

ARPA-H Program Aims to Restore Vision Through Whole Eye Transplantation

Calvin Roberts, MD, announces ophthalmology's moonshot at Hawaiian Eye and Retina 2024 meetings.

THOROFARE, NJ, USA, January 25, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The time is now to bring together ophthalmology's best researchers and leverage genetics, cell-based therapy and emerging microsurgical techniques to restore blindness through whole eye transplantation, according to Calvin Roberts, MD.

Roberts announced the launch of the Transplantation of Human Eye Allografts (THEA) program at [Hawaiian Eye and Retina 2024](#). THEA, an Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) initiative, will aim to restore vision in patients who are blind or visually impaired by reconnecting the nerves, muscles and blood vessels of whole donor eyes to the brain.

The research done at THEA will be a critical step toward successfully restoring vision through whole eye transplantation. "With THEA, we aim to revolutionize the reconnection of nerves to the brain and make these advancements accessible in the United States and around the globe, with the ambition to offer an alternative to lifelong blindness," said Roberts, THEA program manager, in an ARPA-H press release.

"THEA is ophthalmology's moonshot and Dr. Roberts' presentation to the Hawaiian Eye and Retina audience is a call to arms to his fellow ophthalmologists," said Joan-Marie Stiglich, Healio Chief Content Officer.

The program will focus on three key areas of research: retrieval and preservation of donor eyes; optic nerve repair and regeneration; and surgical techniques, immunology, and postoperative monitoring. Roberts invites ophthalmologists who are interested in joining the project to visit [ARPA-H.gov](#) for more information. "There's a lot to be done," he said. "We are looking to find performers – people who can do this work. Come be a part of our team."

The annual Hawaiian Eye and Retina meeting kicks off the year for eye care professionals and brings innovations and new projects to the forefront.

"The Hawaiian Eye meeting continues to lead the new year with valuable education and breaking news in the field of ophthalmology. We stand in full support of THEA and are excited for what the

team will accomplish,” said Matt Holland, Healio Chief Operating Officer.

Additional information can be found on [Healio | Ocular Surgery News](#), who reported on THEA on Jan. 11 and Jan. 13.

###

About Calvin Roberts

Calvin W. Roberts, MD, is President and Chief Executive Officer of Lighthouse Guild, the leading organization dedicated to providing exceptional services that inspire people who are visually impaired to attain their goals. Dr. Roberts is Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at Weil Cornell Medical College and former Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, Eye Care, at Bausch Health Companies.

About Healio

Healio is a multichannel information platform, providing health care specialists with tailored news, information and education in support of their daily practice of medicine. Healio’s core News, CME and Clinical Guidance channels deliver practical information and education across 21+ specialties. For more information, visit [Healio.com](#).

About Healio LIVE

Healio LIVE organizes live continuing education meetings for health care specialists, delivering unique experiences through quality information, perspective on new data and face-to-face interaction with leading experts and peers. For more information, visit [HealioLive.com](#).

Lee Gaymon

Healio

+1 856-994-9900 ext. 356

lgaymon@healio.com

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/683806606>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2024 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.