



# Prisms Newsletter

## Winter



Happy Holidays! Welcome to PEA's quarterly newsletter, Prisms. In our quarterly newsletter, we'll deliver updates about our office, doctors, and eye treatments.

Please email us with topics which you would like to read about or if you have questions about the topics written.

In our winter newsletter:

- Dr. Zaidi writes about our newest Wet AMD treatment, Beovu.
- A new FDA-approved AcrySof® IQ PanOptix® Trifocal IOL is available in the U.S.

### What is PanOptix®?

PanOptix is a new lens clinically shown to deliver an exceptional combination of near, intermediate, and distance vision while significantly reducing the need for glasses after surgery. In addition, the center of the AcrySof IQ PanOptix Trifocal IOL allows for better near (reading) vision and intermediate (computer work) vision.

### How Does PanOptix Work?

The reason why the center of the lens allows for better near and intermediate vision is due to the ENLIGHTEN technology. The ENLIGHTEN (ENhanced LIGHT ENergy) Optical Technology provides an exceptionally high light utilization (88%) and less pupil dependence than previous generations of multifocal IOLs. This design allows a smoother transition for a continuous range of vision which optimizes intermediate vision without compromising near and far distance. Alcon created this patented technology as a solution to improve the limitations of traditional IOLs, which typically has a compromised intermediate focal point that many patients find uncomfortable.



Both Dr. Danny Lin and Dr. Scott So have implanted the new trifocal lens in their patients and the results have been positive. Patients will get the full benefit of the PanOptix Trifocal IOL when it is placed in both eyes. PanOptix offers an excellent intermediate vision range and is designed to improve vision after cataract surgery for today's active lifestyles, from viewing mobile devices to high-quality distance vision in a range of lighting conditions.



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## NEW DRUG APPROVED FOR WET AMD!



Coming to the office every 1–2 months may be difficult for elderly patients with AMD. We hope that with Beovu, many of our patients will only need to come in every 3 months. The drug is priced similar to the other FDA–approved medications, Lucentis® and Eylea, so there may be cost savings to using Beovu. This medication is also being studied for diabetic macular edema. We look forward to seeing the results of those studies. In the meantime, Beovu is available now for our wet AMD patients and we look forward to having another tool in the fight against this disease.

We are excited to offer our patients a new treatment for wet age–related macular degeneration (AMD). Last month, the FDA approved Beovu® (brolucizumab) which is a new anti–vascular endothelial growth factor (anti–VEGF) antibody that may require few injections than the existing medications already on the market. This is the first new drug approved since 2011 and the retina community has been looking forward to a new treatment option for our patients.

In phase 3 randomized controlled clinical trials, patients with wet AMD were divided into 2 groups: the Beovu group or the Eylea® group. Patients in the Eylea group were given injections every 2 months; patients in the Beovu group were given injections monthly for 3 months, then injections only every 3 months. At the end of 1 year, best corrected visual acuity was equivalent in both groups, with the Beovu group receiving fewer injections. About 50% of the patients in the study were able to receive Beovu every 3 months with complete control of their wet AMD. For the other 50% of patients, Beovu injections were required every 2 months. No new adverse effects were seen in the study; patients in both the Eylea and Beovu group tolerated the medications well without any serious adverse effects.

The hope with this new medication is to maintain disease control with fewer injections.



**Ali A. Zaidi M.D.**

completed his ophthalmology residency and vitreoretinal surgery fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. He earned his medical degree from UCSF, after graduating with honors from Stanford.

Dr. Zaidi offers specialty and surgical care in macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, macular holes, and retinal detachments.