

Keck Medicine of USC – Marketing & Communications

2011 N. Soto St., SST-2830, Los Angeles, California 90032 Main Line: 323.442.2830

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**Monday, February 1, 2016****New educational book on latest glaucoma surgical techniques provides comprehensive, illustrative instruction by internationally renowned ophthalmology experts*****Advanced Glaucoma Surgery co-edited by Rohit Varma, MD, MPH, director of USC Eye Institute and recognized expert on changes in the optic nerve in glaucoma*****Contact:** Sherri Snelling at (949) 887-1903 or sherri.snelling@med.usc.edu

LOS ANGELES – A new educational book, *Advanced Glaucoma Surgery*, co-edited by Rohit Varma, MD, MPH, director of the University of Southern California (USC) Eye Institute and chair of the Ophthalmology Department at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, offers the most comprehensive and illustrative instruction on the latest techniques treating glaucomatous disease. The book is currently available in two formats: eBook (\$24.99 retail) and hardcover that includes a companion DVD (\$159.00 retail) from Springer.com and [Amazon](http://Amazon.com).

The field of ophthalmology is advancing rapidly and innovative technologies and techniques are helping to successfully treat glaucoma, the leading cause of *preventable* blindness, at any stage of the disease. The book, which is co-edited by Ahmed A. Aref, MD, covers the spectrum of techniques for surgical treatment of glaucoma. The text includes both the host of novel minimally invasive devices for treatment of milder stages of glaucoma as well as refined strategies that enhance success rates in patients with advanced disease, all including the expert authors' opinions. There are also contributions from more than a dozen other noted ophthalmology experts, including a chapter on "Ab-Interno Subconjunctival Glaucoma Implant for Advanced Open-Angle Glaucomas" by Alena Reznik, MD, a glaucoma specialist at the USC Eye Institute.

An invaluable educational book, *Advanced Glaucoma Surgery* provides an-depth information on indications, preoperative considerations, potential intra- and postoperative complications, and strategies for reducing the incidence of such adverse events. Aiding the written text are numerous intraoperative photos and surgical videos.

Dr. Varma, who is also professor of Ophthalmology and Preventive Medicine, associate dean for Strategic Planning and Network Development, and holds the Grace and Emery Beardsley Chair in Ophthalmology, is also a noted international expert on changes in the optic nerve in

- more -

Dr. Varma Authors New Book: *Advanced Glaucoma Surgery*
2-2-2-2

glaucoma. He is also studying new imaging techniques in the early diagnosis of glaucomatous optic nerve damage.

Author of *The Optic Nerve in Glaucoma* and *Essentials of Eye Care: The Johns Hopkins Wilmer Handbook*, Dr. Varma is also one of the editors of *Topics in Glaucoma*, a continuing medical education publication. He is also author of more than 247 publications in various peer-reviewed ophthalmic journals.

In addition to his expertise in glaucomatous disease, Dr. Varma is one of the world's foremost experts in the epidemiology of eye diseases. His primary research focuses on epidemiologic studies of eye disease in children and aging populations. He is the principal investigator of three large NIH/National Eye Institute (NEI)-funded studies of eye disease in ethnic populations: Los Angeles Latino Eye Study (LALES), the Chinese American Eye Study (CHES) and the African American Eye Study (AFEDS). He was also the PI for the NIH/NEI funded Multi-Ethnic Pediatric Eye Diseases Study (MEPEDS). As a member of the Institute of Medicine, Public Health Approaches to Reduce Vision Impairment and Promote Eye Health, Dr. Varma's community health studies of racial/ethnic populations have had a direct influence on changing public health policy in America.

More than 3 million Americans today are diagnosed with glaucoma and by 2030, NEI projects that number to increase 58 percent when it will affect more than 4.2 million seniors. Known as "the sneak thief of sight" glaucoma has no symptoms and once vision is lost it is permanent. In fact, 40 percent of vision can be lost without a person noticing.

About the USC Eye Institute

The USC Eye Institute, part of the Keck Medicine of USC university-based medical enterprise, has been a leader in scientific research and innovative clinical treatments for 40 years. Among the top three funded academic-based medical centers by the National Eye Institute (NEI) research grants and ranked in the Top 10 ophthalmology programs in *U.S. News & World Report's* annual "Best Hospitals" issue for more than 20 years, the USC Eye Institute is headquartered in Los Angeles with clinics in Arcadia, Beverly Hills and Pasadena.

Patients from across the country come to see the USC Eye Institute experts who treat a comprehensive array of eye diseases across the life spectrum from infants to aging seniors. The USC Eye Institute is known for its scientific research and clinical innovation including: creation of the Argus implant (also known as the "bionic eye") for retinitis pigmentosa (RP) patients; stem cell therapies for those who have age-related macular degeneration; discovery of the gene that is the cause of the most common eye cancer in children; treatment for eye infections for AIDS patients; inventors of the most widely used glaucoma implant in the world; pioneers of a device for long-term intraocular drug delivery; and the first to use telesurgery to train eye doctors in developing countries. For more information visit: eye.keckmedicine.org. or usceye.org.

#