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American Society of
Retina Specialists

Joel Pearlman, MD, PhD

Dr. Joel Pearlman grew up in Brooklyn, New York. He is a magna cum laude graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biochemistry from Harvard University. He received his M.D. degree from Baylor College of Medicine, receiving an award for Outstanding Performance in Clinical Sciences, and graduating Alpha Omega Alpha. At Baylor, he also went on to receive his Ph.D. in cell biology and was awarded the Outstanding Performance in Basic Sciences Award. During his internship, Dr. Pearlman received The Intern of the Year Award.

He completed his Ophthalmology Residency at The Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, Maryland. He stayed at The Wilmer Institute as a medical and surgical Retinal Fellow for an additional two years. Here, he received a Heed Fellowship, the Knapp Fellowship, and the Ronald G. Michels Fellowship. He was awarded the Special Resident Teaching Award and a Ronald G. Michels Research Grant. Following his Fellowship, Dr. Pearlman served as the Assistant Chief of Service at the Wilmer Eye Institute, where he taught ophthalmology residents and performed complex eye and trauma surgery. He joined the faculty at UC Davis for a year where he enjoyed teaching the residents and joined Retinal Consultants Medical Group in 2003 when Dr. Neil Kelly retired to spend more time sailing.

Dr. Pearlman is a member of the American Society of Retina Specialists, the American Academy of Ophthalmology, and the American Medical Association. He has coauthored several papers and book chapters on retinal blood vessel growth factors and on eye trauma. He is currently the Editor-In-Chief of Retina Times and continues to serve as Principal Investigator on numerous clinical trials in Retina. He is a member of the Board of Retina Consultants of America.