

David F Williams, MD, MBA

Dr. Williams is an internationally recognized expert in the medical and surgical treatment of diseases of the retina and vitreous. He specializes in the entire range of conditions that can affect the back of the eye, including macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, retinal vascular occlusions, hereditary retinal diseases, macular hole, epiretinal membranes, retinal tears and detachment, and ocular trauma.

Born in South Carolina, Dr Williams grew up in Chicago and in Toledo, Ohio. He was awarded his Bachelors Degree in chemistry, summa cum laude, from the University of Toledo. After earning a Masters Degree in chemical engineering from Carnegie-Mellon University he worked as a product development engineer at the Procter & Gamble Company for one year before attending medical school. Dr. Williams earned his medical degree at the Medical University of Ohio, completed an internship in internal medicine at the Dartmouth Medical School, and his ophthalmology residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He completed fellowships in retinal research, and in diseases and surgery of the retina and vitreous also at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He is certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology. Dr. Williams also earned a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) degree in 2000 from the Carlson Business School at the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Williams spent the first 5 years of his career at Washington University in St. Louis where he taught ophthalmology residents, trained new retina specialists, and was a leader in the development of the Barnes Retina Institute, now a renowned center for treatment of retinal diseases. He joined VitreoRetinal Surgery in 1995 and has contributed along with his partners to its development as one of the largest, most prestigious and internationally recognized centers for treatment and clinical research of retinal diseases.

The advancement of knowledge and treatment of retinal diseases has been a key focus. Dr. Williams has published more than 50 original scientific articles and book chapters on retinal diseases, and has been a primary investigator in many pivotal clinical trials studying new treatments of retinal diseases. As one of only a few practicing retina specialists with an MBA, he is a sought after speaker at major national and international medical meetings not only for his medical work and scientific knowledge, but as a thought leader on socioeconomic issues and the business of medicine. He is active in professional organizations, having served on the board of directors of the American Society of Retina Specialists (ASRS) since 1997. He conceived, wrote and edited "25 Years: The History of the American Society of Retina Specialists", and served as President of the society during the 2009-10 biennium. During his Presidency of the ASRS he led a reorganization of the board of directors and committee structure of the society, the recruitment of new executive leadership and relocation of the executive office of the society to Chicago, and the development a long-term strategic plan. He is also a member of the Retina Society, the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology, and the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO). He is a recipient of many awards, including the Honor Award and Senior Honor Award of the ASRS, the

Honor Award and Senior Honor Award of the AAO, and the Secretariat Award of the AAO. He is listed in *Best Doctors in America*. Dr. Williams has served many times as associate examiner and as a mentor examiner for the oral examination of the American Board of Ophthalmology, a part of the process by which young ophthalmologists become board certified.

Despite all of the advances seen in recent years for treatment of blinding retinal diseases such as age-related macular degeneration, Dr Williams believes that much work remains to be done in the fight against blinding retinal diseases. With that in mind he is continuing his work to expand the clinical research activities at VitreoRetinal Surgery, thus keeping the practice at the cutting edge for new advances in the treatment of retinal diseases.

Dr. Williams and his wife, Karen, have three children. In his limited spare time he enjoys traveling, gathering with friends, skiing and hiking in Colorado, literature, and current affairs.