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The Optometric Glaucoma Society would like to congratulate the National Eye Institute (NEI) on its 40th anniversary. During its illustrious tenure, the research nurtured by the NEI has led to significant advances in vision care. The leadership and vision of the NEI has, in the area of glaucoma, allowed us to better understand the natural history of glaucoma and its risk factors. For example, the Ocular Hypertension Treatment Study (OHTS) was instrumental in alerting clinicians to the risk of elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) and its association with central corneal thickness (CCT). Before this study, clinicians were unaware of the relationship between corneal thickness and IOP. Studies funded by the NEI have also allowed us to better understand the role of filtration surgery in managing glaucoma, the role of argon laser trabeculoplasty in the early treatment of glaucoma, and even if therapy for glaucoma is indicated. While some of the studies' answers may appear to be obvious on the surface, it is the painstakingly collection of data to substantiate clinical best practices that has made the NEI an invaluable resource to all individuals.

On behalf of the Optometric Glaucoma Society, we congratulate the NEI on its first 40 years and look forward to seeing further achievements over the next 40.

John Flanagan, MCOptom, PhD President
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