

**BENJAMIN C. CHAON, M.D.**

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**Experience:**

**Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology**

**2018-Present**

Division of Ocular Immunology & Uveitis  
Wilmer Eye Institute – The Johns Hopkins University

- Responsible for the clinical care of adult and pediatric patients referred for evaluation of complex ocular inflammatory and retinal diseases.
- Provide education and training to medical students, ophthalmology residents, and clinical fellows.
- Contribute to the research mission of the division by leading and participating in clinical and translational research studies.

**Clinical Fellow – Uveitis & Medical Retina**

**2017-2018**

National Eye Institute – National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

- Responsible for clinical care of adult and pediatric patients referred to NEI with complex ocular inflammatory and retinal diseases.
- Serve as associate investigator in multiple ongoing NIH-supported clinical research trials.
- Design and analyze clinical and translational studies to better elucidate immune mechanisms underlying ocular inflammatory disease and identify novel treatment approaches.

**Resident Physician - Ophthalmology**

**2014 - 2017**

Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Neurosciences, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN  
Member, Program Evaluation Committee

Research & Quality Improvement Projects:

- ARGUS II Retinal Implant Audible Patient Education Materials (Faculty Advisor: Sandra R. Montezuma, MD).
- Comparison of Central and Peripheral Descemet's Membrane Thickness in Human Donor Corneas (Faculty Advisor: Joshua H. Hou, MD).
- Determination of Signal Strength/Quality Index Thresholds for the Interpretation of Retinal Nerve Fiber Layer and Macular Spectral-Domain Optical Coherence Tomography in Normal Individuals (Faculty Advisor: Mike S. Lee, MD).

**Resident Physician - Transitional Year**

**2013 – 2014**

Iowa Methodist Medical Center, Des Moines, IA

**Howard Hughes Medical Institute – National Institutes of Health Research Scholar**

**2011 - 2012**

National Eye Institute, Bethesda, MD  
Laboratory of Immunology – Immunoregulation Section, Rachel Caspi, Ph.D.

- Studied the role of Interleukin-17A in a novel, spontaneous model of autoimmune uveitis elicited by retina-specific T-cells.

**Post-Baccalaureate Fellow**

**2007 – 2008**

Vaccine Research Center, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Bethesda, MD  
Laboratory of Immunology, Richard Koup, M.D.

- Identified novel aspects of cellular immune response to HIV by assessing role of co-stimulatory molecules (PD-1 and PD-L1) in regulating T-cell immune responses.

## Education:

- Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA** **2008 – 2013**  
Doctor of Medicine  
Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society
- University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN** **2004 – 2007**  
Bachelor of Science, Biological Sciences

## Publications/Presentations:

### Peer-reviewed publications:

- Strampe M.R., Eldweik, L., **Chaon, B.C.**, Maki, S., Wieland, T., Satija, C., McClelland, C, and Lee, M.S., (2020) Retinal Nerve Fibre Layer Thickness Increases with Decreasing Spectralis OCT Signal Strength in Normal Eyes, *Neuro-Ophthalmology*, 44:2, 100-103, DOI: 10.1080/01658107.2019.1653934
- Lieberman P, Berkenstock MK, Burkholder BM, **Chaon BC**, Thorne JE. "Escalation to Weekly Adalimumab for the Treatment of Ocular Inflammation". *Ocul Immunol Inflamm* (in press)
- Sohn, E.H., **Chaon, B.C.**, Jabs, D.A., Folk, J.C. Peripheral Cryoablation for Treatment of Active Pars Planitis: Long Term Outcomes of a Retrospective Study. *American Journal of Ophthalmology*, 2016 Feb, 162:35-42.
- Chaon, B.C.**, McClelland, C.M. Morning Rounds: Flipping the Switch on Diplopia. *EyeNet Magazine*, April 2016.
- Chaon, B.C.**, Lee, M.S. Is There Treatment for Traumatic Optic Neuropathy? *Current Opinion in Ophthalmology*, 2015 Nov, 26(6):445-9.
- Petrovas, C., **Chaon, B.C.**, Ambrozak, D.R., Price, D.A., Melenhorst, J.J., Hill, B.J., Geldmacher, C., Casazza, J.P., Chattopadhyay, P.K., Roederer, M., Douek, D.C., Mueller, Y.M., Jacobson, J.M., Kulkarni, V., Felber, B.K., Pavlakis, G.N., Katsikis, P.D., Koup, R.A. Differential Association of Programmed Death-1 and CD57 with Ex Vivo Survival of CD8+ T Cells in HIV Infection. *Journal of Immunology*, 2009 Jul 15, 183(2):1120-32.
- Yoon, H.S., Grant, J., Tekle, Y.I., Wu, M., **Chaon, B.C.**, Cole, J.C., Logsdon, J.M., Jr., Patterson, D.J., Bhattacharya, D., Katz, L.A. Broadly Sampled Multigene Trees of Eukaryotes. *BMC Evolutionary Biology*, 2008 Jan, 8:14.

### Presentations:

- Chaon, B.C.**, Thompson, I.A., Gangaputra, S., Kodati, S., Okeagu C., Sen H.N. Full-field Electroretinographic Changes Among Uveitis Patients with Persistent Fluorescein Angiographic Retinal Vascular Leakage. ARVO 2018 Annual Meeting (Poster Presentation May 2, 2018)
- Chaon, B.C.**, Eldweik L, Lee MS. Effects of Spectral-Domain Optical Coherence Tomography Image Quality Degradation on Retinal Nerve Fiber Layer and Macular Thickness Measurements in Normal Individuals. ARVO 2017 Annual Meeting (Poster Presentation, May 8, 2017).
- Chaon, B.C.**, Maltry, A.C., Hou, J.H. Comparison of Central and Peripheral Descemet's Membrane Thickness in Human Donor Corneas. ARVO 2016 Annual Meeting (Poster Presentation, May 4, 2016).
- Chaon, B.C.**, Horai, R., Chen, J., Zárate-Bladés, C., Villasmil, R., Chan, C.C., Caspi, R.R. The Role of Interleukin-17A in a Spontaneous Model of Autoimmune Uveitis Elicited by Retina-Specific T Cells. ARVO 2012 Annual Meeting (Abstract with Invited Oral Presentation, May 10, 2012).
- Chaon, B.C.**, Yamamoto, T., Ambrozak, D.R., Casazza, J.P., Roederer, M., Petrovas, C., Koup, R.A. Simultaneous Ex Vivo Expression of the PD-1/PD-L1 Axis, a Potential Mediator of T-T Cell Interactions, Characterizes HIV-Specific CD4+ T Cells. 2010 Keystone Symposia: HIV Pathogenesis (Abstract with Invited Oral Presentation).

**Awards and Honors:**

- 2018 Knights Templar Eye Foundation (US) Travel Grant Recipient – ARVO 2018 annual meeting
- 2016 Vitreoretinal Surgery Foundation (VRSF) Research Grant Recipient
- 2016 Harry Plotke Award, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Neurosciences, University of Minnesota (*Presented to outstanding 2<sup>nd</sup> year ophthalmology resident, determined by secret vote of all faculty and staff*).
- 2016 Grant Recipient, Center for Applied Translational and Sensory Science, University of Minnesota.
- 2013 Health Professions Scholarship, State of Iowa.
- 2007 Outstanding Senior Biological Scientist, University of Notre Dame.
- 2006 Braco Award for Outstanding Research and Presentation in Molecular Cell Biology Research, University of Notre Dame.
- 2005 National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates Fellowship, Center for Comparative Genomics, University of Iowa.

**Professional Licensure/Memberships:**

- Maryland State Medical License (Active)
- Board Certified - American Board of Ophthalmology (certified June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019)
- American Academy of Ophthalmology
- American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
- American Uveitis Society
- Guest Reviewer American Journal of Ophthalmology Case Reports & American Journal of Ophthalmology