

06/20  
07/20

Central  
California  
Optometric  
Society

## VISIONOTES & QUOTES

the latest news for the Central Valley's optometric professionals

### FEATURED STORIES

*President's Message from Dr. Chris Fisher*

*Communications Message*

*Upcoming Virtual Events*



JUNE/JULY 2020

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# CCOS President's Message

COVID remains a challenge for all of us. Please continue PPE use in your offices along with social distancing guidelines. We have a responsibility to keep staff, patients, and ourselves healthy during this pandemic. Fresno county cases continue to rise. Fresno Community Hospital is maintaining at about 85% capacity. It has converted all its ICUs into COVID only. Other ICU patients have been sent to Children's, Fresno Heart, and Saint Agnes. If the hospital becomes overwhelmed its possible, they could shut down routine eye care again. If we continue to follow CDC guidelines it is unlikely, they will take that step of the chance of transmission in our offices would be extremely low.

VSP is making additional changes that affect many of us. They are creating preferred and non-preferred categories of lenses and coatings. Rather than allowing patients to pay more for non-preferred lenses they are decreasing office reimbursement by half for non-preferred items. Our COA board of trustees met with VSP executives about these changes. Unfortunately, VSP seemed only willing to discuss why they were instituting these changes. They were not willing to consider altering the plan. Let VSP know your displeasure for targeting our independence as providers. This change is not good for patient choice or doctor independence. Let VSP know in as many ways as possible opposing this move.

We are losing one of our members. Kim Vuong has moved to Atlanta Georgia. She served as one of our CCOS board of trustees for the past few years and was a member of the Vision Center for the Blind Board of Trustees. She will continue as one of our board members virtually until her membership gets transferred. There will be big shoes to fill to replace her at VCB. I just wanted to publicly say thank you for your service to all of us here in the Central Valley. We wish you well on your new adventures.

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I have the privilege of seeing many teachers in my practice. It has been interesting discussing with them the changes they have to make as they prepare for Distance Learning this fall with students. This is not what they signed up for. However, they are pulling together and working hard to create solutions and make remote classrooms provide the best learning experience they can. In many ways COVID has done this for all our practices as well. We did not sign up for optometry in the middle of a pandemic. We did not sign up for wearing masks for 8hrs a day. OR any of the other precautions we take. However, this is an opportunity to partner with the rest of the medical community. Do not relax your standards. The development of vaccines is moving forward and is currently our best hope of beating this disease. But the scientists doing this research and development continue to need time to complete the studies and review the science to make sure they have the best possible vaccines. Hang in there.

As always, let me know if there is anything that either I or CCOS can do for you. If I do not know about your challenges I cannot help with resources or troubleshooting or just an ear to listen.

Thank you,

Chris Fisher OD  
CCOS President  
drfisher@signatureoptometry.com  
559-593-1965 call or text

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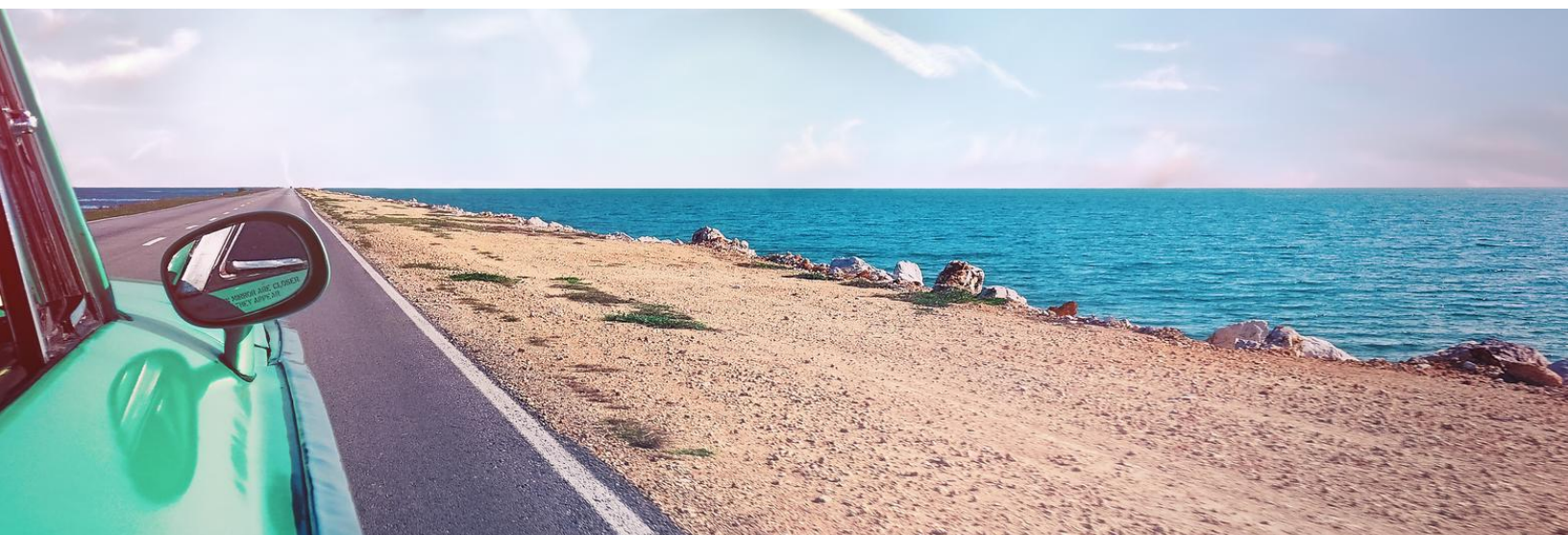
# COMMUNICATIONS MESSAGE

Hello CCOS,

A lot of people are back to routine care again. It took a little bit of getting used to the new cleaning routine and constant use of masks and face shields. I don't know about you, but it's been a pain with the masks fogging up the lenses in the exam room.

I hope you all enjoyed the CCOS virtual CEs so far. Due to the success of these events, we'll be bringing you more virtual CEs for the rest of the year while social distancing is still in effect. Our next CE will be on August 12 featuring Dr. Heather Moss, MD. As always, CCOS events are free for CCOS members. Please register on our website at: <https://www.ccosociety.org/local-ccos-events>. Hope to see you all there!

Diane Lee Ramirez, OD  
Communications Chair



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# **COA members get 30 minutes of free legal consultation**

WILL FLEURY SACRAMENTO LAW  
FIRM

CALL 916-441-2430.

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday, August 12 , 6:30-7:30pm**

Neuro-Ophthalmic Emergencies with Dr. Heather Moss

(1 hour CE credit)

[RSVP here](#)

**Monday, August 17, 6:30pm-8:30pm**

Nutritional Approach to Dry Eye Disease (1hr)

Jumpstarting Your Scleral Lens Practice (1hr)

COA event.

[RSVP here](#)

**Wednesday, August 26, 6:00-8:00pm**

Updates on AMD 2020 with Dr. Steven Ferrucci

(2 hours CE credit)

[RSVP here](#)

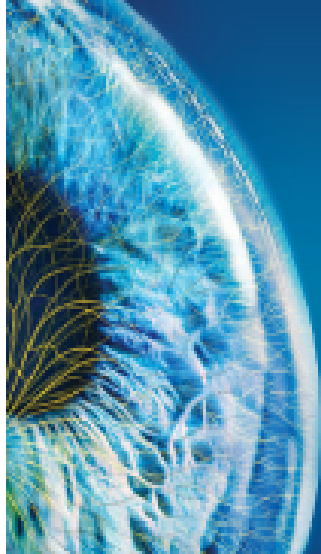
**Wednesday, September 2nd, 6:30pm-7:30pm**

The Oxervate Experience with Dr. Scott Schachter

See invite below

[RSVP here](#)

**JUNE/JULY 2020**



oxervate®   
(cenegermin-bkbj ophthalmic  
solution) 0.002% (20 mcg/mL)

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND A PRESENTATION

# THE OXERVATE EXPERIENCE

**Wednesday,  
September 2, 2020**

Time: 6:30 pm PST

[Click Here to Register for Zoom Meeting](#)

Once registered you will receive a  
confirmation email from Zoom with the  
meeting link.

**Presented By:**  
**Dr. Scott Schachter, OD**  
Ocular Surface Advisory  
Pismo Beach, CA

**Hosted By:**  
**Ms Jackie Quintero**  
Jacqueline.Quintero@dompe.com  
559-790-0943

## Program Objectives:

1. To discuss neurotrophic keratitis (NK) and how it can be identified.
2. To present clinical data and information on OXERVATE (cenegermin-bkbj).

## Registration

Register by one of the following methods

PHONE:  
559-790-0943  
Jacqueline.Quintero@dompe.com

[Click Here to Register for Zoom Meeting](#)

The information you provide will be used only to facilitate your attendance at the program. We look forward to your participation in this informative discussion. Program attendance is by invitation only, and we regret that this invitation cannot be forwarded.  
Please see Important Safety Information on the following page.



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## Important Safety Information

### DOSE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Ophthalmic solution: cenegermin-bkbj 0.002% (20 mcg/mL)  
in a multiple-dose vial

### INDICATIONS AND USAGE:

OXERVATE™ is a recombinant human nerve growth factor  
indicated for the treatment of neurotrophic keratitis

### DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION

One drop of OXERVATE™ in the affected eye(s), 6 times per  
day at 2-hour intervals, for eight weeks

### CONTRAINDICATIONS: None

### WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS:

#### Use with Contact Lens

Contact corrective lenses should be removed before applying  
OXERVATE™ because the presence of a contact lens (either  
therapeutic or c) could theoretically limit the distribution of  
cenegermin-bkbj onto the area of the corneal lesion. Lenses may  
be reinserted 15 minutes after administration.

#### Eye Discomfort

OXERVATE™ may cause mild to moderate eye discomfort such  
as eye pain during treatment. The patient should be advised to  
contact their doctor if a more serious eye reaction occurs.

### USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS:

#### Pregnancy: Risk Summary

There are no data from the use of OXERVATE in pregnant  
women to inform any drug associated risks. Administration of  
cenegermin-bkbj to pregnant rats or rabbits during the period of  
organogenesis did not produce adverse fetal effects at clinically  
relevant doses. In a pre- and postnatal development study,  
administration of cenegermin-bkbj to pregnant rats throughout  
gestation and lactation did not produce adverse effects in  
offspring at clinically relevant doses.

#### Data: Animal Data

In embryofetal development studies, daily subcutaneous  
administration of cenegermin-bkbj to pregnant rats and rabbits  
throughout the period of organogenesis produced a slight  
increase in post implantation loss at doses greater than or equal  
to 42 mcg/kg/day (267 times the maximum recommended human  
ophthalmic dose [MRHOD]).

A no-observed-adverse-effect level (NOAEL) was not established  
for post implantation loss in either species. In rats, hydrocephaly  
and ureter anomalies were observed once each in fetuses at 267  
mcg/kg/day (1709 times the MRHOD). In rabbits, cardiovascular  
malformations, including ventricular and atrial septal defects,  
enlarged heart, and aortic arch dilation, were observed once each  
in fetuses at 83 mcg/kg/day (534 times the MRHOD). No fetal  
malformations were observed in rats and rabbits at doses of 133  
mcg/kg/day and 42 mcg/kg/day, respectively.

In a pre- and postnatal development study, daily subcutaneous  
administration of cenegermin-bkbj to pregnant rats during the  
period of organogenesis and lactation did not affect parturition  
and was not associated with adverse toxicity in offspring at doses  
up to 267 mcg/kg/day.

In parental rats and rabbits, an immunogenic response to  
cenegermin-bkbj was observed. Given that cenegermin-bkbj is  
a heterologous protein in animals, this response may not be  
relevant to humans.

#### Lactation: Risk Summary

There are no data on the presence of OXERVATE in human milk,  
the effects on breastfed infants, or the effects on milk production.  
The developmental and health benefits of breastfeeding should  
be considered along with the mother's clinical need for  
OXERVATE and with any potential adverse effects on the  
breastfed infant.

#### Pediatric Use

The safety and effectiveness of OXERVATE have been  
established in the pediatric population. Use of OXERVATE in  
pediatric patients 2 years of age and older is supported by  
evidence from adequate and well-controlled trials of OXERVATE  
in adults with additional safety data in children.

#### Geriatric Use

Of the total number of subjects in clinical studies of OXERVATE,  
43.5% were 65 years old and older. No overall differences in  
safety or effectiveness were observed between elderly and  
younger adult patients.

## Please see accompanying full Prescribing Information and Medication Guide.

The FDA-approved product labeling can be found at [www.oxervate.com](http://www.oxervate.com).

You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).

You may also report side effects to Dompé at [USDrugSafety@dompe.com](mailto:USDrugSafety@dompe.com).

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US-CXS-1900098 09/19

oxervate   
cenegermin-bkbj ophthalmic  
solution 0.002% (20 mcg/mL)



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# CLASSIFIEDS

## **Seeking Part-Time or Full-Time Associate in Visalia (Posted July 2020)**

I am looking for an efficient, personable OD to add as an Associate to our team. We are a busy retail practice with an emphasis on primary care. Days and times can be determined to accommodate doctors' needs. Generous per diem plus bonus. Please e-mail your CV for consideration [monagillod@gmail.com](mailto:monagillod@gmail.com) . Thank you!

## **Looking to add an associate Saturdays and/or Sundays (Posted June 2020)**

Other weekdays are available as well if interested. Easy patient flow. Hours can be flexible depending on your schedule. If interested, please email your CV to Palwinder Kaur at [dayaeyecare@gmail.com](mailto:dayaeyecare@gmail.com). Thank you for your interest.

## **Practice for sale in Modesto (Posted May 2020)**

Well established practice serving Modesto and its surrounding area for over 25 years. Recently moved to a new location. 2 lanes in 1546 square feet. Modern, fully equipped office; PMR in place; convenient location in a medical duplex with off street parking on main thoroughfare. 32 Dr hours per week. Gross revenue of \$420,000 per year. Fixtures, equipment and leasehold improvements replacement valued at \$90000. Practice offered at a fair market value \$175,000 plus frame inventory currently estimated at \$18,000. Owner willing to finance. Contact [centralvalleyOD@gmail.com](mailto:centralvalleyOD@gmail.com)

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# CLASSIFIEDS

From Dr. Gary Smith:

Because of some recent major surgery on my back affecting my ability to walk plus my old age of 76 years old I have decided to retire.

**If you or someone you may know have any interest in buying a practice, instruments, office building or in stock frames please advise me as soon as possible at:**

Cell Phone- (559) 759-4579

Email- gmsmith72@comcast.net

My children-

Gina Smith (559) 441-3050 or Greg Smith (559) 331-9275

Thank you,

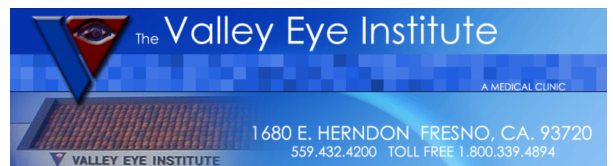
Gary E.M. Smith, O.D.

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