Managing retinal dystrophies

Tuesday 22 May 2018 11.00 – 13.00

Chaired by Mr Andrew Webster, Professor of Molecular Ophthalmology, UCL & Consultant Ophthalmologist, Moorfields Eye Hospital & Mr Omar Mahroo, St Thomas’ Hospital and King’s College London

Retinal dystrophies, although individually rare, cumulatively remain a significant cause of untreated blindness in working-age adults in the UK. In this session, experts in the field discuss how recent advances in genomic medicine, clinical investigation and assistive technology are allowing ophthalmologists to improve the management of patients and families. We emphasise the practical aspects of management possible at the present time. Also, with a recent clinical endorsement of a gene-therapy for one rare type of dystrophy, there is more optimism than ever that preventative treatments will impact management in the future and we will discuss the current trials in this area.

11.00 – 11.20  Gene therapy for inherited retinal disease – RPE65 a paradigm?
Dr Stephen Russell, University of Iowa USA

11.20 – 11.40  Managing Inherited retinal disease in children
Professor Michel Michaelides, University College London and Moorfields Eye Hospital

11.40 – 12.00  Genetic testing for inherited retinal disease
Mr Andrew Webster

12.00 – 12.20  Counselling patients and families
Miss Georgina Hall, Central Manchester NHS Foundation Trust

12.20 – 12.40  Electrophysiology – when to request and what it means.
Mr Omar Mahroo, King’s College and St Thomas’s Hospital

12.40 – 13.00  How assistive technology is transforming low vision management
Dr Michael Crossland, University College London and Moorfields Eye Hospital