Meet the Professor

Emily Y. Chew: current progress of Age-Related Eye Disease Study 2

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Introduction

Emily Y. Chew (Figure 1), M.D. is the deputy director of the Division of Epidemiology and Clinical Applications and the deputy clinical director at the National Eye Institute (NEI), National Institutes of Health (NIH). Dr. Chew has a strong clinical and research interest in diabetic eye disease and age-related eye diseases. She has thoroughly worked on analyzing the data from the Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) and she continues to manage and analyze data from the Age-Related Eye Disease Study (AREDS). In addition, she is working on a large clinical trial called the Actions to Control Cardiovascular Risk in Diabetes (ACCORD).

Interview

During the Zhongshan Medical Retina and Epidemiology Symposium, I was honored to meet Dr. Chew and invite her for a brief interview to share his expertise on AREDS.

At the beginning of the interview, Dr. Chew briefly introduced her presentation on AREDS 2 in the symposium, mainly talking about the primary outcome of testing the effect of lutein/zeaxanthin and omega-3 for macular degeneration treatment. She also shared with us that lutein and zeaxanthin, rather than omega-3 are important for the treatment.

Dr. Chew claimed that one of the biggest challenges in the study was that they had to make sure that all the elderly patients come back and to raise money to support their study. In the interview, Dr. Chew also mentioned a large clinical trial she involved called the ACCORD; she emphasized the importance of tight blood sugar control for the decrease of diabetic retinopathy. When asked about the greatest accomplishment in her career, Dr. Chew replied that she hoped that she still had more things to do, like training young ophthalmologists and helping them to succeed.

For more details about this interview, readers can refer to the following video (Figure 2).

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Footnote
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References

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