Emerging concepts in the pathogenesis and treatment of diabetic retinopathy

About the Speaker:
Elia Duh is Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at the Wilmer Eye Institute at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He specializes in diseases of the retina, including diabetic retinopathy. He received his bachelor degree in molecular biophysics and biochemistry from Yale University and obtained his medical degree from Harvard Medical School. He completed his ophthalmology residency and medical retina fellowship at Johns Hopkins. Dr. Duh actively researches the molecular mechanisms underlying retinal vascular diseases, with an emphasis on diabetic retinopathy. His research interests include retinal angiogenesis and vascular permeability as well as endogenous retinal protective mechanisms including Nrf2.

Abstract:
Research advances are bringing to light new concepts in both the pathogenesis of diabetic retinopathy and therapeutic strategies that can be employed for treating this condition. This includes the involvement of multiple cell types in the progression of diabetic retinopathy, including Muller cells and neuronal elements. Traditionally, research in DR has focused on pathogenic factors including VEGF, which serve as targets for therapy. There is an increasing awareness of the involvement of endogenous protective factors in governing DR, raising the idea of promotion of these factors for the treatment of DR. This talk will discuss these new concepts of multicellular involvement and protective factors in DR, including the possible role of the transcription factor Nrf2. This talk will also highlight therapeutic strategies that may emerge based on the increased understanding of disease pathogenesis, which may guide the development of new treatments for DR in the future.

All are Welcome!
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Chairperson
Dr Gavin Tan

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