



Discovery Science  
Emerging Scholars Lecture

# “Peering into the Crystallin Ball of the Eye Lens”



Alex J. Guseman, Ph.D.  
Merck Fellow of the  
Life Science Research Foundation  
University of Pittsburgh Medical School

Cataracts, the opacification of the eye lens, are the leading cause of blindness worldwide. Cataracts form when the crystallin proteins of the eye lens are unable to maintain proteostasis and being to aggregate. As these aggregates grow, the lens opacifies, and visual impairment increases. Despite decades of research on the crystallin proteins, the mechanism of cataract formation is highly debated. Here we demonstrate *in vitro* that deamidation, a common post translational damage, has minimal impact to crystallin structure and biophysics, and highlight our progress to study crystallins in their native environment, the intact eye lens.

Thursday  
December 2, 2021  
9:30 am CT  
202 Light Hall

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