

Tuesday, December 23, 2008

The Eye Research Institute Looks for Ways to Prevent Cataracts

Frank Giblin, director of the **Eye Research Institute**, published a paper titled **Measurement of Lens Protein Aggregation in Vivo Using Dynamic Light Scattering in a Guinea Pig/UVA Model for Nuclear Cataract** in the November-December 2008 issue of **Photochemistry and Photobiology** (Volume 84, Pages 1589-1595). This paper has a particularly clear and compelling introduction, which is reproduced below:

"Cataract, an opacity of the lens of the eye, is the most frequent cause of vision loss in people, accounting for approximately 50% of all blindness worldwide. Nuclear cataract, an opacification in the center of the lens, is the most common type in older adults, and the type most likely to require surgery. In the United States, an episode of cataract surgery costs around \$2600. With more than 1.35 million cataract operations performed annually, this equates to a total cost of more than \$3.4 billion nationwide. Finding a means of delaying or preventing maturity-onset human cataract is a major goal of lens and cataract research."

Giblin's OU coauthors include **Victor Leverenz** and lead author Francis Simpanya, a research associate who received his undergraduate degree from the University of Zambia and his PhD in Microbiology from Massey University in New Zealand. This research was supported in part by grants to Giblin from the **National Institutes of Health**.

SUMMARY

Frank Giblin, director of the Eye Research Institute, published a paper titled Measurement of Lens Protein Aggregation in Vivo Using Dynamic Light Scattering in a Guinea Pig/UVA Model for Nuclear Cataract in the November-December 2008 issue of Photochemistry and Photobiology (Volume 84, Pages 1589-1595).

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