

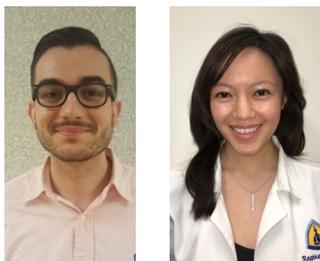
# FALLS IN GLAUCOMA STUDY

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### Goodbye for now

After a year spent working as a part of the FIGS Team **William Plum** and **Regina de Luna** are going back to medical school to complete their 4th year and prepare for their residency interviews. We are sure many of you will agree with us when we say that it was wonderful to have them with us. We miss them very much, but wish them best of luck with their residency interviews.



## FIGS LETTER



### A Letter from Dr. Ramulu

We would like to thank each and every one of you for your participation in FIGS. It is hard to imagine but we are nearing the end of the FIGS study. At this point over half of the participants have completed their fourth and final visit with us.

We have some very important findings so far from the FIGS study and have shared them with numerous doctors and rehabilitation specialists world wide in the form of the scientific publications and at the research conferences. On the second page of this newsletter you can find some of the research finds that have been presented at our most recent research conference in May, 2017.

As every year this will be no exception, we will have our annual FIGS party where we will share our findings with you. Only, this year we might turn it into a bigger event and combine it with other research studies and have number of investigators share their individual findings about different aspects of glaucoma. More information to follow mid-Oct, 2017.

Sincerely,

Pradeep Ramulu  
Principle Investigator

## PROMOTION



### Congratulations to

**Dr. Ramulu** who became a Director of Glaucoma Division at Wilmer. At the beginning of July, 2017 Dr. Ramulu took over the responsibilities of a Director from Dr. Quigley who has been successfully building the division for over 30 years. These are some big shoes to fill, but we are delighted that Dr. Ramulu has been entrusted with this responsibility and we know he will do an excellent job.

### Questions or feedback?

Please feel free to call our FIGS number:  
**(571)-429-3447**  
Or email us at:  
**FIGS3447@jhmi.edu**

**STAFF PROFILES**



**Aleks Mihailovic** finished her master’s in epidemiology at the JHSPH. She handles data management and analysis. Aleks has been with FIGS for past 3 years.



**Dr. Xinxing Guo** is a medical graduate from China. She joined FIGS team last October and will be with us for two years before she continues her ophthalmology training.



**Rani Mukherjee** completed her post-bac pre-med program and has been working with us for past year and a half; next year is going to medical school.



**Ayo Sotimehin** is a third year medical student at Johns Hopkins. He started this summer and will be with us for a year before applying to ophthalmology residency.



**Rhonda Miller** has been with Wilmer for 15 years. She has been with FIGS for past 4 years. She takes care of falls calendars as well as many administrative responsibilities.



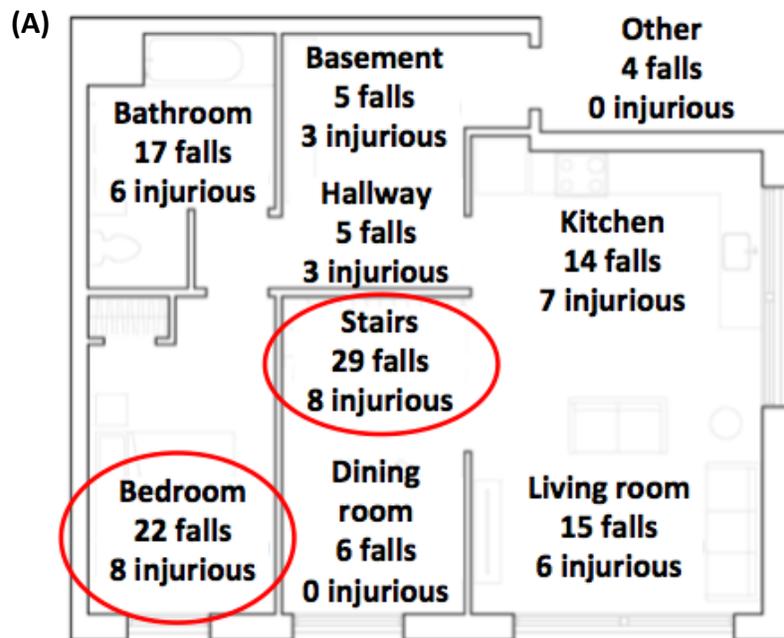
**Moon Jeong Lee** is a third year medical student at Johns Hopkins. She started with FIGS this summer and will be with us for a year before applying to ophthalmology residency.

**ANNUAL RESEARCH MEETING PRESENTATIONS**

**Initiation of Walking in Glaucoma Under Different Lighting Conditions by Rani Mukherjee** Difficulty with changes in lighting are among the most common complaints in glaucoma. Our findings showed that in dim light individuals with worse contrast took on average 4.7% longer time to start walking than those with better contrast and those who had a greater loss of the visual field on average took 11.5% longer to start walking than those with better visual field.

**Gait Changes Under Different Lighting Conditions by Aleks Mihailovic** Since individuals with glaucoma often complain about difficulties adjusting to the dim or bright light, in this work we evaluated changes in gait under different lighting conditions in FIGS cohort. We found that while walking in the dim or bright light individuals with the greater damage in their visual field slowed down much more and took smaller steps than the individual with the better visual field.

**Impact of Physical Location and Visual Field Damage on the Step-Adjusted Fall Rates in Glaucoma by Pradeep Ramulu** The purpose of this work was to assess whether individuals with glaucoma have higher rates of falls inside of the home as compare to the outside of the home. We found that steps taken at home were 54% more likely to result in the fall than the steps taken away from home. But, individuals with the greater visual field damage had higher rate of falls away-from home than those with the better visual field.



**Circumstances, Locations and Outcomes of Falls in Patients With Glaucoma by Andrea Younge** In this work we looked at the number of falls and injurious falls that occurred in different parts of the home. Of 330 total falls reported by patients at the time of data analysis, 117 (35%) happened inside of the home. (A) The most common locations for the falls in the home were stairs (29 falls, 24.8%) and bedroom (22 falls, 18.8%). Stairs and bedroom were also the most common areas in which injurious falls occurred.