



*Gonioscopy in aphakia*

*Pyramidal cataract on UBM*

*Neonatal corneal opacities*

*"Foveal Cavitation" on SD-OCT  
in early cone dystrophy*

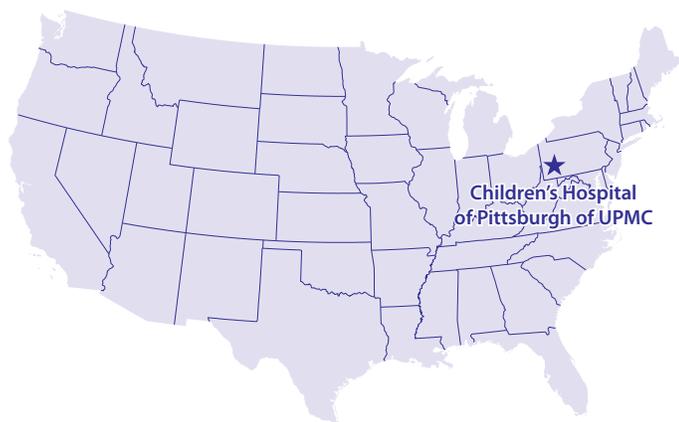
We have a vision for world-class,  
integrated pediatric ophthalmology care.

**Division of Pediatric Ophthalmology, Strabismus, and Adult Motility  
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, part of the UPMC Eye Center**



# About Children's Hospital

Renowned for its outstanding clinical services, research programs, and medical education, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC has helped establish the standards of excellence in pediatric care since its founding 125 years ago. From pediatric organ transplantation to cardiac care and the neurosciences, talented and committed pediatric experts care for infants, children, adolescents, and young adults who make more than one million visits to Children's, its many neighborhood locations, and network of pediatrician offices each year.



## RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC is consistently honored as a leader in the care of children across the United States.

### Recent achievements include:

- 8** Ranked eighth in the *U.S. News & World Report* 2015-2016 Honor Roll of America's "Best Children's Hospitals."
- 7** Ranked seventh in number of grants from the NIH for fiscal year 2014 for pediatric research programs at Children's Hospital and the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.
- 1** The first pediatric hospital in the country to achieve Stage 7 recognition — the highest level attainable — from HIMSS Analytics for its electronic medical record.
- 1** Recognized by KLAS, an independent health care research organization, as the number one pediatric hospital in the nation in its use of health care information technology.
- 6%** Achieved Magnet Recognition® status from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). Children's is among only 6 percent of hospitals nationwide to have achieved this prestigious status.

## PERPETUAL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH MOTION

As major leaps in pediatric health care begin with small steps in the laboratory, Children's has an exceptional team of dedicated researchers equipped with the most advanced tools, allowing them to investigate the origins of disease at the molecular level.

At Children's Hospital's John G. Rangos Sr. Research Center, nearly 390 active protocols are being pursued by more than 125 principal investigators in 63 separate laboratories.



### Significant current programs include:

- developmental biology
- gene and cellular therapy
- infection and immunity research
- inflammatory diseases
- inherited metabolic disorders
- novel strategies for treating pediatric cancer
- stem cell biology/regenerative medicine
- pediatric corneal and ocular surface disease
- Center for Rare Disease Therapy

## DIVISION OF PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY, STRABISMUS, AND ADULT MOTILITY

The Division of Pediatric Ophthalmology, as part of the UPMC Eye Center, is a leader in the examination, diagnosis, and medical and surgical treatment of ocular, eye movement, and vision system disorders in neonates, infants, and children. A comprehensive center for the treatment of visually impaired children, we provide developmental health and educational support for day-to-day care of patients.

Conditions for which patients are referred include common eye disorders in healthy children and children with systemic disorders, e.g. strabismus, amblyopia, and refractive errors; tertiary and quaternary eye disorders, e.g. nystagmus, pediatric cataract, cornea, and glaucoma; complex multi-system disorders with ocular involvement, e.g. metabolic, mitochondrial, neuro-ophthalmic, and immune.

Our Division Chief, Kanwal "Ken" Nischal, MD, FRCOphth, left Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London, England in late 2011 galvanized by the spirit of innovation

and research at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC and the UPMC Eye Center.

Professor Nischal is a passionate advocate for, and a practitioner of, evidence-based protocol-driven clinical care. His research has contributed to the establishment of new standards of care for conditions across the spectrum of pediatric ophthalmology, especially anterior segment and craniofacial.

While all the attendings are general pediatric ophthalmologists, they each have a niche expertise: Ellen Mitchell, pediatric neuro-ophthalmology; Lea Ann Lope, adult strabismus and complex pediatric strabismus; Sara Otaibi, medical and surgical management of nystagmus; Christin Sylvester, ROP and medical retina; and Craig Luchansky, pediatric contact lens. Multidisciplinary care with neurology, genetics, metabolic medicine, endocrinology, neurosurgery, and craniofacial has allowed development of novel patient treatment pathways.

### INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP IN STRABISMUS AND PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY

We offer an AAPOS-approved fellowship and have added a second approved fellowship which is open to international candidates for a hands-on teaching and training experience at our center of excellence.

Children's Pediatric Ophthalmology is a recognized International Council of Ophthalmology center for international observerships.

### UPMC EYE CENTER

The UPMC Eye Center is rated among the top 10 ophthalmology programs in the United States in the delivery of patient care by *Ophthalmology Times*.



*Pictured above, Division of Pediatric Ophthalmology, Strabismus, and Adult Motility*

As members of the University of Pittsburgh Department of Ophthalmology, UPMC Eye Center physicians are also leaders in

research and education, and are extensively trained in the use of state-of-the-art ophthalmic technologies and procedures. We have an outstanding teaching program and train six residents and five clinical fellows each year who then pursue clinical, research, and clinician-scientist careers. We train numerous graduate and postdoctoral students and research fellows from the United States and abroad.

### OPHTHALMOLOGY TELEMEDICINE SERVICES

For patients located across the globe, UPMC's Teleophthalmology Program brings world-class ophthalmologists to hospitals and emergency care. The UPMC Department of Ophthalmology uses real-time image transmission and video display to provide remote:

- Ophthalmic consultations
- Test interpretation capabilities
- Screenings for diabetic retinopathy
- Screening for ROP

In addition to real-time ophthalmic services, UPMC specialists have offered remote screening via telemedicine.

### INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

**For Pediatric Patients Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC's PassportCare program** combines clinical excellence, exceptional healing-friendly new facilities, and concierge services to help patients and families feel at home during their stay with us. Our International Services team is waiting to assist you, including physicians, patients, health ministries and embassies around the world. Our liaisons are available to respond to questions by phone and email within three business days. **To find out how Children's Passport Care services can be of value to you, visit [www.chp.edu/passportcare](http://www.chp.edu/passportcare) or call: +1-412-692-3000 or email: [international@chp.edu](mailto:international@chp.edu).**

**For Adult Patients UPMC Global Care:** For physicians, patients, health ministries, and embassies around the world, UPMC Global Care delivers integrated health care services to adults. Our network of expert clinicians, researchers, and specialists collaborate with international partners to provide leading-edge care. The latest telemedicine technologies allow our team to offer physician-to-physician consultations and more. **To find out how UPMC Global Care services can be of value to you, visit [UPMCGlobalCare.com](http://UPMCGlobalCare.com) or call: +1-412-688-8762 (United States).**

# Meet the Pediatric Ophthalmology Team



**Ken K. Nischal, MD, FRCOphth**  
 Chief, Division of Pediatric  
 Ophthalmology, Strabismus, and  
 Adult Motility  
 Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh  
 of UPMC  
 Director, Pediatric Program  
 Development  
 UPMC Eye Center

## Faculty



**Lea Ann Lope, DO**



**Ellen Mitchell, MD**



**Christin L. Sylvester, DO**



**Sara Otaibi, DO**

## Pediatric Optometry Contact Lens & Low Vision



**Craig A. Luchansky, OD**

## Visual Electrophysiologist



**Valeria Fu, PhD**

## Molecular Biologist



**Bharesh Chauhan, PhD**

## Ophthalmic Genetic & Low Vision Counselor



**Hannah Scanga, MS, CGC**



**Rachael Monaghan, MS, MPH, CGC**

## Research Coordinator



**Lauren Bolling, MA**

## Director of Operations



**Tess Newton, BS, MPM**

## Medical Photographer



**Vesna Jurisic Friberg**

## Orthoptists



**Eve Lacey, BMedSci**



**Kaajal Nanda, BMedSci**

## Ophthalmology Clinic Coordinator

**Bianca Blaha, Children's Main Campus**  
**Roxanne Caterino, Children's Pine Center**

## Support Staff

**Melissa Brinza**  
**Heather Chirdon**  
**Whitney Churchfield**  
**Christine Fulwylie**  
**Jamie Gibson**  
**Amanda Johnson**  
**Lora Kalwarski**  
**Patti Larison**  
**Melissa Lipner**  
**Beckie Pomycala**  
**Amy Zygello**

## OPTICAL SHOP

**Latoya Maiden, Children's Main Campus**  
**Sarah Shaw, Children's Pine Center**

## Contact Us

### Routine Office Visits:

412-692-8940, Option 1

### Urgent Requests:

412-692-8940, Option 2

### Emergencies:

- 412-864-9432: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 412-692-5325: 4 p.m. to 8 a.m.  
(On-Call Physician)

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