Chirila, TV, 2025. Histological Study of UV-A Irradiation of Ovine Eyelid Specimens. *Invest. Ophthalmol. Vis. Sci.* 2025;66(8):2900.
4. Jin, Z., Honardoost, M.A., Ong, E.L., Pourghaderi, A.R., Chen, F.K., Chan, W.O., Chopra, P., Lee, M., Sharma, A., Uppal, G. and Allen, P.J., 2025. Internal Limiting Membrane Flap Versus Conventional Peeling for Idiopathic Full Thickness Macular Holes: A Registry Analysis of 2990 Eyes. *Clinical & Experimental Ophthalmology*.
5. Manta, A.I., Demer, J.L. and Goldberg, R.A., 2025. Magnetic Resonance Imaging Demonstrates Differences in Brow and Upper Eyelid Fat and Muscle Layers Between East Asians and Caucasians. *Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery*, pp.10–1097.
6. Gunn D. Monocular and Binocular Visual outcomes of an Enhanced Monofocal (Mono-EDOF) Intraocular Lens and the Impact of Pre-Operative Parameters. *Journal of Ophthalmology Research Reviews & Reports* 2025; 6: 1-8.
7. Song, J.C., Nguyen, V. and Manta, A.I., 2025. Myiasis of an exenterated orbital socket. *American Journal of Ophthalmology Case Reports*, 38, p.102293.
8. Manta, A.I., Pop, N.E., Tripon, R.G., Vultur, F., Suzuki, S., Cordos, B.A., Radu, C.C., Hogeia, T., Carasca, C., Horvath, K.U. and Muntean, G.A., Siserman, V. C., Cotoi, O.S., Radford, M.H.B. and Chirila, T.V., 2025. Photochemical Crosslinking of Tarsal Collagen as a Treatment for Eyelid Laxity: Evaluation in Ex Vivo Human Tissue. *Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery*, 41(1), pp.28–35.
9. Rayner, C.L., Suzuki, S., Chirila, T.V. and Barnett, N.L., 2025. The Protective Effects of Silk Sericin Against Retinal Oxidative Stress: In Vitro and In Vivo Assays with a Fluorometric Nitroxide Molecular Probe. *Molecules*, 30(24), 4707.
10. Manta, A.I., Schlect, D.J., Wang, D.D. and Sullivan, T.J., 2025. Two-year Outcomes of Ultra-low-dose Radiotherapy in the Treatment of Ocular Adnexal B-cell Lymphomas. *Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery*, 41(1), pp.94–100.
11. Smith, J.R. (2025). Seeking best outcomes for patients living with vitreoretinal lymphoma. *Clinical & Experimental Ophthalmology*, 53(1), pp.5–7.

Other publications.

1. Cronin, D. B., & Gunn, D. D. (2025, June 1). Allotex Allogeneic Corneal Inlays: A New Frontier in Presbyopia Correction. *MIVISION DIGITAL JOURNAL*. <https://mivision.com.au/2025/06/allotex-allogeneic-corneal-inlays-a-new-frontier-in-presbyopia-correction/>

Scientific meetings – Lectures and presentations, workshops, posters & wet labs.

- Theoretical and Surgical Oculoplastic Surgery Teaching for Romanian Ophthalmology Trainees and Consultants at George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy and Technology**
Alexandra Manta
Targu Mures, Romania. 3/02/2025
- Australian Experience with CAIRS: Techniques and Clinical Outcomes**
Brendan Cronin, David Gunn
40th Annual Cornea Society Meeting. Brisbane, Australia. 6/03/2025
- Wavelight Plus – Elevate your practice with personalised treatments**
David Gunn
Alcon Focus 2025. Sydney, Australia. 16/03/2025
- Two-year outcomes of ultralow-dose radiotherapy in the treatment of ocular adnexal B-cell lymphoma**
Alexandra Manta
Brisbane, Australia. 26/03/2025
- Structural and biomechanical optimization of bovine pericardium using UVA/riboflavin cross-linking: A promising scaffold for vascular access surgery**
E.M. Arbănași, T.V. Chirilă, Eliza Russu, Petru Alexandru Ion, Réka Bartus, Eliza-Mihaela Arbănași, A.V. Mureșan
14th Congress of the Vascular Access Society. Padova, Italy. 3/04/2025
- Presentation on CAIRS to International Keratoconus Society**
David Gunn
KSchool. (Online) 5/04/2025
- Histological Study of UV-A Irradiation of Ovine Eyelid Specimens**
Pop, N.E., Suzuki, S., Manta, A.I., Harkin, D., Andrei George Cocisui, Radford, M.H.B., Tripon, R.G. and Chirila, T.V.
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) annual meeting. Salt Lake City, USA. 8/05/2025
- Femto CAIRS technique in detail**
David Gunn
37th International Congress of German Ophthalmic Surgery (DOC). Nurenburg, Germany. 14/05/2025
- CAIRS Tips and Tricks**
David Gunn
37th International Congress of German Ophthalmic Surgery (DOC). Nurenburg, Germany. 14/05/2025
- DOC Ridley Lecture: CAIRS – a paradigm shift in the management of corneal ectasia**
David Gunn
37th International Congress of German Ophthalmic Surgery (DOC). Nurenburg, Germany. 15/05/2025
- Orbital and oculoplastic disease overview**
Alexandra Manta
AONA Queensland Meeting. Brisbane, Australia. 17/05/2025
- Real World Outcomes of MINiject Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgery in Australia**
Geoff Ryan
World Glaucoma Congress 2025. Honolulu, United States of America. 24/06/2025
- Managing Infection and Inflammation Post Trauma in Sympathetic Ophthalmia**
Mark Radford, Peter McCluskey
Pacific Eyecare Society Conference 2025. Apia, Samoa. 26/06/2025
- Oculoplastic teaching session for nurses**
Alexandra Manta
Brisbane, Australia. 26/06/2025
- Recurrent Retinal Detachments**
Abhishek Sharma
Third Congress of Asia Pacific Strabismus and Paediatric Ophthalmology Society. Brisbane, Australia. 30/06/2025
- CAIRS update for 2025**
David Gunn
AUSCRS25. Darwin, Australia. 18/07/2025
- Ziemer Z8 LASIK, CLEAR and FEMTO CAIRS**
David Gunn
AUSCRS25. Darwin, Australia. 19/07/2025
- Anterior Segment Disease**
Lee Holland
Queensland University of Technology. Brisbane, Australia. 6/08/2025
- Update on filler-related blindness**
Alexandra Manta
COSMETEX 25. Sydney, Australia. 15/08/2025
- CAIRS A paradigm shift in the management of corneal ectasia**
David Gunn
RANZCO QLD Branch Annual Scientific Meeting 2025. Gold Coast, Australia. 22/08/2025



- 21. Tendon-Sparing Lower Eyelid Elevation for Combined Reconstructive and Aesthetic Outcomes**
Alexandra Manta
RANZCO QLD Branch Annual Scientific Meeting 2025. Gold Coast, Australia. 24/08/2025
- 22. Anterior Segment Disease**
Lee Holland
Cornea and Contact Lens Society of Australia. Brisbane, Australia. 01/09/2025
- 23. Corneal biomechanical changes in progressive keratoconus after oxygen supplemented transepithelial accelerated corneal crosslinking**
Brendan Cronin, David Gunn
43rd Congress of the ESCRS. Copenhagen, Denmark. 12/09/2025
- 24. Femto-cut CAIRS and future development**
David Gunn
43rd Congress of the ESCRS. Copenhagen, Denmark. 12/09/2025
- 25. Clinical outcomes of topography-guided oxygen-supplemented transepithelial-accelerated corneal crosslinking for progressive keratoconus**
Brendan Cronin, David Gunn
43rd Congress of ESCRS. Copenhagen, Denmark. 13/09/2025
- 26. Femto-CAIRS for Corneal Ectasia**
David Gunn
43rd Congress of the ESCRS. Copenhagen, Denmark. 13/09/2025
- 27. Practical Update on DMEK surgery**
Lee Holland
Toowoomba Optometry Forum. Toowoomba, Australia. 13/10/2025
- 28. Crosslinking as a treatment method for diseases of collagen-containing ocular structures, from the cornea to the tarsus, present and future**
K. Horvath, F. Vultur, R. Tripon, A. Manta and T. Chirila
Annual Congress of Romanian Society for Contact Lens and Ocular Surface 2025. Sibiu, Romania. 7/11/2025
- 29. Advancing Management of Corneal Diseases in Low-Resource Communities: Challenges, Innovations and Impact**
Mark Radford
RANZCO 56th Annual Scientific Congress. Melbourne, Australia. 12/11/2025
- 30. Global Eye Health wetlab**
Mark Radford, Alexandra Manta
RANZCO 56th Annual Scientific Congress. Melbourne, Australia. 12/11/2025
- 31. Two-year real-world outcomes of Faricimab (Vabysmo) use in neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD)**
Alexandra Manta
RANZCO 56th Annual Scientific Congress. Melbourne, Australia. 13/11/2025
- 32. Tendon-sparing lower eyelid elevation for combined reconstructive and aesthetic outcomes**
Alexandra Manta
RANZCO 56th Annual Scientific Congress. Melbourne, Australia. 13/11/2025
- 33. Future facing surgical interventions for AMD**
Anthony Kwan
RANZCO 56th Annual Scientific Congress. Melbourne, Australia. 15/11/2025
- 34. Trans-Conjunctival Photochemical Crosslinking of Tarsal Plates in Cadaveric Human Samples**
A. Manta, S. Suzuki, F. Vultur, K. Horvath, R. Tripon, N.E. Pop, M. Radford, T. Chirila, K. Jiang, J. Yamazaki-Tan and O.S. Cotoi
RANZCO 56th Annual Scientific Congress. Melbourne, Australia. 15/11/2025
- 35. Challenges in Autologous Fat Transfer: Long-Term Cryopreservation for Staged Fat Transfer and Future Therapeutic Applications**
Shuko Suzuki, Julia Yamazaki-Tan, Alexandra Manta
RANZCO 56th Annual Scientific Congress. Melbourne, Australia. 15/11/2025
- 36. Gene Editing: New Therapeutic Avenues in Thyroid Eye Disease**
Alexandra Manta
RANZCO 56th Annual Scientific Congress. Melbourne, Australia. 15/11/2025
- 37. UV-A and riboflavin-mediated tarsal collagen crosslinking: Safety assessment through histological and thermographic analysis**
N.E. Pop, S. Suzuki, R.G. Tripon, A.I. Manta, K.M. Lee, M. Parisot, A.G. Cocisiu, M.H.B. Radford, D.G. Harkin and T.V. Chirila
International Conference of PhD Students and Young Doctors. Targu Mures, Romania. 9/12/2025

Clinical Trials.



Visits for internal trials



Visits to support external trials

NACUITY

Safety and efficacy of NPI-001 tablets versus placebo for treatment of retinitis pigmentosa associated with usher syndrome.

Clinical Indication: Usher Syndrome
Principal Investigator: Assoc Prof Abhisek Sharma
Sponsor: Nacuity Pharmaceuticals

INSITE

Treat-and-extend versus fixed-dosing with Fariciman for management of Diabetic Macular Edema.

Clinical Indication: Diabetic Macular Edema
Principal Investigator: Assoc Prof Anthony Kwan
Sponsor: McMaster | Roche



Clinical Trials.

VELODROME AND SUBSTUDY

Assessment of the port delivery system with ranibizumab in subjects with Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration.

Clinical Indication: Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration
Principal Investigator: Assoc Prof Anthony Kwan
Sponsor: F.-Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd

PORTAL

Evaluate the long-term safety and tolerability of the port delivery system with ranibizumab in patients with Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration.

Clinical Indication: Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration
Principal Investigator: Assoc Prof Anthony Kwan
Sponsor: F.-Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd

DRAGON

Assesses the efficacy of tinlarebant in slowing the rate of growth of atrophic lesion(s) in adolescent subjects with stargardt disease.

Clinical Indication: Stargardt Disease 1
Principal Investigator: Assoc Prof Abhisek Sharma
Sponsor: BeLite Bio

TEPEZZA

Phase 3, randomized, double-masked, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre trial to evaluate the efficacy, safety and tolerability of subcutaneous teprotumumab in participants with moderate to severe active Thyroid Eye Disease.

Clinical Indication: Thyroid Eye Disease
Principal Investigator: Dr Alexandra Manta
Sponsor: Horizon Therapeutics

Clinical Trials.

ACELYRIN (VALENCIABIO)

A Phase 1b, randomized, double-masked, placebo-controlled, multiple ascending dose study evaluating the safety & tolerability, pharmacokinetics, and clinical efficacy of VB421 in subjects with thyroid eye disease.

Clinical Indication: Thyroid Eye Disease
Principal Investigator: Dr Alexandra Manta
Sponsor: Acelyrin (previously ValenzaBio Inc)

PHOENIX

This Phase 3, multicenter, double-masked, parallel-group, placebo-controlled, randomized, fixed-dose clinical study is designed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of tinlarebant (LBS-008) in subjects diagnosed with geographic atrophy.

Clinical Indication: Geographic Atrophy
Principal Investigator: Assoc Prof Anthony Kwan
Sponsor: BeLite Bio

ABACUS – 2

A phase II, randomised, controlled, double masked, multiple dose study of the safety, tolerability, and efficacy of intravitreal KIO-301 in participants with late-stage retinitis pigmentosa (ABACUS-2).

Clinical Indication: Retinitis Pigmentosa
Principal Investigator: Assoc Prof Anthony Kwan
Sponsor: Kiora Pharmaceuticals

Education and Training.

QEI scientists and ophthalmologists offer training opportunities at Woolloongabba to students and practising professionals.

281

Optometrists CPD

3

Student research interns
(Australia)

133

Optometry students in clinic

4

Student research interns
(International)

9

Medical students in clinic



Dr David Gunn delivering a talk on corneal foreign body assessment, removal and management at a QEI optometry education event

OSCE practice exam at Queensland Eye Institute.

Queensland's next generation of ophthalmologists practised their clinical skills in a simulated test environment at QEI in February, prior to sitting their final exam. The Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) is the last step for registrars working towards fellowship of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO).

QEI's Dr Geoff Ryan organised the practice exam at the Woolloongabba clinic, attracting 15 registrars, who were examined at a series of timed activities (OSCE stations) by a trained examiner.





Dr Lee Holland instructing at a QEI optometry education event

> Education and Training

Optometry education.

The QEI clinical faculty shared its knowledge and expertise with optometrists at three workshops in 2025. The free education events included presentations from QEI ophthalmologists and small group, hands-on workshops. Participants earned continuing professional development (CPD) points from Optometry Australia.

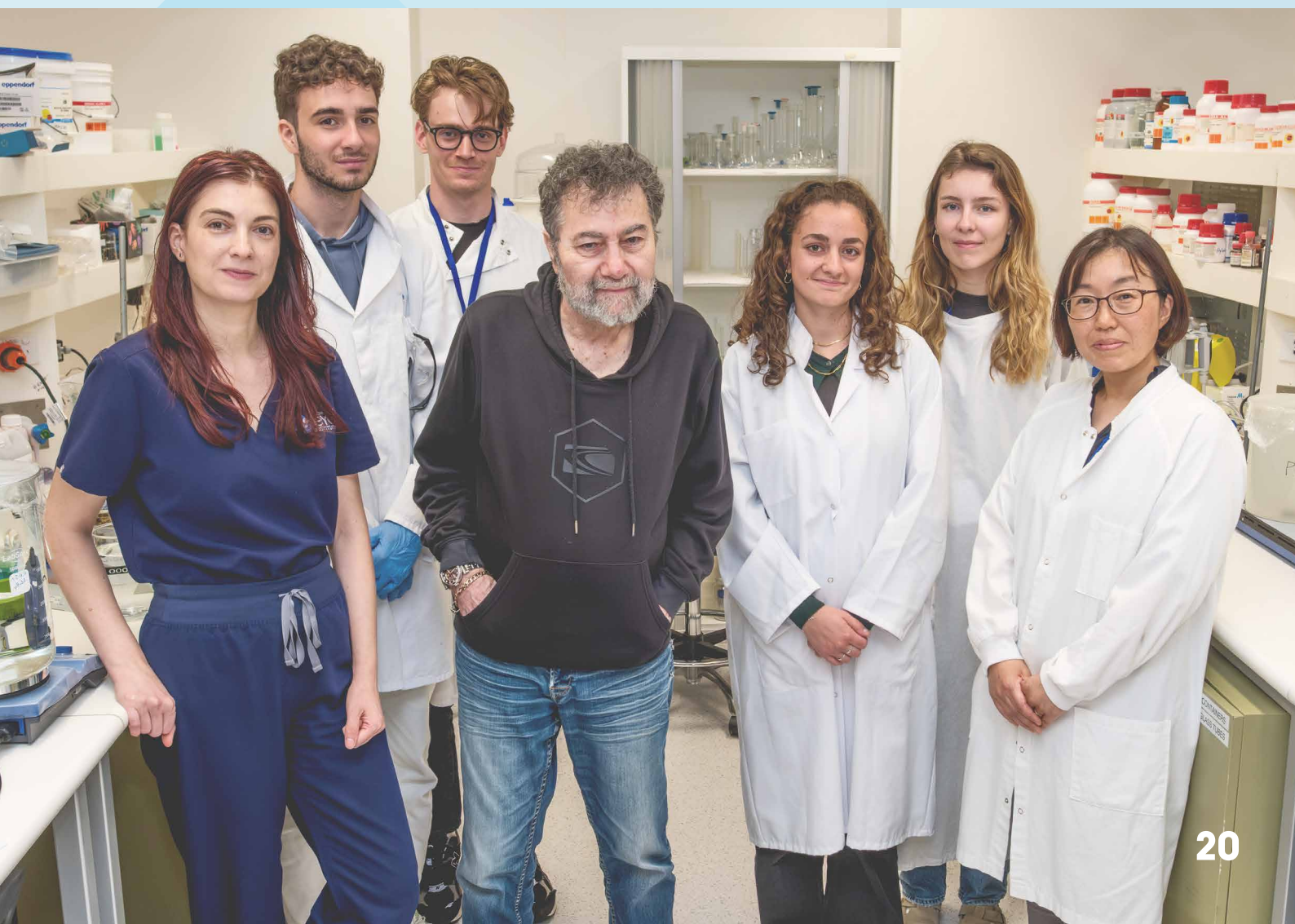
Visiting students.

QEI welcomed four students from Aix-Marseille Université, Marseille to study under the direction of QEI's Chief Scientist, Professor Traian Chirila, a world-renowned polymer scientist. The students learned how materials to treat or replace damaged eye tissue are developed, while contributing to the QEI research projects on:

- Accelerated gelation of silk sericin isolated from the cocoons produced by a mutant silkworm
- Crosslinking hyaluronic acid with gold nanoparticles
- Investigating safe and effective cryoprotective agents for preserving human adipose-derived stem cells
- Photo crosslinking collagen in sheep eyelid using irradiation with blue light



Front: L-R Dr Alexandra Manta, Prof Traian Chirila, Dr Shuko Suzuki. Back: L-R Students Noé Bourgoïn, Killian Chareyre, Lilou Burtin and Claire Cattelot



> Education and Training

Award for excellence in teaching.

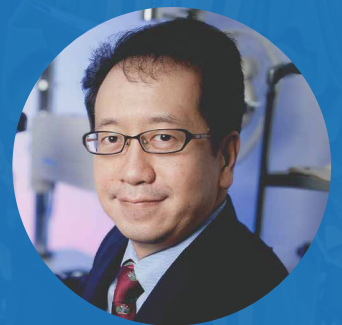
Dr Alexandra Manta received an award for excellence in teaching from the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmology at its annual congress in November. Doctors are nominated for these awards by ophthalmology trainees for exemplifying excellence in planning, communication, assessment and evidence-based professional practice. The award is high praise for Dr Manta from her junior colleagues in Australia and New Zealand. Dr Manta also shared an award for best ophthalmic surgery film.



Dr Alexandra Manta receiving her award from RANZCO President Professor Peter McCluskey AO



National training role for QEI ophthalmologist.



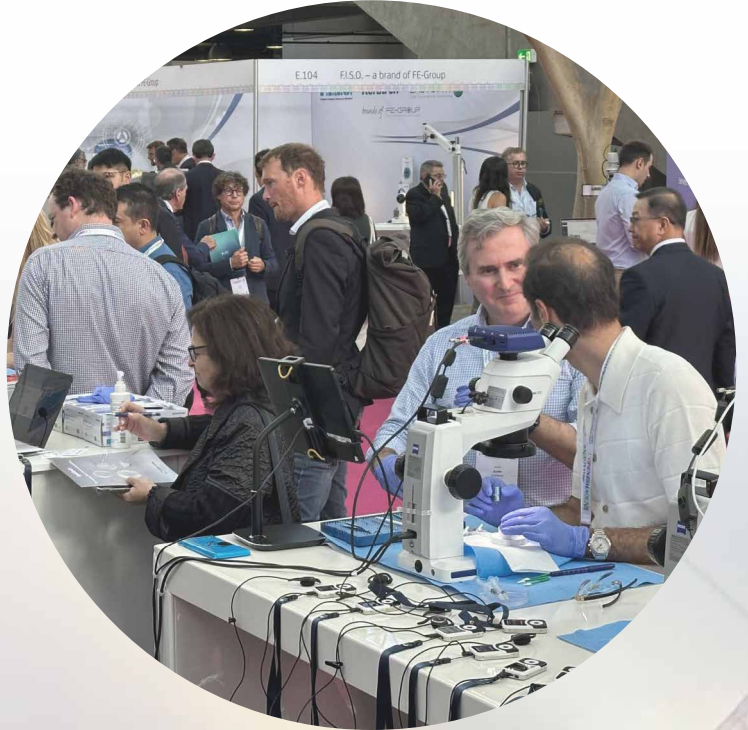
Associate Professor Anthony Kwan accepted a national training accreditation role, joining the committee which sets standards for ophthalmology training in Australia and New Zealand.

A macula specialist and vitreoretinal surgeon, Dr Kwan has a long history of working with ophthalmology trainees at both the Mater Hospital and QEI, acting as a RANZCO examiner for college examinations. Volunteering to join RANZCO's Training Post Inspection Committee is the latest highlight in his long list of teaching credentials.

> Education and Training

Teaching Overseas.

Drs Brendan Cronin and David Gunn shared their knowledge and expertise with international colleagues at the European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons Congress in Copenhagen, teaching CAIRS Keratoplasty techniques at a Lions World Vision Institute wet lab.





Clinical Care.

In 2025 there were 9 sub-specialist ophthalmologists practising at QEI, covering eyelid, cornea, retina, glaucoma and neuro ophthalmology.

Supported by dedicated team of optometrists and optical assistants, in 2025 QEI ophthalmologists cared for patients from Queensland, Australia and the Pacific at clinics in Woolloongabba and Clayfield.

Patient visits 2025.

 29,149

Woolloongabba Clinic
↑ 3,793 from last year

 4,960

Clayfield Clinic
↓ 155 from last year



Clinical Operations Coordinator Tina Huynh (centre) with members of QEI's clinical assistants team (L-R) Rhianan Lo, Cassandra Versteeg, Angela Messer and Kate Ridgway

QEI Ophthalmologists.



Dr Brendan Cronin

Cornea, Cataract
& Refractive



Dr David Gunn

Cornea, Cataract
& Refractive



Dr Lee Holland

Cornea, Cataract,
Refractive & Glaucoma



**Associate Professor
Anthony Kwan**

Retina, Macula Specialist and
Vitreoretinal Surgeon



Dr Jonathan Lai

Neuro-Ophthalmology,
Glaucoma



Dr Anthony Pane

Eye Diseases and
Neuro-Ophthalmology



Dr Angela Richards

Cataract, Eyelid & Tear Drainage,
Macular Degeneration & Diabetic
Retinopathy



Dr Goeffrey Ryan

Cataract, Glaucoma
& Cornea



**Associate Professor
Abhishek Sharma**

Medical & Surgical
Retinal Diseases

Advocacy and Outreach.

At the 2025 Pacific Eye Care Society conference in Samoa, Prof Mark Radford delivered a talk on managing infection and inflammation post trauma in sympathetic ophthalmia.



He also met with Mr Will Robinson, Australian High Commission, Samoa and Dr Alec Ekeroma, Director General and Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Health in Samoa to learn more about delivering eye health care in the Pacific.

In October Prof Radford joined more than 100 guests at Parliament House in Canberra to celebrate 25 years of Vision2020 Australia driving change across the vision care sector.



Image (L-R): Vision2020 Australia CEO Carly Iles, Vision2020 Australia Chair (immediate past) Hon Christopher Pyne and Professor Mark Radford



Global Eye Health.

CEO Professor Mark Radford continued to play a leading role supporting vision health professionals in neighbouring countries. Professor Radford is a member of the RANZCO Global Eye Health Committee and co-convened the Global Eye Health workshop and seminar at the RANZCO Annual Scientific Congress. The seminar brought together ophthalmologists from Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific and Asia to examine challenges, innovations and opportunities in global ophthalmology.

The wet lab, conducted at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital, involved supervised, hands-on rotations. An international faculty supervised and shared valuable experience managing manual small incision cataract surgery in low-resource settings.



Ophthalmologists from Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Samoa at the cataract wet lab prior to RANZCO Congress

Exploring collaboration with Indian eye hospital.

While in India to attend the 2025 Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology conference, Professor Mark Radford travelled to Chitrakoot, home to one of the world's largest rural eye hospitals. The visit to Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya (SNC) hospital aimed to foster collaboration on research, education and training to enhance patient care in both countries.

Professor Radford talked about building the Chitrakoot facilities' research capacity, with Australian ophthalmologists potentially sharing supervision of research students,

assisting in research design, drawing up ethics protocols, and sharing knowledge about research registries.

Together with other members of RANZCO's Global Eye Health Committee (GEHC), Professor Radford explored how India's rural innovation might be applied to GEHC activities in the Pacific and Timor Leste.



Prof Mark Radford visits Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya (SNC) hospital in Chitrakook, India

Profit-for-purpose day hospitals.

The South Bank Day Hospital and Kingaroy-based Lady Bjelke-Petersen Community Hospital are both operated by the South Bank Medical Group. All profits generated by the hospitals are invested back into the work of the QEI Foundation.



\$19,810,087

2025 REVENUE



11,110

2025 PATIENT NUMBERS



\$17,022,685

2024 REVENUE



9,616

2024 PATIENT NUMBERS



\$3,006,646

2025 REVENUE



1,955

2025 PATIENT NUMBERS



\$3,183,322

2024 REVENUE



2,100

2024 PATIENT NUMBERS

Financial Snapshot.



BALANCE SHEET

	2025	2024
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	4,656,404	3,390,430
Trade and other receivables	750,549	468,019
Other current assets	48,885	20,468
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	5,455,838	3,878,917
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Trade and other receivables	1,901,492	2,040,185
Investments in subsidiaries	100	100
Financial assets	3,755,099	1,998,927
Property, plant and equipment	5,349,289	6,195,696
Intangible assets	113,232	96,356
Right of use assets	19,434,557	21,724,863
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	30,553,769	32,056,127
TOTAL ASSETS	36,009,607	35,935,044
LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	115,885	173,786
Employee benefits	1,109,091	1,000,027
Other financial liabilities	26,238,909	27,767,376
TOTAL LIABILITIES	27,463,885	28,941,189
NET ASSETS	\$8,545,722	\$6,993,855

Extracted from the company's management accounts which form part of the audited financial Report for January 1 to December 31 2025.

INCOME STATEMENT

REVENUE	2025	2024
Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation	2,004,500	2,146,986
Bequests and other donations	4,421,506	1,338,553
Clinical cost recoveries	5,724,436	4,860,009
Investment Income	267,697	256,829
JobKeeper and government support	-	-
Other income	3,334,138	7,556,329

TOTAL INCOME	15,752,276	16,158,706
---------------------	-------------------	-------------------

EXPENSES		
Occupancy costs	4,646,026	2,081,990
Research costs	2,175,538	1,533,957
Fundraising costs	63,052	134,979
Clinical costs	5,795,697	5,241,836
Administration costs	1,520,097	1,003,223

TOTAL EXPENSES	14,200,410	9,995,985
-----------------------	-------------------	------------------

NET ASSETS	\$1,551,867	\$6,162,721
-------------------	--------------------	--------------------

Extracted from the company's management accounts which form part of the audited financial Report for January 1 to December 31 2025.

Board of Directors.



Mark Sheridan
OAM - CHAIRMAN

Mark Sheridan is a consultant with leading

business advisory firm Forvis Mazars in Brisbane. He has a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) and is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand. He is also a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He was appointed a Director of the Prevent Blindness Foundation in 2003 and Chairman of the Foundation from April 2011.



John Lowes
DIRECTOR

John is a retired special counsel and previously

a partner with Shand Taylor Lawyers. Prior to that he was the principal of Lowes & Company, a predominantly property and commercial law firm which he headed for 11 years, following eight years with the international law firm Phillips Fox (now DLA Piper). John's law practice concentrated on all aspects of property, business law and private client advisory. He has also acted for a broad range of health professionals and specialist medical groups.



Prof Mark Radford
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Prof. Mark Radford has been Executive

Director and Chief Executive Officer for the Queensland Eye Institute since March 2010. Mark completed his first undergraduate degree at Flinders University of South Australia in 1978. After being awarded a Japanese Government (Mombusho) Fellowship, Mark completed his Doctor of Medicine at Nagasaki University School of Medicine in 1992 and a PhD at Flinders University (1989). In 2006, Mark returned to Australia to become CEO and Managing Director of Symbiosis Group Limited – a life science investment, management and commercialisation company based in Brisbane, Australia.



Mario Pennisi
AM DIRECTOR

Mario is a strategic advisor and consultant

with more than 30 years' experience in managing and growing commercial operations in the life sciences industry. He was a government-appointed Member of the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Council, and associated committees, including as Chair of the IHBI External Engagement Committee. He is also the Chair of Griffith University's Clinical Trials Advisory Committee and a Member of the Queensland Government's Biofutures Industry Advisory Group.



Jane Prentice
DIRECTOR

Jane Prentice is a former Australian politician

who served as a member of the House of Representatives from 2010 to 2019, representing the Division of Ryan in Queensland. She previously served on the Brisbane City Council from 2000 to 2010. Jane is currently President of both Tennis Queensland and Scouts Queensland, as well as being a Patron of several not-for-profit organisations in Queensland.



Kelly Langdon
COMPANY SECRETARY

Kelly Langdon has been associated with the

Queensland Eye Institute since 2004 in a General Management consulting capacity. Kelly's qualifications included a Bachelor of Human Resource Management and Economics. Kelly enjoys the variety and scope of working with the Queensland Eye Institute; it provides the opportunity to bring commercial business experience to the not-for-profit sector.

Research Advisory Committee.

Prof Mark Radford

Mark has been Executive Director and CEO of QEIF since 2010. He has a Doctor of Medicine from Nagasaki University, Japan and a PhD from Flinders University of South Australia. Mark is a Fellow of Australian Institute of Company Directors, the Institute of Managers and Leaders, and the Queensland Academy of Arts & Sciences, and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists.

Mario Pennisi AM

Mario is a strategic advisor and consultant with more than 30 years' experience in managing and growing commercial operations in the life sciences industry. He is a government-appointed Member of the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Council, and associated committees, including as Chair of the IHBI External Engagement Committee. He is also the Chair of Griffith University's Clinical Trials Advisory Committee and a Member of the Queensland Government's Biofutures Industry Advisory Group.

Prof Peter McCluskey AO

Professor Peter McCluskey is Director of the Save Sight Institute at Sydney Eye Hospital and Professor and Chair of Ophthalmology at the University of Sydney. Peter is an inflammatory eye disease specialist with more than 25 years' experience in the field. He has received distinguished service awards from APAO, RANZCO and AAO for his teaching contributions.

Our 2025 Team.

Board of Directors

Mark Sheridan
CHAIRMAN OAM

Prof Mark Radford
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

John Lowes
DIRECTOR

Mario Pennisi
DIRECTOR AM

Jane Prentice
DIRECTOR

Kelly Langdon
COMPANY SECRETARY

Management Team

Prof Mark Radford
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kelly Langdon
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Trudie Ferdinando,
Danielle Manera and
Sandie McMurray
CLINICAL SERVICES
MANAGEMENT TEAM

Laura Kittela
COMPANY ACCOUNTANT

Jared Wilford
CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER

Carmel Johnston
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO CEO

Research Advisory Committee

Prof Mark Radford

Mario Pennisi AM

Prof Peter McCluskey AO

Clinical Faculty

Dr Brendan Cronin
CORNEA, CATARACT
& ANTERIOR SEGMENT

Dr David Gunn
CORNEA, CATARACT,
LASER & REFRACTIVE

Dr Lee Holland
CORNEA, CATARACT,
REFRACTIVE & GLAUCOMA

Associate Prof
Anthony Kwan
RETINA, MACULA SPECIALIST
& VITREORETINAL SURGEON

Dr Jonathan Lai
NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY,
GLAUCOMA

Dr Anthony Pane
EYE DISEASES AND
NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY

Dr Angela Richards
CATARACT, EYELID & TEAR
DRAINAGE, MACULAR
DEGENERATION & DIABETIC
RETINOPATHY

Dr Geoffrey Ryan
CATARACT, GLAUCOMA
& CORNEA

Associate Prof
Abhishek Sharma
MEDICAL & SURGICAL RETINAL
DISEASES

Research Faculty

Prof Traian Chirila
CHIEF SCIENTIST

Dr Shuko Suzuki
SENIOR RESEARCH OFFICER

Dr Alexandra Manta
CLINICAL RESEARCHER

Honorary Research Faculty

Prof Murray Baker
UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN
AUSTRALIA

Associate Prof
Nigel Barnett
BOND UNIVERSITY

Associate Prof
Idriss Blakey
THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Assoc Prof Shuan Dai
THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Dr Tim Dargaville
QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF
TECHNOLOGY

Dr Beatrix Feigl
INSTITUTE OF HEALTH &
BIOMEDICAL INNOVATION (IHBI)

Prof Damien Harkin
QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF
TECHNOLOGY

Prof Justine Smith
FLINDERS UNIVERSITY

Prof Audra Shadforth
QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF
TECHNOLOGY

Prof Timothy Sullivan
THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Help the Queensland Eye Institute save sight.

Donate

Our research program receives no government funding and relies on charitable donations and grants. For as little as \$10 a week you can help strengthen our financial position, allowing us to continue our sight saving research.

Visit qei.org.au/qei-foundation/donate

Leave a bequest




To make a gift in your will visit qei.org.au/wills-and-bequests

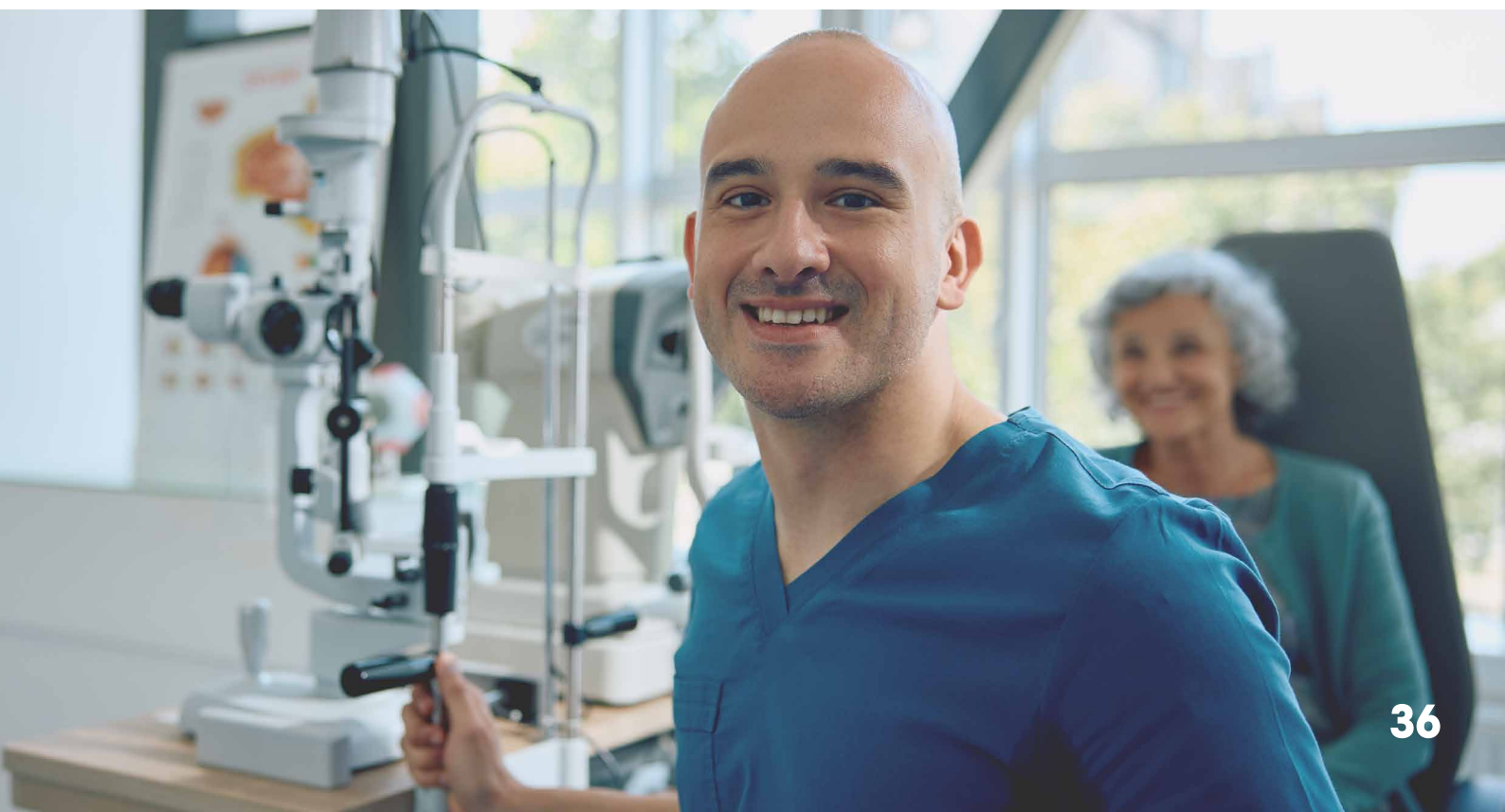
Or call +61 7 3239 5050

Join a clinical trial

Be part of clinical research by registering at qei.org.au/clinical-trials

Follow our journey

-  QueenslandEyeInstitute
-  queensland-eye-institute-qei
-  queenslandeyeinstitute



Year in Review



Queensland Eye Institute Foundation

87 Ipswich Road,
Woolloongabba QLD 4102

07 3239 5050

info@qei.org.au

QEI.ORG.AU