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Clinical Specialty: Neuro-Ophthalmology

Research Interests: Neurodegeneration and neuroprotection in animal models of optic neuritis

Potential projects: Optic neuritis is an inflammatory disease of the optic nerve that occurs in patients with multiple sclerosis and results in death of retinal ganglion cell neurons. We use mouse models of optic neuritis to study mechanisms of neuronal loss and potential new therapies. Students have opportunities to assist in developing techniques for evaluating ganglion cells and to test candidate drug therapies. Potential projects include:

- * Screening new potential therapies for optic neuritis
- * Developing or improving methods for monitoring vision and optic nerve function
- * Examining the molecular pathways that mediate neuroprotective effects of novel therapies
- * Characterizing the histopathology of optic nerve damage and effects of treatments

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