



**Dry Age-Related  
Macular Degeneration  
R&D Symposium**

*Speaker Biographies*

# Introduction to the Experts



## **Karl Csaky, M.D., Ph.D.**

Dr. Csaky is the T. Boone Pickens Director of the Clinical Center of Innovation for Age-Related Macular Degeneration, and chief medical officer of the Retina Foundation of the Southwest. Dr. Csaky is currently involved in multiple clinical trials for age-related macular degeneration as well as research in drug delivery approaches for the treatment of retinal disease. Additionally, Dr. Csaky's research involves accessing novel vision function assessments of patients with various stage of AMD.

Dr. Csaky is a member of the Macula Society, Retina Society, and American Academy of Ophthalmology, ARVO, and the American Society of Retinal Specialists. He finished a retina fellowship at the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins University, and a post-doctoral fellowship at the National Cancer Institute. Dr. Csaky completed an internship in medicine at Duke University, his ophthalmology residency at Washington University, and was a Fulbright Scholar at the Essen Eye Clinic, Essen, Germany. He received his combined M.D./Ph.D. degree from the University of Louisville.



## **Jennifer I. Lim, M.D.**

Dr. Lim is the director of the Retina Service at the University of Illinois at Chicago. In addition, she holds the Marion H. Schenk Esq., Chair in Ophthalmology for Research in the Aging Eye as Professor of Ophthalmology. Dr. Lim is a leading authority on retina and vitreoretinal diseases. She has performed more than 6,000 vitreoretinal surgeries and directed more than 50 clinical research studies and trials on age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, macular edema and retinal vein occlusion and complex retinal detachments. Her research and patient care have generated more than 220 peer-reviewed journal articles.

Dr. Lim has been named Chicago Super Doctors and Best Doctors in America. Dr. Lim is the recipient of the American Academy of Ophthalmology Senior Achievement and Secretariat Awards, ASRS Senior Honor Award and the Suzanne Veronneau Troutman Award. Dr. Lim is board certified in ophthalmology.



## **Arjuna Ratnayaka, M.Phil., DIC, Ph.D.**

Dr. Ratnayaka is a cell biologist who studies how tissues in the retina becomes diseased with old age. He also investigates retina-brain links including conditions such as Alzheimer's disease. His group uses *in-vitro* cell and mouse models as well as donor tissues; employing techniques such as gene editing, lentiviruses and 3D-imaging for their work. Their discoveries have led to collaborative studies with industry. Dr. Ratnayaka serves in several scientific and academic advisory panels, and acts as a peer-reviewer for funding organizations. He is also involved in raising awareness of blinding diseases and dementia through public lectures, workshops and outreach activities.

After graduating from the University of Aberdeen, Dr. Ratnayaka completed a Master's degree at Imperial College, London, followed by a Ph.D. from the University of Liverpool. He is currently an associate professor at the University of Southampton.

# Introduction to the Experts



## **Stella M. Robertson, Ph.D., FARVO**

Dr. Robertson is the owner of Arrochar Consulting LLC, specializing in due diligence, translational research and product development for life sciences companies; a co-founder of Bios Partners, LP; and a board member of early-stage companies. As a senior scientist, Stella founded the immunology and cell biology laboratory at Alcon Laboratories, Inc., and later served as a vice president in R&D, where she led organizations responsible for the ophthalmic pipeline. She has over 25 years of experience in applied research and global product development, including R&D strategies, project management, clinical trials, market support, external collaborations, compliance, and medical communications.

Dr. Robertson received a Ph.D. in biology from Johns Hopkins University, was an Arthritis Foundation postdoctoral research fellow at the UTHSC at Dallas and completed the Program for Management Development at Harvard Business School. She holds a number of patents and is the author or co-author of over 50 publications. Stella volunteers with the incubator TECH Fort Worth, local university entrepreneurial programs, and ARVO's Women in Eye and Vision Research.



## **Anthony Caggiano, M.D., Ph.D.**

Dr. Caggiano is Cognition's chief medical officer and head of R&D. He has broad experience leading neurological drug development efforts including 17 years at Acorda Therapeutics and Neurotrauma Sciences, a biopharmaceutical company developing therapies to treat the effects of stroke and TBI. Earlier in his career, he served as acting president and chief medical officer of Constant Pharmaceuticals and Aeromics, Inc., clinical-stage companies respectively developing candidates for central nervous system disorders and cerebral edema following ischemic stroke.

Dr. Caggiano earned his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Virginia in interdisciplinary studies, focusing on biology, chemistry and psychology. He earned his doctoral degree from the University of Chicago and his medical degree from the University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine.



## **Mary Hamby, Ph.D.**

Dr. Hamby is vice president of research at Cognition Therapeutics. In this role, she is focused on the discovery and development of disease-modifying therapeutics that address age-related diseases including Alzheimer's disease and dry AMD. Prior to joining Cognition, Dr. Hamby was the head of neuroinflammation at the Neurodegeneration Consortium at MD Anderson and earlier served as a research scientist at Lundbeck.

She received her Ph.D. in biomedical science specializing in neuroscience from University of Connecticut and conducted her post-doctoral training at University of California Los Angeles. Her career comprises over 20 years of experience in the fields of neurodegenerative diseases and drug discovery in both academia and pharma/biotech.