



## **Eye Care Community Unites to Discuss Contact Lens Testing Please Join this Important Discussion**

On September 12, 2014, members of all areas of the eye care community, including scientists, clinicians and industry experts, will come together to take part in a workshop to discuss revamping microbiological test methods for contact lenses, products, and accessories. This one day workshop will be held at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) campus and is being co-sponsored by the FDA Center for Devices and Radiological Health, the American Optometric Association (AOA), the American Academy of Optometry (the Academy), the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAOph), and the Contact Lens Association of Ophthalmologists (CLAO).

The workshop will include three panels focusing on different aspects of microbiological testing including pathogens in contact lens related keratitis, the role of soil disinfection in contact lens care products and Acanthamoeba testing methods. The Academy's Loretta Szczotka-Flynn, OD and the AOA's Michael Dueñas, OD will serve as moderators for two of the three panel discussions. The workshop will provide insight into the future of microbiological testing methods for contact lenses and products.

Interested parties are welcome to attend the upcoming workshop. To register to attend in person or via webinar, please visit: <http://www.clwshop.org/register/> For more information, including the workshop agenda, please visit: <http://www.clwshop.org/>

### **What Optometrists Are Saying about this Workshop**

*"Having recently had the honor of testifying in front of Congress regarding the essential role of the eye doctor in caring for contact lens patients, I greatly appreciate that the discussion regarding contact lens safety is continuing on a national level in this collaborative workshop. The AOA is eager to further engage with our eye care colleagues on this subject and is dedicated to protecting the health and ensuring the safety of all eye care patients." David Cockrell, OD, AOA President*

*"Deepening our understanding of how contact lenses interact with their environment, be that the ocular surface or the contact lens solution it's stored in, will improve safety for all contact lens wearing patients. There is no higher calling for the contact lens care giver. I applaud the FDA for its support of this mission." Thomas Quinn, OD, AOA Chairman Contact Lens and Cornea Section*

*“National standards for contact lenses and care products are made possible by consensus of eye care professionals, scientists, and experts from a broad range of stakeholders. The FDA is again bringing representatives of these groups together in a continued effort to safeguard the eye health of our contact lens wearing patients. The Commission on Ophthalmic Standards (CmOS) of the AOA is keenly interested in contributing to this important activity and incorporating the results into better standards at the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z80 Committee on ophthalmic products.”* William J. Benjamin, OD, MS, PhD, AOA CmOS and Secretary, ANSI Z80 Committee.

*“This workgroup represents a broad spectrum of interests including industry, research arenas, professional organizations and regulatory bodies with the common goal of safe contact lens wear. The panel of experts assembled are world renowned in topic areas that include contact lens disinfection efficacy testing and the role of emerging pathogens in contact lens wear.”* Joseph Shovlin, OD, past chair, AOA Contact Lens and Cornea Section and past chair, American Academy of Optometry Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies

If you have questions regarding the workshop, please contact Kara Webb, Associate Director for Coding and Regulatory Policy, at [kcwebb@aoa.org](mailto:kcwebb@aoa.org)