



**AMERICAN ACADEMY**  
*of* **OPTOMETRY**

**For Immediate Release**

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**American Academy of Optometry Recognized as a Cochrane Eyes and Vision (CEV)  
Center for Evidence-based Vision Care**

Winter Park, FL (November 21, 2024) – The American Academy of Optometry was recognized as a Cochrane Eyes and Vision (CEV) Center for Evidence-based Vision Care during Academy 2024 Indianapolis, November 6-9, 2024.

CEV Centers for Evidence-based Vision Care demonstrate their commitment to evidence-based medicine by building a critical mass of highly skilled investigators who publish Cochrane systematic reviews. Their contributions to research and finding out what treatments work best in patient care are a model for clinical sites worldwide. CEV Centers for Evidence-based Medicine are critical for assembling a portfolio of up-to-date systematic reviews that inform eye care by making the reviews publicly available to patients, clinicians, and other decision-makers.

"The Academy is honored to be recognized as a CEV Center for Evidence-based Vision Care. This designation underscores our commitment to advancing eye care through rigorous research and collaboration," said Dr. Susan Cotter, Immediate Past President of the American Academy of Optometry. "Through the CEV@US program, our Fellows are shaping the future of evidence-based eye care, ensuring that clinical decisions are grounded in the best available science for the benefit of patients worldwide."

This designation was announced on Thursday, November 7, during the symposium, "Eyes on Evidence: Six Reviews from the Academy & Cochrane Collaboration." Kicked off with an introduction and special remarks by Michael Chiang, MD, Director of the National Eye Institute (NEI), this symposium explored systematic reviews generated through the CEV US Project (CEV@US), sharing the latest evidence-based synthesis of vision research on critical topics in optometry.

CEV@US, founded by the National Eye Institute, is Cochrane's division dedicated to eye and vision care. Its mission is to advance evidence-based eye care through rigorous

systematic reviews addressing critical clinical questions in eye health and visual function. With a portfolio of up-to-date reviews from a network of expert contributors, CEV@US ensures that the most relevant evidence is available to improve and inform vision care.

38 Fellows of the American Academy of Optometry were divided into six writing groups and tasked with developing a specific systematic review under the guidance of Academy and CEV@US mentors, leading to the publication of two review manuscripts and four more pending peer review and expected to be published by the end of 2024. The Cochrane review topics and “Eyes on Evidence” symposium presenters were:

- Ocular motor disorders in children and adults with mild traumatic brain injury (Angela Chen, OD, MS, FAAO, Dipl AAO)
- Lubricating drops for contact lens discomfort in adults (Barbara Caffery, OD, PhD, FAAO, Dipl AAO)
- Multifaceted behavioral interventions to improve treatment adherence of glaucoma (Zanna Kruoch, OD, FAAO, Dipl AAO)
- Self-management interventions for quality of life in adults with visual impairment (Alexis Malkin, OD, FAAO)
- Interventions for improving adherence to amblyopia treatment in children (Deborah Lee Chen, OD, MPH, FAAO)
- Safety of contact lenses in correcting refractive error in the pediatric population (Heidi Wagner, OD, MPH, FAAO, Dipl AAO)

A new cohort of 64 Fellows of the American Academy of Optometry began their training during Academy 2024 Indianapolis, continuing the AAO/CEV@US collaboration to shape the future of evidence-based eye care.

### **About the American Academy of Optometry**

The American Academy of Optometry inspires excellence in eye care by fostering research and disseminating knowledge in vision science through its journals, *Optometry and Vision Science* and *Clinical Insights in Eyecare*, and the continuing education presented at its annual meeting. Fellows of the Academy are committed to the premise that learning is a lifelong obligation of a professional, as is the commitment to expand the profession’s knowledge base through ongoing fellowship and exchange. For more information, visit [www.aaopt.org](http://www.aaopt.org).

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