



Dear Readers,

This edition of the International Journal of Eye Banking in addition to the other informative articles contains a very important and timely review of ocular Melanoma.

While ocular tissues have enjoyed a very low rate of reported disease transmission, and indeed even minimal numbers of post-operative complications related to the transplanted tissue, it is nonetheless important to be vigilant in the screening processes designed to reduce, and where possible eliminate, risk to the recipients.

The report in February 2016 of a potential transmission of Melanoma via ocular stem cell transplantation caused an immediate review and action on the part of the Medical Advisory Board of the Eye Bank Association and is currently still under scrutiny by the organization. This review article will lead the reader through an in-depth history of transplant related transmission and no doubt serve as a resource for any future actions and screening practices for eye bank practitioners.

This occurrence, again though rare, nevertheless makes us mindful of the need for and importance of all screening measures to ensure to the best of our ability the safety of the tissues which are offered for transplantation. The International Journal of Eye Banking editor and board trusts you will find this edition interesting and useful in your practices and encourages you to submit your articles of similar or diverse interest.

In addition to the articles in this edition, please note in the final section an acknowledgement of the passing of one of the leaders in ophthalmology and eye banking, Dr. Thomas Lindquist.

Sincerely,
Ellen Heck
Editor in Chief