



## **CORE Publication Helps Eye Care Professionals Prepare for a New Wave of Dry Eye Disease Medications**

Recently Approved and Promising Pharmacological Treatments  
Spotlighted in *Contact Lens Update* Issue 77

**WATERLOO, Ontario, April 17, 2024**—In response to accelerating clinical interest about new, innovative treatments for dry eye disease, [the Centre for Ocular Research & Education \(CORE\)](#) has dedicated Issue 77 of *Contact Lens Update* to several recent introductions and promising pipeline developments. The publication is available at no charge by visiting [ContactLensUpdate.com](http://ContactLensUpdate.com).

“Dry eye disease affects millions of people across the world and can have a significant impact on their lives. Our growing understanding of this complex condition has led to the development of multiple new medications—both approved for sale and undergoing trials—that we believe have important clinical potential,” said Alex Hui, Head of Biosciences at CORE.

“In primary eye care settings, dry eye is encountered daily. These additional treatments, targeting different aspects of the disease, will offer practitioners more options to incorporate into their prescribing arsenal and help patients better manage the condition.”

Hui, who is also an *adjunct associate professor at the School of Optometry and Vision Science, UNSW Sydney*, shares his expertise in the issue’s [editorial](#). His overview covers recently approved treatments such as a short-term corticosteroid to treat acute periods of worsened dry eye, a preservative-free ophthalmic solution that slows tear evaporation, and investigational products that either target inflammation or stimulate receptors on the ocular surface to increase the production of tears.

The [feature article](#) is authored by Etty Bitton, a professor and director of the Externship Program and Dry Eye Clinic, School of Optometry, University of Montreal. She summarizes the findings of a systematic review and meta-analysis that investigated the efficacy and safety of a novel nasal spray to manage dry eye. Her article provides an overview of how different doses can impact signs of dry eye and reviews observed ocular and non-ocular adverse events.

Quillan M. Austria, an ophthalmology resident at Weill Cornell Medical Center, New York Presbyterian Hospital, and Christopher Starr, an associate professor of ophthalmology and director of ophthalmic education at Weill Cornell Medical Center, co-author the issue’s [clinical insight column](#). The case report details a patient’s experience with dry eye and management with a recently approved ophthalmic solution to treat Demodex blepharitis.

The [conference highlight](#) is contributed by Alison Ng, a Lead Clinical Scientist at CORE, *University of Waterloo*. The abstract summarizes a presentation from the American Academy of Optometry 2023 annual meeting, detailing a phase two clinical trial that investigated the use of a new topical ointment to treat meibomian gland dysfunction. The work details changes in signs and symptoms over a three-month period of use.

Published six times per year, [Contact Lens Update](#) provides a global platform for unbiased clinical insights based in current research. Since 2011, each issue has provided dependable and up-to-date ocular health information for more than 60,000 leading eye care professionals.

In addition to a complete [archive of back issues](#), [ContactLensUpdate.com](#) offers a [resource library](#) that provides no-cost professional tools, patient resources, images and video. It also houses [complimentary technical training videos](#) produced by International Association of Contact Lens Educators, plus an industry glossary. Industry professionals can access the latest issue directly from [ContactLensUpdate.com](#) or [quickly sign up for email receipt](#) of future issues.

The publication receives support from the educational arms of [Alcon](#), [CooperVision](#), and [Johnson & Johnson Vision](#).

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#### About the Centre for Ocular Research & Education (CORE)

The [Centre for Ocular Research & Education \(CORE\)](#) was established in 1988 at the University of Waterloo's [School of Optometry & Vision Science](#). Over the next three decades, the organization evolved from a three-person operation into a thriving hub of basic and applied research, collaborating with sponsors, agencies and academia on advanced biosciences, clinical research and education. Its uncompromising independence and results of the highest quality have been at the heart of many of the most prominent advances in eye health. Today, its approximately [50-person team](#) serves a range of ophthalmic sectors, including medical devices, ocular pharmaceuticals, digital technology and others, with a focus on the anterior segment. For more information, please visit [core.uwaterloo.ca](#).

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Clockwise from top left: Alex Hui, Etty Bitton, Quillan M. Austria, Christopher Starr, and Alison Ng.

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