

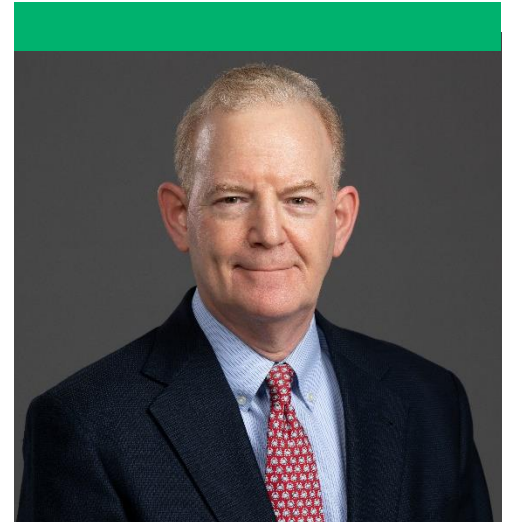


Jonathan B. Rubenstein, MD

The Deutsch Family Professor of Ophthalmology

Advancement of Medicine

In 2025, I continued to oversee the academic mission, clinical delivery of care, educational experiences and research endeavors as chairperson of the Department of Ophthalmology at Rush University Medical Center.



- Our research portfolio has grown over the past year.
- Our education endeavor now includes a quarterly Continuing Medical Education program, the Chicago Cataract Conference, and resident and medical student education.
- We continue to offer clinically excellent care as a top clinical tertiary ophthalmic site.

Research

Our research efforts are focused on the following three major areas:

- The study of new therapeutics addressing key causes of vision loss, including age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, ocular inflammation (uveitis), vitreomacular traction, retinopathy of prematurity, keratoconus, and the ocular complications of AIDS.
- The development and evaluation of new surgical approaches and devices for age-related macular degeneration, including implantable drug reservoirs, stem cell implantation and the small incision implantable miniature telescope.
- The testing of new ocular imaging technologies.

Your generosity has helped fund research projects directed by medical students, residents and fellows and educational activities for ophthalmologists at Rush and in the greater Chicago area. Your support also enabled my personal scholarly activities, which have helped disseminate information about our research advancements and provided opportunities for lecturing nationally and internationally, thereby increasing Rush's reputation around the world.



Clinical Trials

We are currently involved in 20 local and multicenter national clinical trials, especially in the study of macular degeneration. We are also studying the effects of herpes zoster on the eye.

Education

- We have created a quarterly case-based Clinical Curriculum in Ophthalmology that teaches ophthalmologists the latest concepts in subspecialty ophthalmology in Chicago and nationally.
- We created a triannual Chicago Cataract Conference as a video case-based conference that brings together cataract surgeons throughout the Chicago area.
- I continued to teach, lecture and present papers at the major national and international ophthalmology meetings, including the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, the International Society of Cornea, Stem Cells and Ocular Surface, and multiple national courses geared towards resident education.

Presentations, Labs and Courses

- Lectured at the International Society of Cornea, Stem Cells and Ocular Surface meeting.
 - DMEK in Phacoemulsification
 - Herpes Simplex Keratitis — Challenges in Diagnosis and Treatment
- Panelist, Association of University Professors in Ophthalmology Annual Meeting. January 31, 2025.
- CSE second-year resident course in cataract education, “Management of astigmatism in cataract surgery,” December 7, 2024.
- American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, April 26-28, 2025:
 - “Challenging Cataract Cases Video Symposium”
 - “Corneal Suturing Techniques”
 - “Surgical Management of Astigmatism”
 - “Cataract Surgery After Radial Keratotomy”
- JCAHPO meeting, “Surgical Management of Astigmatism,” April 27, 2025.



- CSE second-year resident education courses: “Pearls for the standard cataract surgery technique” and “Management of the brunescant cataract,” December 7, 2024.
- American Academy of Ophthalmology annual meeting, October 19-21, 2024:
 - “Advanced Phacoemulsification Lab”
 - “Assessment and Management of Astigmatism in Cataract Surgery”
 - “Limbal Relaxing Incisions in the Management of Astigmatism”
 - “Microsurgical Suturing Techniques”

The Year Ahead: 2025 and Beyond

We plan to continue our two-year CME curriculum in ophthalmology. We will host quarterly meetings over a two-year cycle. Each of these meetings will focus on a subspecialty within ophthalmology, such as cornea, retina, glaucoma, etc. We also plan to deploy your funds to help support the creation of a simulation lab for ophthalmic surgery at Rush. We hope to use this simulation lab to teach our residents and medical students the latest ophthalmic surgical techniques and to also host courses for other trainees and practitioners across the Chicago region.

With Gratitude

I am tremendously grateful for your support. Your generosity has helped to promote the academic mission of the Department of Ophthalmology in education, research and state-of-the-art clinical practice. I want to personally thank everyone who adds to this endowment for your support of scholarly activities within the Department of Ophthalmology at Rush.