

RCA Newsletter

March 27, 2026

Message from the CEO

RCA Team,

As we move through the second quarter of fiscal year 2026, I want to reflect on the strong momentum across our network. RCA continues to lead in clinical excellence and operational performance — a testament to the quality and dedication of our physicians and support teams.

Fiscal year to date through **February**, we have welcomed **104,000+ new patients** and completed more than **1 million patient visits**. We are also proud to welcome **Montana Retina Consultants** and **Retinal Diagnostic Center** to the RCA family, further strengthening our geographic footprint and our ability to deliver exceptional retinal care. **Retinal Diagnostic Center** is a premier ophthalmology practice in Northern California with a distinguished roster of 6 fellowship-trained physicians who provide care across multiple locations throughout Santa Clara County and the greater San Jose area. **Montana Retina Consultants** is a respected retina practice with a team of 2 fellowship-trained physicians providing care to patients from across Montana and northern Wyoming with a strong reputation for clinical excellence and an excitement for expanding coverage to underserved areas throughout the region. We are proud to welcome their physicians, teams, and patients into the RCA family.

[Read more](#)

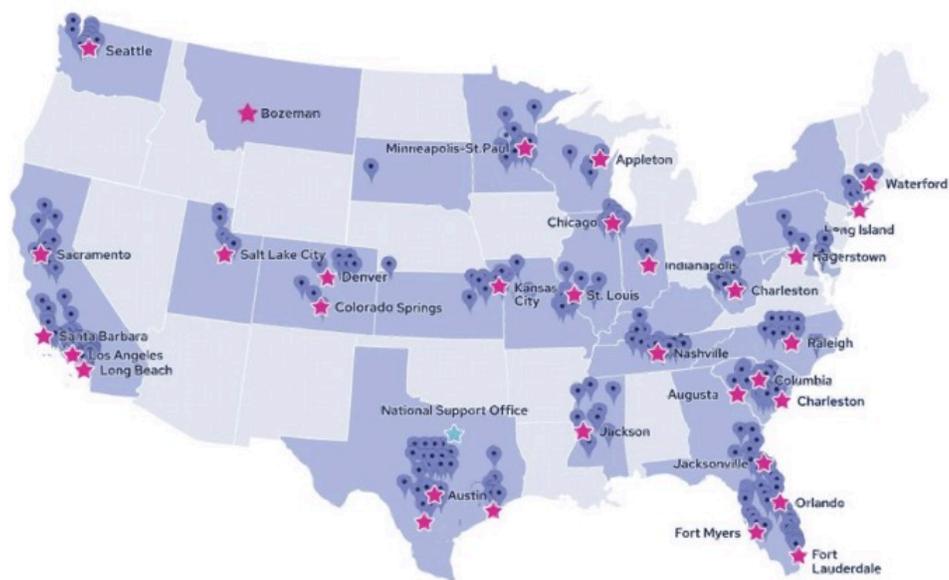


Robby Grabow
CEO
Retina Consultants of America

You'll notice this edition introduces our new digital-first format, designed to better showcase the meaningful work happening across RCA while making it easier to explore additional content online. Going forward, RCANewsletter.Cencora.com will serve as the permanent home for newsletter updates, replacing the traditional PDF format. We encourage you to visit the site and click through the stories below for deeper insights.

As we continue to evolve, we welcome your feedback. Please [click here](#) to share your thoughts and help us make it even better.

Current Landscape & Patient Experiences



We continue to add new RCA practices to our network, expanding our reach to new states and reaching more patients than ever before. As always, we've compiled patient experiences from across our network to highlight the incredible patient experience our physicians and staff deliver daily.

[Read recent patient experiences](#)

Expanding the Power of Together

Welcome to the RCA Network

Montana Retina Consultants

We are pleased to welcome [Montana Retina Consultants](#) (MRC) to RCA. As the only practice in southwest Montana dedicated exclusively to vitreoretinal disease, MRC brings a strong reputation for specialized care and deep community roots. Through this partnership, MRC will further strengthen access to innovation and research while preserving its physician-led, patient-first approach.

[Learn more about MRC](#)

Retinal Diagnostic Center

RCA is proud to welcome [Retinal Diagnostic Center](#) (RDC) in San Jose, CA, to our growing network of physician-led retina practices. With decades of service to the community, RDC is known for thoughtful, comprehensive retina care and strong physician leadership. Together, we look forward to expanding access to clinical expertise and advancing care for patients across the region.

[Learn more about RDC](#)

Everyday Impact

RCA Gives Back

Eyes on Eswatini: Reflections from Dr. Brian C. Joondeph's First Medical Mission Trip

Last fall, Dr. Brian C. Joondeph ([Colorado Retina](#)) traveled to Eswatini on his first medical mission, providing retina consultation in a setting with limited imaging, constrained treatment options, and no vitreoretinal surgical capacity. Alongside fellow ophthalmologists, he helped screen patients in remote villages, support local clinicians, and strengthen training efforts to build sustainable eye care access. His reflections offer a powerful reminder of global disparities in vision care and the responsibility to serve beyond our own communities.

[Learn more about Dr. Joondeph's experience and the impact of this mission](#)

Dr. Eric Hansen's Philanthropic Trip for Retina Training in Eritrea

In December 2025, Dr. Eric Hansen ([Pacific Northwest Retina](#)) partnered with [Cure Blindness Project](#) to help launch Eritrea's first hospital-based vitreoretinal training initiative. Working alongside residents and faculty at the country's only national eye center, the team introduced foundational surgical skills, activated new vitrectomy equipment, and laid the groundwork for a sustainable retina service. Dr. Hansen's experience reflects RCA physicians' ongoing commitment to advancing subspecialty training and expanding access to sight-saving care worldwide.

[Read more about the partnership and the future of retina care in Eritrea](#)

RCA Spotlight

Dr. Vivek Chaturvedi, a physician at [Illinois Retina Associates](#) for more than 12 years, is building a first-of-its-kind RCA Physician Mentorship Program. To participate and help shape the program, physicians can reach out to [Dr. Chaturvedi](#) or [Chloe Gould](#).

[**Learn more about the RCA Physician Development Program, including what participants can expect by joining**](#)

Leading-Edge Research

HERO Clinical Trial

RCA Research is proud to spotlight HERO, the first all-RCA Investigator-Sponsored Trial (IST), evaluating aflibercept 8mg in treatment-naïve and previously treated PDR patients. This milestone study reflects the strength of our growing research network and the power of cross-practice collaboration, with enrollment completed in just 55 days across multiple sites.

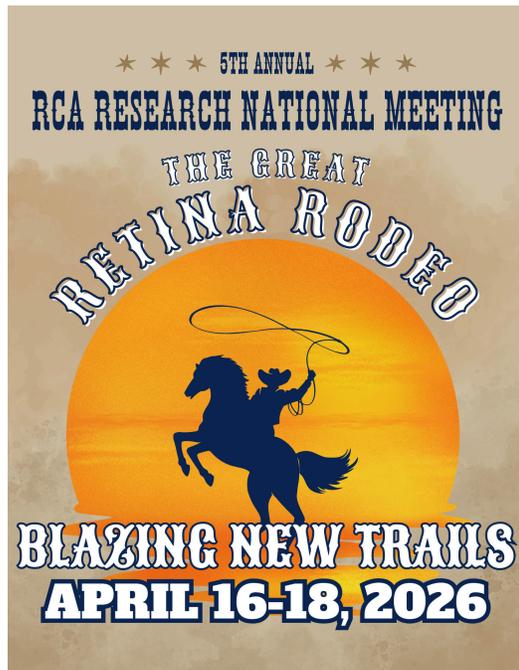
HERO is currently enrolling. If you are interested in learning more about participation opportunities for your site or patients, please reach out to [Sarah Weidman](#) for additional details.

[**Learn more about HERO**](#)

2026 RCA Research Initiatives: Mentorship Program and Clinic Collaboration

As part of RCA's 2026 research initiatives, we're excited to share the updated overview and guidelines for this year's mentorship program, as well as our plans to strengthen collaboration between Clinic, Research, and the RCA Referral Center efforts.

[**Read more about the initiatives**](#)



Save the Date: 5th Annual RCA Research National Meeting

Join us April 16-18 for the 5th Annual RCA Research National Meeting! Stay tuned for more information.

Meet Your RCA MVPs

We're proud to celebrate our two latest RCA MVPs!

Victoria Kar Yin Lee of Colorado Retina has won our Research MVP Award, dedicated to her leadership and contributions to the research team.

Raquel Gongora is our Clinic MVP Award winner, recognized for her passion and consistency as Supervisor of the Austin Retina Associates pre-screening team.

[Learn more about our latest MVPs](#)

RCA On-Scene

- **RCA at the 26th Annual Retina Fellows Forum**

In January, Shawn Harkey and Janet Frongillo represented RCA at the 26th Annual Retina Fellows Forum in Chicago, a premier event that brings together second-year vitreoretinal fellows from across North America as they prepare to transition into practice.

[Read more about the 2026 Fellows Forum](#)

- **February 2026 MLB & BLB Meeting Highlights**

Thank you to everyone who joined us in Dallas for the February Medical Leadership Board (MLB) and Business Leadership Board (BLB) meeting. These gatherings provide an important opportunity for physicians and practice leaders from across the RCA network to connect, share insights, and collaborate on the opportunities ahead.

[View meeting highlights](#)

- **2026 Telluride Retina Film Festival**

The 2026 Telluride Retina Film Festival (TRFF) took place from February 4-7. At the event, best-in-class retina specialists shared ideas, held discussions, and collaborated to refine the latest retina techniques.

[See more from TRFF here](#)

Cencora Partnership: One Year Milestone

2026 marks one year of our partnership with Cencora. Together, we have advanced clinical care, accelerated research, strengthened IT and network security, expanded HR support, and grown our physician community.

To commemorate this milestone, [we've created this video](#) highlighting key moments, measurable outcomes, and the collective work that made it possible.

Upcoming Events

- **RCA Shareholder Meeting:** April 8, 2026 | Virtual
- **RCA Research National Meeting:** April 16-18, 2026 | Grapevine, TX
- **Third Coast Retina Club Annual Meeting:** April 24-25 | Austin, TX [Register online](#)
- **The Show:**
 - April 14, 2026 | Virtual
 - June 9, 2026 | Virtual
- **Upcoming Eye Health Observances:**
 - April: Women's Eye Health and Safety Month
- **ARVO:** May 3-7, 2026 | Denver, CO
- **MLB/BLB Meetings:** June 24-25, 2026 | Virtual



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