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Welcome to the Iowa Glaucoma Curriculum



About the Iowa Glaucoma Curriculum

This is a teaching site for residents and others interested in learning about glaucoma.

It breaks glaucoma into fifty bite-sized lectures that average 14 minutes in length (range 4 to 37 minutes). In total the curriculum is just under 12 hours long.

It is highly visual with >900 images and >90 movie clips.

Taking care of glaucoma can be very hard, but I am hoping that I have made learning about this family of diseases somewhat easier.

READ MORE

iowaglaucoma.org

1. Master the Art of Tonometry



- When GAT Isn't Good Enough
 - Irregular Astigmatism
 - S/P LASIK
 - Blepharospasm
 - Morbid Obesity
 - Bedside exam
 - Young children



- Hand-held Tonometers
 - Perkins, Tono-Pen, iCare, others
 - Special populations
 - Obese, arthritic, anxious, pediatric, S/P LASIK





- Dynamic Contour Tonometry
 - Concave tip with piezo-electric pressure sensor
 - Less influenced by corneal biomechanics than GAT
 - Closer estimate of true IOP than GAT



Source: Arch Ophthalmol. 2004;122:1287-1293



Francis (2007): The mean IOP for GAT and DCT across CCT groups. The IOP measured **with** both GAT and DCT significantly increases with increasing CCT. However, the magnitude of the effect is greater with GAT than DCT. Although mean and median GAT IOP was lower than the DCT IOP across all CCT groups, the difference between the means decreases with increasing CCT.

Table 1	Mean DC	T readings and	mean GAT	measurement	according	to CCT	stratification
---------	---------	----------------	----------	-------------	-----------	--------	----------------

	$CCT \leqslant 500 \ \mu m$	$501 \leqslant CCT \leqslant 540 \ \mu m$	$541 \leq CCT \leq 560 \ \mu m$	$561 \leq CCT \leq 600 \mu m$	$CCT > 600 \mu m$	
DCT (mmHg)	16.7 ± 3.5	17.5 ± 3.0	17.47 ± 3.0	18.07 ± 3.0	17.32 ± 3.0	
GAT (mmHg)	11.2 ± 2.7	13.18 ± 3.2	14.10 ± 2.9	16.30 ± 3.3	19.49 ± 2.3	
ΔDCT/GAT	5.47	4.30	3.37	1.77	-2.17	
Р	P < 0.001	P < 0.001	P < 0.001	P < 0.001	P < 0.001	

CCT = central corneal thickness; DCT = dynamic contour tonometry, GAT = Goldmann aplanation tonometry.

THIN CORNEAS

GAT underestimates DCT by 4-5 mmHg

THICK CORNEAS GAT within 1-2 mmHg of DCT

The problem is <u>not</u> that GAT reads high on patients with thick corneas but that it reads <u>very low</u> on patients with thin corneas

Source: Eye. 2009;23:1364-1369

 Pachymetry – OHTS: CCT <555µm is a risk factor for POAG Detect depressed Goldmann readings in patients with thin corneas (<525µm)



Source: Arch Ophthalmol. 1998;116:544-545

 Dealing with LASIK Dynamic contour Most accurate Change from baseline Difference between pre-op and post-op IOP Peripheral cornea Tono-pen or iCare tonometry outside flap



- 1. Master the Art of Tonometry
- 2. Gonioscopy is Fundamental

Van Herick is a mixed blessing

– <u>GOOD NEWS</u>

99.9% of eyes that appear open are not occludable

- BAD NEWS

About 80% of eyes that appear occludable are not with gonioscopy (the Gold Standard)



- Identify cause of elevated or asymmetric IOP
 - Angle closure, PAS, NVA, hyphema
- Identify cause of loss of IOP control



Angle Anatomy Review

Compression/Dynamic Gonioscopy

- Apply direct pressure to the cornea to force aqueous into the angle to deepen it and push the iris posteriorly
 - Pressure should be directed perpendicularly to the cornea plane



- Identify cause of elevated or asymmetric IOP
 - Angle closure, PAS, NVA, hyphema
- Identify cause of loss of IOP control



Angle Anatomy Review

Compression/Dynamic Gonioscopy

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 - Pressure should be directed perpendicularly to the cornea plane



Compression Gonioscopy: Apposition vs PAS

Apposition

Pre-indentation



Compression Gonioscopy: Apposition vs PAS

PAS (left side of view)

Pre-indentation





Treatment Implications

- Eyes that open with indentation will likely respond to LPI
- Eyes that do not open with indentation will likely require iridoplasty or filtration surgery/tube shunt



Corneal Wedge Technique



Most posterior structure??



- Does this patient need an iridotomy?
 - Judging risk of future angle closure using gonioscopy alone is prone to error
 - The importance of corroborating evidence
 - Suggestive symptoms
 - Gonio abnormalities
 - VF and ONH damage
 - Chronically elevated IOP



- 1. Master the Art of Tonometry
- 2. Gonioscopy is Fundamental
- 3. Examine the Rim, Not the Cup

- ISNT rule
 - Decreasing order of rim thickness
- Pallor
 - Rim pallor not associated with glaucoma
- Disc Size
 - Large cups are normal in large optic discs



OCT detection of glaucoma

 Retinal nerve fiber layer thickness
 Optic nerve head topography
 Ganglion cell layer thickness





Source PMID: 20678802

Frequency distribution profile of the location of RNFL defects in glaucoma patients displayed in a pie chart

Ν

RNFL OCT

This is where most of the action is!

Is the superior (less common) or inferior (more common) hump depressed?

Is there RE/LE symmetry?

Is there evidence of rim loss corresponding to the **RNFL** loss?

Does the deviation map show evidence of a NFL defect?

ONH and RNFL OU Analysis: Optic Disc Cube 200x200 OD (



RNFL Deviation Map

Disc Cei.

Extracted Horizon

Extracted Vertical Tomogram

RNFL Circular Tomogram

μm

TEMP

800

400

200

52

\triangle	OD	OS
Average RNFL Thickness	76 µm	71 µm
RNFL Symmetry	82%	
Rim Area	0.86 mm²	0.92 mm²
Disc Area	1.96 mm²	2.22 mm²
Average C/D Ratio	0.74	0.75
Vertical C/D Ratio	0.74	0.77
Cup Volume	0.308 mm ³	0.344 mm ³

Neuro-retinal Rim Thickness

NAS

ANTE THICK

NAS

NΔ

73

Distribution of Normals 95% 5% 1%

RNFL

Quadrants

RNFL

Clock

Hours

INF

71

106

58

88

62

88

70

88

66

57

140

41

49

TEMP

- OD --- OS

SHP

SUP

94

83

85

92

123

72

68

44

45

75

87

RNFL Thickness Map

OS



RNFL Deviation Map

Disc Center(-0.09,0.24)mm Extracted Horizontal Tomogram



Extracted Vertical Tomogram



RNFL Circular Tomogram



Examine the rim, not the cup Optic Nerve Head Topography

		OD	OS
Average RNFL Thickness		73 µm	61 µm
	RNFL Symmetry	5	5%
	Rim Area	1.12 mm ²	0.72 mm ²
	Disc Area	1.58 mm ²	1.72 mm ²
マ	Average C/D Ratio	0.53	0.75
1	Vertical C/D Ratio	0.49	0.77
	Cup Volume	0.036 mm ³	0.220 mm ³

Always gray b/c it's not compared to normals!

<1.75mm² = sm >2.75mm² = lg

ONH morphology

NOTE: Asymmetric size may account for asymmetry in CDR and RNFL



Macula

Zone

Vulnerability



Source PMID: 28012881

Ganglion Cell Thickness



Zeiss GCC Report

Ganglion Cell OU Analysis: Macular Cube 512x128

OD 🔴 🔵 OS

Look for horizontal respect at the temporal raphe

A 5µm difference across the temporal raphe is suspicious for glaucoma







OS Thickness Map

Fovea: 255, 68



OS Deviation Map

- Factors affecting OCT detection of glaucoma
 - Disc size
 - Axial length
 - Artifacts and technical errors
 - Age & race
 - Others
Examine the rim, not the cup

• Optic Disc Size

- Larger discs have thicker RNFL measurements (Savini, BJO. 2005;89:489)

An artifact of fixed measurement circle

 Larger discs have <u>lower sensitivity</u> for early glaucoma detection

- Large: >2.75mm² → False negatives
- Small: <1.75mm² → False positives



Relationship between ONH size and measured RNFL thickness Savini, BJO. 2005;89:489



Thin

Thick

			OD OS ZEISS
\wedge	OD	OS	am Date: 2/1/2016 2/1/2016 Sample institute
Average RNFL Thickness	116 µm	121 µm	rial Number: 800-1098708 800-1098708 mal Strength: 8/10 8/10
RNFL Symmetry	9	7%	vsis:Optic Disc Cube 200x200 OD ● OS
Rim Area	1.33 mm ²	1.58 mm ²	OD OS RNFL Thickness Map age RNFL Thickness 116 µm 121 µm 350
Disc Area	2.86 mm ²	3.08 mm ²	RNFL Symmetry 97% Rim Area 1.33 mm²
Average C/D Ratio	0.73	0.69	Disc Area 2.86 mm² 3.08 mm² 175 Average C/D Ratio 0.73 0.69 1
Vertical C/D Ratio	0.68	0.59	Vertical C/D Ratio 0.68 0.59 Cup Volume 0.809 mm² 0.486 mm²
Cup Volume	0.809 mm ³	0.486 mm ³	RNFL Deviation Map Neuro-retinal Rim Thickness
patient with large ON		Center(0.57,-0.48)mm ted Horizontal Tomogram 200 100	RNFL Thickness µm - 0D 0S 0 30 60 90 120 150 180 210 240 Disc Center(-0.66,-0.39)mm Extracted Horizontal Tomogram
due to his larg ONH, but he ha plenty of rim tissu (>1.0 mm	De De De De De De De De De De De De De D	cted Vertical Tomogram 71 FL Circular Tomogram 86	TEMP 30 SUP 30 NAS 10 NOT 10 TEMP TEMP Extracted Vertical Tomogram 160 Diversified: 176 Distribution of Nomals 177 165 138 148 180 200 177 165 138 79 94 RNFL Circular Tomogram
		58 64	57 RNFL 169 199 121 FRFL 100 K 100 K

Examine the rim, not the cup

Axial Length

Every 1mm ↑axial length = ↓ 2.2µm avg RNFL (Budenz, Ophthalmology. 2007;114:1046)

 Higher risk of OCT false positive errors (Kim, Ophthalmology. 2011;118:1774)

 High myopes also have lateral shifts in their RNFL thickness profile (Leung, IOVS. 2012;53:7194) Displacement of RNFL bundles in myopia

Axial length: 27.26 RE: -6.75 D





Axial length: 26.61 RE: -2.00 D

Leung, IOVS. 2012;53:7194





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- 4. Is this *Really* Glaucoma?

Non-glaucomatous Cupping

- Compression
- Inflammation (sarcoid, lupus)
- Infection (syph)
- Ischemia (NAION, AAION)
- Demyelinating disease (MS)
- Hereditary disease Leber's, AD optic atrophy
- Toxic/Nutritional B12 deficiency, methanol
- Trauma
- Late papilledema

Findings that suggest non-glaucomatous neuropathy

- Young age
- Significant asymmetry
- Significant VA loss



Findings that suggest nonglaucomatous neuropathy

- Disc pallor
- Visual field defect T>N, respects the vert, mainly central





Findings that suggest non-glaucomatous neuropathy

- Peripapillary exudates
- Significant arteriolar attenuation/sheathing



Is this *really* glaucoma? Differentiation of compressive from glaucomatous optic neuropathy with SD-OCT



Danesh-Meyer HV[,] et al. Differentiation of compressive from glaucomatous optic neuropathy with SD-OCT. Ophthalmology. 2014 Aug;121(8):1516-23.

Is this *really* glaucoma? Pituitary Adenoma



O'Neill EC, et al. The optic nerve head in acquired optic neuropathies. Nat Rev Neurol. 2010 Apr;6(4):221-36.

Non-Glaucomatous Cupping

- Cupping
 - Non-glaucomatous optic atrophy can exhibit glaucomatous cupping (compressive, ischemic) (Trobe, Arch Ophthalmol. 1980;98:1046)
- Pallor
 - Important, but may be subtle, variable, and deceptive
 - Many normal discs appear pale (16%) (Trobe, Arch Ophthalmol. 1980;98:1040)
- OCT

 Pattern of RNFL loss varies depending on cause





GCC thinning is <u>more</u> sensitive than perimetry in detection of chiasmal compression.

Blanch RJ, et al. Pituitary 2018;21:515–23.

When Should I Order an MRI?

Findings that increase the risk of an intracranial mass lesion in NTG suspects

Age <50yrs

NTG is rare in young people

VA worse than 20/40

Beware unexplained reduction in BVA

Vertically aligned VF defects

- Glaucoma does not respect the vertical

Optic disc pallor

Greenfield, Ophthalmology. 1998;105:1866



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Establishing the baseline

 How many VFs are needed to reliably establish a baseline? - OHTS: Chance of reverting back to normal After 2 consecutive abnormal VF: 66% After 3 consecutive abnormal VF: 12% Need to detect rapid progressors early 2 yrs

18

mos

24

mos

12

mos

Source: Arch Ophthalmol. 2005;123:1201-1206

0

mos

6

mos



reshold Testing Ind a Multicenter Iv



AIKO IWASE, CHRISTOPHER K. LEUNG, AND BOEL BENGISSON

nol 2019;198:154–165. © 2018 The). Published by Elsevier Inc. This is an open ticle under the CC BY-NC-ND license (http:// ommons.org/licenses/ty-nc-pd/4.0/).)

"SITA Faster saved considerable test time. SITA Faster and SITA Fast gave almost identical results."

Am J Ophthalmol. 2019;198:154

Re-establishing baseline IOP

- PHACO / IOL
 - Long-term IOP lowering
 - Max effect at 3 mos
 - Average 2.5 mmHg decrease
 - Glaucoma pts may require fewer meds
 IOP elevation following capsulotomy



Source: J Cataract Refract Surg. 2005;31:479-83.

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 Goals in treating glaucoma: Preservation of vision
 and
 Quality of life
 Factors to consider
 Disease severity
 Baseline IOP
 Disk factors

- Risk factors
- Life expectancy
- Status of fellow eye





Pre-perimetric glaucoma	Low twenties
Mild glaucoma	High teens
Moderate	Mid teens
Advanced	Low teens
Fixation threatened	High single digits

Chandler and Grant's Glaucoma, 4th ed. 1997

The Glaucoma Graph: Balancing Life and IOP



Source: J Curr Glaucoma Pract 2010;4:83-92



Source: Acta Ophthalmol. 2013:91:92-99



Initial target pressure can be based upon where they sit on the Glaucoma Graph, then refined once rate of progression is known



In general, treat younger patients and more advanced glaucoma more aggressively

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- 7. Maximize Patient Compliance

Maximize patient compliance

- The problem...
 Patients are less compliant than they claim
 - Persistence with glaucoma treatment varies from 20% to 64% at 1 year
 - 20% of glaucoma pts do not return for care



Source: Arch Ophthalmol 2005;123:1134-1135

Maximize patient compliance

- Steps to improve compliance
 - Effective communication
 - Educate patients about their disease
 - Inquire about compliance at every visit ("How frequently do you forget?")
 - Family support
 - Simplify dosing
 - Give instructions in writing
 - Cell phone alarms
 - Address side effects



Maximize patient compliance

- Alternatives to topical therapy for mild to moderate glaucoma
 - Selective laser trabeculoplasty
 - Minimally Invasive
 Glaucoma Surgery
 (MIGS)
- IOP-lowering effect similar to one topical agent without compliance issues



Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty







Original Study

Transscleral Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty Without a Gonioscopy Lens

Noa Geffen, MD,*†‡ Shay Ofir, MD,*† Avner Belkin, MD,*† Fani Segev, MD,*† Yaniv Barkana, MD,†§ Audrey Kaplan Messas, MD,†§ Ehud I. Assia, MD,*†‡ and Michael Belkin, MD†||

Selective laser trabeculoplasty versus eye drops for first-line treatment of ocular hypertension and glaucoma (LiGHT): a multicentre randomised controlled trial

Gus Gazzard, Evgenia Konstantakopoulou, David Garway-Heath, Anurag Garg, Victoria Vickerstaff, Rachael Hunter, Gareth Ambler, Catey Bunce, Richard Wormald, Neil Nathwani, Keith Barton, Gary Rubin, Marta Buszewicz, on behalf of the LiGHT Trial Study Group*

	MEDS FIRST	LASER FIRST	
Visits @ Target IOP	91.3%	93.0%	P = 0.04
Progression (all)	36 (5.8%)	23 (3.8%)	P = 0.05
Cataract Extraction	25 (4%)	13 (2.1%)	P = 0.05
Trabeculectomy	11 (1.8%)	0	P = 0.001
Treatment Escalations	348	299	

"Laser-first gave drop-free disease control at stringent target IOPs, lower trabeculectomy rates, less glaucoma progression, and lower cost"

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- 7. Maximize Patient Compliance
- 8. Confirming Progression

Confirming Progression

- Reliably detecting progression is more challenging than detecting presence of disease
- The best tool for detecting progression is adequate baseline data
 - OCT and/or disc photos
 - Multiple visual fields (Recommend five)
 - Untreated baseline IOP

Confirming Progression

- Optic Disc Changes
 - Sequential disc photos: Subjective, significant inter-observer variability
 - Sequential OCT: Must be on same instrument! Highly reproducible. Can detect progression prior to VF loss


Visual Field Changes

- Extreme variability of VF requires caution in assessing possible progression
- Never change therapy on the basis of a single bad visual field
- Use of a statistical software package rather than "eyeballing" approach is highly recommended

VF Changes

- -78% deepening of existing scotoma
- -52% enlargement of an existing scotoma
- 49% new scotomas

TABLE 4-4. Guidelines for Recognizing Progression

New defect in previously normal region: cluster of 3 points worsening by 5 dB each, 1 of which has worsened by 10 dB

Previously abnormal region has deepened if: 3 or more points have deteriorated by 10 dB each

Previously abnormal region has widened if: 2 or more new contiguous points are involved

Note: This scheme requires reliable fields. In general, progression should be confirmed on a subsequent field or fields. See text. Adapted with permission from Anderson DR: Automated Static Perimetry. St Louis: Masby–Year Book; 1992: 208–211.

Glaucoma Progression Analysis (GPA)





• SD-OCT

- Provides reproducible measurements of the RNFL
- Objective measure of structural progression
- Detect progression in eyes with pre-perimetric glaucoma







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- 9. "What can I do to help control my glaucoma?"

Self-Care of Glaucoma

 What can I do to help control my glaucoma? Full medical compliance - Engage in regular exercise - Control comorbid disease • CVD, sleep apnea Quit smoking Diet and supplements • Antioxidants, statins, ginko, caffeine, omega-3 Self-tonometry (iCare) Self-perimetry (Damato) Medical marijuana



Source: Arch Ophthalmol 1991;109:1096-1098



GLAUCOMA

Elvy Musikka, one of six people receiving medical cannabis (for glaucoma) from the federal government and representative for those deprived. Elvy is holding a month's supply of marijuana provided to her by the federal government.

"I have dedicated my life to the eradication of what I believe is our greatest enemy—ignorance!"



Americans for Medical Relief

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	-1. P. M.				
Ż	11.23 A	Recreational	Medical	CBD	No Access
1	# States	11	22	13	4



Editorial

American Glaucoma Society Position Statement: Marijuana and the Treatment of Glaucoma

Henry Jampel, MD, MHS

Galthough many factors, some only partially understood, contribute to the optic nerve damage in glaucoma patients, it has been definitively established that the level of intraocular pressure (IOP) is related to the presence of damage,¹ and that treatments that lower IOP reduce the risk of developing initial damage,² and slow the progression of preexisting damage.³ Therefore, the mainstay of treatment for glaucoma patients is lowering the IOP.

... there is no scientific basis for use of these agents in the treatment of glaucoma.

Source: J Glaucoma 2010;19:75-76

EDITORIAL

Canadian Op Society policy medical use o glaucoma

Can J Ophthalmol 2010;45:324doi:10.3129/i10-069

EDITORIAL

Medical use of cannabis for glaucoma



The clinical utility of cannabis (sometimes referred to as marijuana or marihuana) for the treatment of glaucoma is limited by the inability to separate the potential clinical action from the undesirable neuropsychological and behavioural effects. The Canadian Ophthalmological Society does not support the medical use of cannabis for the treatment of glaucoma due to the short duration of action, the incidence of undesirable psychotropic and other systemic side effects, and the

Can J Ophthalmol 2019;54:7-9

"The Canadian Ophthalmological Society does not support the medical use of marijuana for the treatment of glaucoma..."

Self-Care of Glaucoma

Cannabis & Glaucoma Average 25% reduction of IOP lasting 3-4 hrs - IOP effect seen in 60-65% of population – Role in neuroprotection? Unsuccessful to date in separation of IOP from psychotropic effects



Source: Arch Ophthalmol 1998;116:1433-1437

Self-Care of Glaucoma

Cannabis & Glaucoma

- Side effects with systemic administration (psychotropic, low BP, hormonal)
- Smoking associated with emphysema-like lung changes
 Topical not yet effective (low water solubility)



Source: Arch Ophthalmol 1998;116:1433-1437

Self Care of Glaucoma

Glaucoma

Δ⁹-Tetrahydrocannabinol and Cannabidiol Differentially Regulate Intraocular Pressure

Sally Miller, Laura Daily, Emma Leishman, Heather Bradshaw, and Alex Straiker

The Gill Center for Biomolecular Science and the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, United States

"We conclude that THC lowers IOP by activating two receptors—CB 1 and GPR18—but in a sex-dependent manner. CBD, contrary to expectation, has two opposing effects on IOP and can interfere with the effects of THC."

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- 7. Maximize Patient Compliance
- 8. Confirming Progression
- 9. "What can I do to help control my glaucoma?"
- 10. The Future of Glaucoma Care



Diopsys NOVA-LX VEP









Parameters	OD	os	Difference	
Amplitude Low Contrast µV	12.8	6.1	6.8	
Amplitude High Contrast µV	11.7	7.3	4.4	
Latency Low Contrast ms	109.4	125.0	15.6	Sign
Latency High Contrast ms	112.3	108.4	3.9	

Remarks
Significant Difference



Clinical Utility of Short Duration Transient Visual Evoked Potential (SD-tVEP) Pathologic Indicators in Chronic Glaucoma

- William E. Sponsel^{1,2}, Richard Trevino², Carolyn Majcher², Sylvia Groth³, Joseph Allen²
- ¹Baptist Medical Center Glaucoma Service, San Antonio, TX
- ²Rosenberg School of Optometry, UIW, San Antonio, TX
- ³University of North Carolina Ophthalmology, Chapel Hill, NC

This study adds to a growing body of evidence that SD-tVEP offers a rapid and objective means to screen for and assess damage in glaucomatous eyes.

VEP LATENCY DEFICITS (% with standard error)

	MILD	MODERATE	SEVERE	R ²	р
Нс	18.4±5.6	31.3±12.0	57.6±8.8	0.994	0.05
Lc	12.2±4.7	18.8±10.1	33.3±8.3	0.991	0.06







How it works

 Combination of a slit illumination system and a camera that rotate around the eye to create a series of radial, cross sectional images (Scheimpflug images)

Scheimpflug Image





How it works

 The Scheimpflug images (25-100) are combined to generate a 3D model of the eye from the cornea to the posterior surface of the lens





Biometric parameters associated with PACG:

- flatter cornea
- thicker lens
- shallow ACD
- narrow AC angles
- less ACV



Pre and post-op LPI



Pre and post-op LPI

OCULUS - PENTACAM Compare 2 Exams



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Ten Steps to Better Glaucoma Care

Thank You!



Artist: Patrick Saine