



Monday 18 May 11.30 – 13.00 Rb-NET: the impact of the largest global health collaboration

This session will showcase the retinoblastoma Rb-NET Global Research Collaboration, the largest global partnership in health research for any single disease, and a first-time feature at the Congress. Focusing on retinoblastoma (Rb), the most common eye cancer in children, the session will explore how coordinated global action can improve early diagnosis, treatment, survival, and vision outcomes—especially in low- and middle-income countries.

Delegates will gain practical insights into building international collaborations that drive both research and service strengthening. Experts will present diverse perspectives from global regions—including landmark studies, the success of capacity-building models like the Rb-MDT Programme, and national journeys in Kenya and Nigeria. Key innovations in early detection and treatment will be discussed alongside challenges in service delivery.

This is a unique opportunity to learn how global partnerships can save lives and sight through evidence-led policy, shared learning, and collaborative innovation—offering valuable lessons for ophthalmology more broadly.

Chaired by Mandeep Sagoo and Richard Bowman

11.30 – 11.40 Overview of global Rb epidemiology and need (regional differences), Swathi Kaliki

11.40 – 11.55 Rb-NET: example of global partnerships in health and its impact through the Global Rb Studies, Ido Didi Fabian

11.55 – 12.05 Kenya's journey in Rb and the impact of Rb services strengthening in vision and survival outcomes, Lucy Njambi

12.05 – 12.15 Strategies for early identification of children with Rb, Ashwin Reddy

12.15 – 12.25 Current treatment standards for Rb and horizon scanning of new innovations in the area, Manoj Parulekar

12.25 – 12.35 Challenges and solutions in delivering effective coverage of Rb services in Nigeria, Dupe Popola



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12.35 – 12.55 Rb-NET MDT Programme: a global capacity strengthening intervention to share expertise on Rb and improve management outcomes, Petra Ketteler