

MERIT INSIGHTS

February 2024 Edition

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *MERIT Insights*, our monthly newsletter. Each month we'll bring you updates on upcoming webinars and trade shows, spotlights on our employees, and important industry news you may have missed.

WEBINAR

OCT Evaluation of Neovascular AMD in Clinical Trials: A Reading Center Perspective

In February MERIT hosted an ophthalmology webinar, "OCT Evaluation of Neovascular AMD in Clinical Trials: A Reading Center Perspective." See details about the webinar below, and [click here](#) to view the full on-demand video.

Summary: This presentation provided an overview of the role a reading center plays in the use of OCT in major studies for patients with neovascular Age-related Macular Degeneration (nAMD). MERIT experts reviewed the capabilities of the reading center and summarized how these studies are approached.

3 Key Questions That Were Answered:

- 1) What benefits does a reading center offer Sponsors pursuing nAMD studies with OCT endpoints?
- 2) What are the common inclusion/exclusion eligibility criteria for OCT in nAMD studies?
- 3) Which OCT endpoints are often used for nAMD studies?



Featured Speaker:
Shawn Wilker, MD
Medical Director of Ophthalmology at MERIT

Dr. Wilker is board-certified in ophthalmology and is a retinal specialist with over 15 years of clinical experience.

[WATCH WEBINAR](#) ➤

Check out our YouTube channel



www.youtube.com/@meritcro

Did you know MERIT has a YouTube channel where you can subscribe and stay up to date on clinical-endpoint related content? You can watch any of our previous webinars [here!](#)

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

We love meeting Sponsors, partners, and industry professionals! Network with us at one of our upcoming conferences or trade shows. You can set up an appointment with one of our team members by going to the [Events page](#) on our website and clicking on the event of interest!



VIDEO: EXCELSIOR CLIENT BENEFITS

Heather Baumhauer, MERIT's Senior VP, Clinical Services, and Anne Goulding, Director, Client Services, outline a few key client benefits of EXCELSIOR software in this short [video](#).



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHTS

MERIT Employee Spotlight is a series featuring team members introducing themselves, outlining their role at MERIT, and explaining why they chose to work in the clinical trials industry.

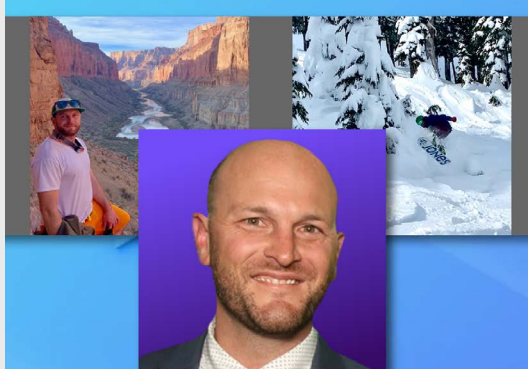


Catherine Chintala, PMP
Director of Operations, Oncology

MERIT Article:
**Employee
Spotlight**

Catherine Chintala, PMP
Director of Operations, Oncology at
MERIT

"At MERIT, we collaborate closely with our Sponsors and part of my role is sharing expertise and knowledge with our biotech and pharma partners, especially if they are new to working with a core lab and central reading. It is so rewarding to interact with the clinical sites and to help our sponsors meet their goals!" Read her full interview [here](#).



Peter Cueno
Product Operations Manager

MERIT Article:
**Employee
Spotlight**

Peter Cueno
Product Operations Manager at MERIT

"The Product Operations and Management (POM) group solves problems, and also proactively searches for solutions before something turns into an issue. From development to configuration and implementation to bug investigations and close outs, the POM squad helps with all study phases, in and out of EXCELSIOR." Read his full interview [here](#).

RECENT INDUSTRY NEWS

Top 10 Most Anticipated Drug Launches in 2024

Fierce Pharma provided an overview of Evaluate Vantage's annual preview report that covers the most anticipated drug launches of 2024. There are several oncology drugs expected as well as treatments for cardio-pulmonary disorders, such as COPD and pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH). Read the full article [here](#).

MERIT LinkedIn Poll Results

As SCOPE 2024 approached, MERIT asked what our clients were looking forward to the most about the show. Most voters (70%) chose networking at SCOPE events. Check out our [LinkedIn post](#) for the full results.

12 FDA Ophthalmology Approvals

Modern Retina provided an overview of what they called a transformative year with 12 FDA approvals in 2023. From the first ever approved treatment for Geographic Atrophy (Apellis's Syfovre) in February 2023, to the single administration per eye of travoprost intracameral implant (Glaukos's iDose TR) in December, it was a very big year. Read the full article [here](#).

Feel free to forward our newsletter to any colleagues who might be interested. Thanks for reading!
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