

Editorial

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3 At a landmark time in the expansion of our knowledge of genetics and genomics, we have had
4 the privilege of gathering together articles that provide a unique insight into our current
5 knowledge of eye development and the efforts that have helped us reach this point. We have
6 commissioned articles that describe the genetic basis of structural eye disorders, in other
7 words approaching from the phenotype to the genotype; animal models that have advanced
8 our understanding of mechanisms of eye development; detailed analyses of pathways, and a
9 glimpse towards the future in therapeutic approaches. Related free papers have been
10 incorporated into the issue to add context.
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14 As well as consolidating knowledge in the area, we have aimed to capture the interest of
15 emergent physicians and researchers into this fascinating area and inspire studies to further
16 understand the mechanisms involved in eye development and to create novel therapeutic
17 strategies. It is now clear that increasing our understanding of the genetic basis of
18 developmental eye disorders is now only attainable through enhanced communication
19 between clinicians and scientists. It is without doubt this collaborative approach that
20 encompasses the spirit and content of this Special Issue.
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24 We owe a huge debt of gratitude to all the contributors for their immense hard work and
25 dedication in carefully crafting these excellent articles. We also thank the Editors and
26 Production Staff at Springer for their support in creating this Special Issue, which we hope will
27 serve the needs of clinicians and scientists and ultimately our patients.
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50 *This Special Issue is dedicated to the families affected by Developmental Eye Disorders,*
51 *whose courage in living with these conditions is an inspiration to us all.*
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