 Invite you to a Congressional Briefing and Screening held during Dry Eye Awareness Month—July 2019

**Ongoing Impact of the TFOS DEWS II™ Dry Eye Clinical Practice & Research**

Wednesday, July 10, 2019
House Rayburn 2043

12:00 Noon - 1:15 pm: Luncheon Briefing
11:30 am – 2 pm: “Test Your Tears” Screening

Briefing: A panel of experts will discuss the ongoing impact of the July 2017 TFOS DEWS II™ Report on Dry Eye Clinical Practice and Research, Focusing on Causes, Incidence, and Potential Therapies.

Screening: “Test Your Tears” screening of osmolarity—an important biomarker of ocular surface health

Please R.S.V.P. to
Dina Beaumont @ 202-407-8325 or dinabeau@aol.com

AEVR and TFOS, each a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Educational Foundation, are pleased to host this widely attended event, with event management support from Takeda.
What is Dry Eye and Why Is It Important?
Dry eye disease (DED), a global problem affecting more than 30 million people in the United States alone, occurs when the eye does not produce tears properly or when the tears are not of the correct consistency and evaporate too quickly. For some people, it feels like a speck of sand in the eye, or a stinging or burning that does not go away. For others, dry eye can become a painful chronic and progressive condition that leads to blurred vision or even vision loss if it goes untreated due to inflammation that can cause ulcers or scars on the cornea—the clear surface of the eye. Moderate-to-severe dry eye is associated with significant quality-of-life consequences, such as pain, role limitations, low vitality, poor general health, and depression.

Although researchers have long known about age, sex, and gender as factors, they are now discovering ethnic and racial differences, and that dry eye impacts younger patients. It can have many causes, including environmental exposure; side-effects from medications or eye surgery (called iatrogenic Dry Eye); lid disorders; immune system diseases such as Sjögren’s Syndrome, lupus, or rheumatoid arthritis; contact lens wear; cosmetic use; aesthetic procedures; and an increasingly common cause—staring at computer or smartphone screens for too long. Each year, the vision community recognizes July as *Dry Eye Awareness Month!*

What Has Been the Ongoing Impact of 2017 TFOS DEWS II™ Report on Clinical Practice & Research?
In July 2017, the Tear Film & Ocular Surface Society’s Dry Eye Workshop II (TFOS DEWS II™) Report was published in *The Ocular Surface* journal. In this re-examination of dry eye disease since the initial report issued in 2007, TFOS DEWS II™ has updated the definition, classification, and diagnosis of DED; critically evaluated the epidemiology, pathophysiology, mechanism, and impact of the disease; addressed its management and therapy; and developed recommendations for the design of clinical trials to assess pharmaceutical interventions.

A panel of experts, moderated by TFOS Executive Director Amy Gallant Sullivan, will discuss the impact of the TFOS DEWS II™ Report on clinical practice and research. The speakers will focus on various aspects of the disease, including its causes, incidence, and impact, as well as therapies emerging from research:

- **Victor Perez Quinones, MD** (Duke University): Iatrogenic Dry Eye (resulting from medication and/or medical procedures)
- **Deborah S. Jacobs, MD** (Massachusetts Eye & Ear/Harvard Medical School): Pathway to Ocular Pain
- **Bridgitte Shen Lee, OD** (Vision Optique): Public Health Challenge: Dry Eye in Children
- **David A. Sullivan, MS, PhD** (Schepens Eye Research Institute/Harvard Medical School, TFOS Founder): Innovation in Research

About the “Test Your Tears” Dry Eye Screening:
TearLab’s Co-Founder and Chief Scientific Officer Benjamin Sullivan, MS, PhD will conduct a “Test Your Tears” screening using its TearLab Osmolarity System, which measures the osmolarity of human tears to aid in the diagnosis of dry eye disease, in conjunction with other methods of clinical evaluation. Osmolarity is an important biomarker of ocular surface health.

AEVR is pleased to join with TFOS and the entire vision community in recognizing *Dry Eye Awareness Month 2019* with this Congressional Briefing/Screening, a widely attended event featuring an Eye-Healthy lunch.