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Genetics in Ophthalmology

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Message from the Guest Editors

Heritable ocular diseases are among the most common causes of eyesight loss in childhood and young adults in developed countries. Diagnosing these disorders has long been received as a life sentence to blindness, and disease management was reduced to low vision-aids, prevention of complications, and genetic counseling, often with an uncertain outcome.

In less than three decades, the combination of genome investigation and ophthalmic imaging have revolutionized the field. Hundreds of causal genes and dozens of biological pathways and pathomechanisms have been discovered, novel insights into disease development have been gained, prognostic-valuable genotype–phenotype correlations have been identified, and a wide range of therapeutic developments are emerging in clinical research or even practice.

This Special Issue of *Genes* aims at highlighting some of these advances and the transformation of the management of monogenic hereditary ocular diseases as well as today's and tomorrow's challenges in ocular genomic medicine.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes is central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fast-moving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised. Why not consider *Genes* for your next genetics paper?

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