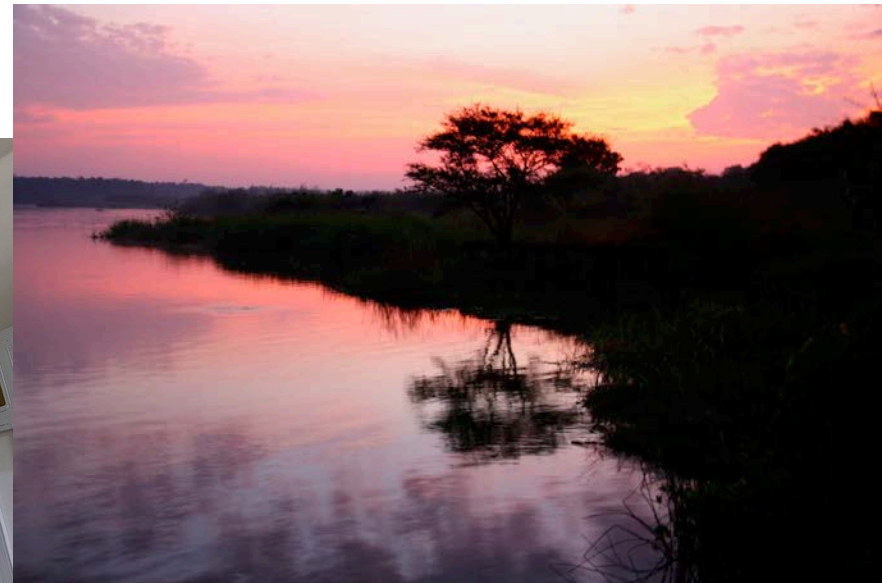
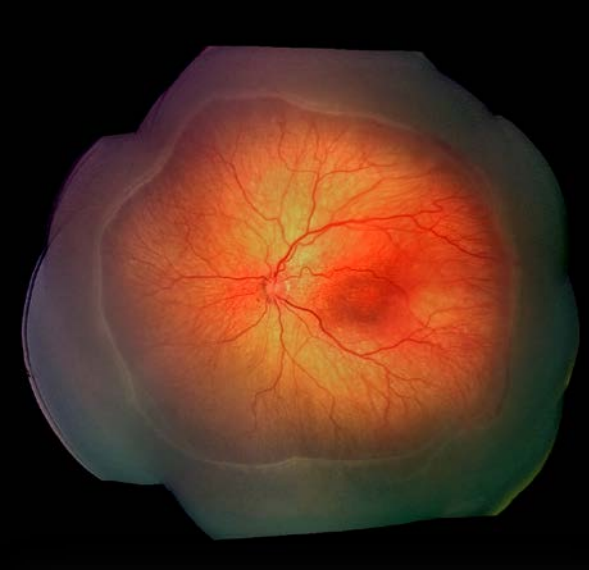


Retinopathy of Prematurity in Uganda Let's Collaborate!

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Retinopathy of Prematurity - ROP

- Retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) is a vasoproliferative disorder of the retina
- ROP occurs only in preterm infants and is the leading cause of childhood blindness
- Africa is the world's 2nd most populated continent with more than a billion people and SSA accounts for 28% of preterm births globally therefore there is a wave of possible childhood blindness from ROP ahead in SSA without awareness, education, prevention and screening
- A simple eye screening exam performed within a few weeks after birth, can avoid this preventable blindness

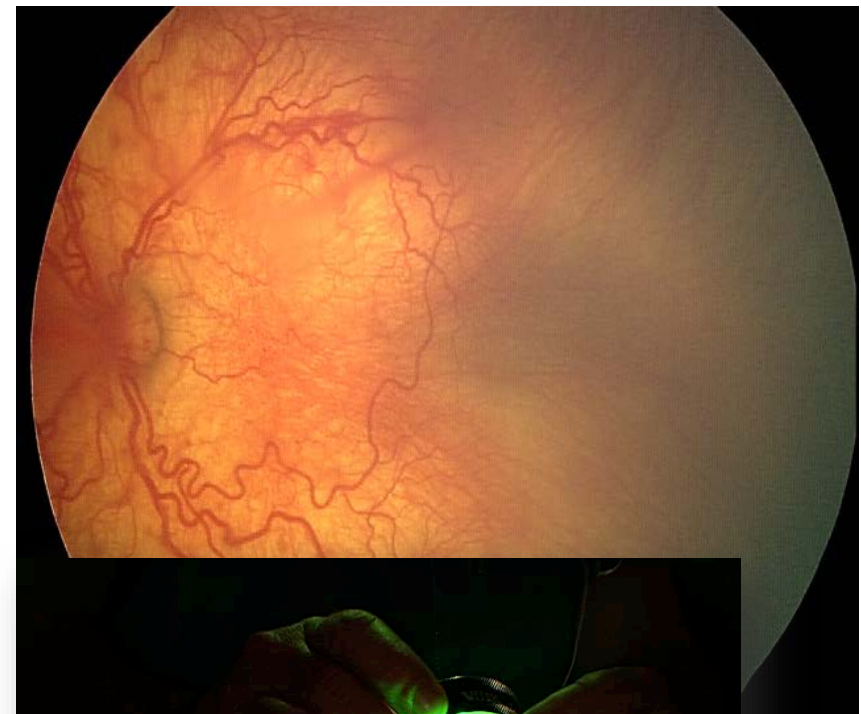
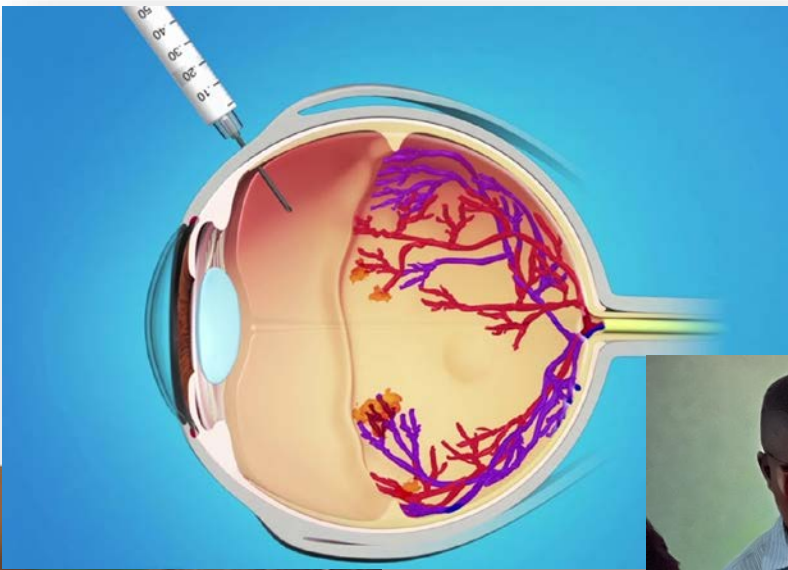


ROP Screening in Uganda

- Approximately 10% of screened infants developed severe ROP so we need to exam many babies in order to identify those infants needing treatment
- It is estimated that 10,000 premature infants are at risk for blinding ROP per year in Uganda
- Therefore ROP screening programs are resource intensive
- It will "take a village" to prevent and manage ROP care in Uganda

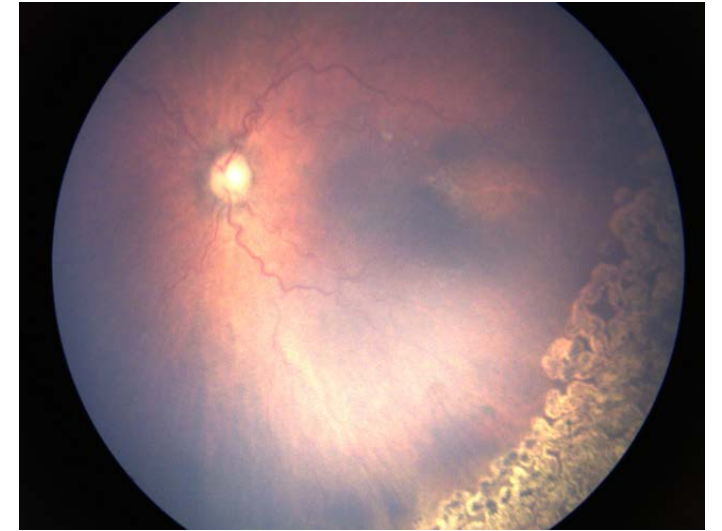


Treatment of ROP



What is laser?

- Laser is a thermal burn of the retina
- General or local anesthesia
- Peripheral retina is destroyed by laser
- Eliminating the production of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) which is the major protein that stimulates abnormal blood vessels to form in ROP



Images courtesy of Sarah Rodriguez

Laser

- Controlled by foot pedal
- Delivered from headpiece
- Lens focuses the burn on the retina



Image courtesy of Sarah Rodriguez

Laser – Machine basics

Head Set



Laser Machine

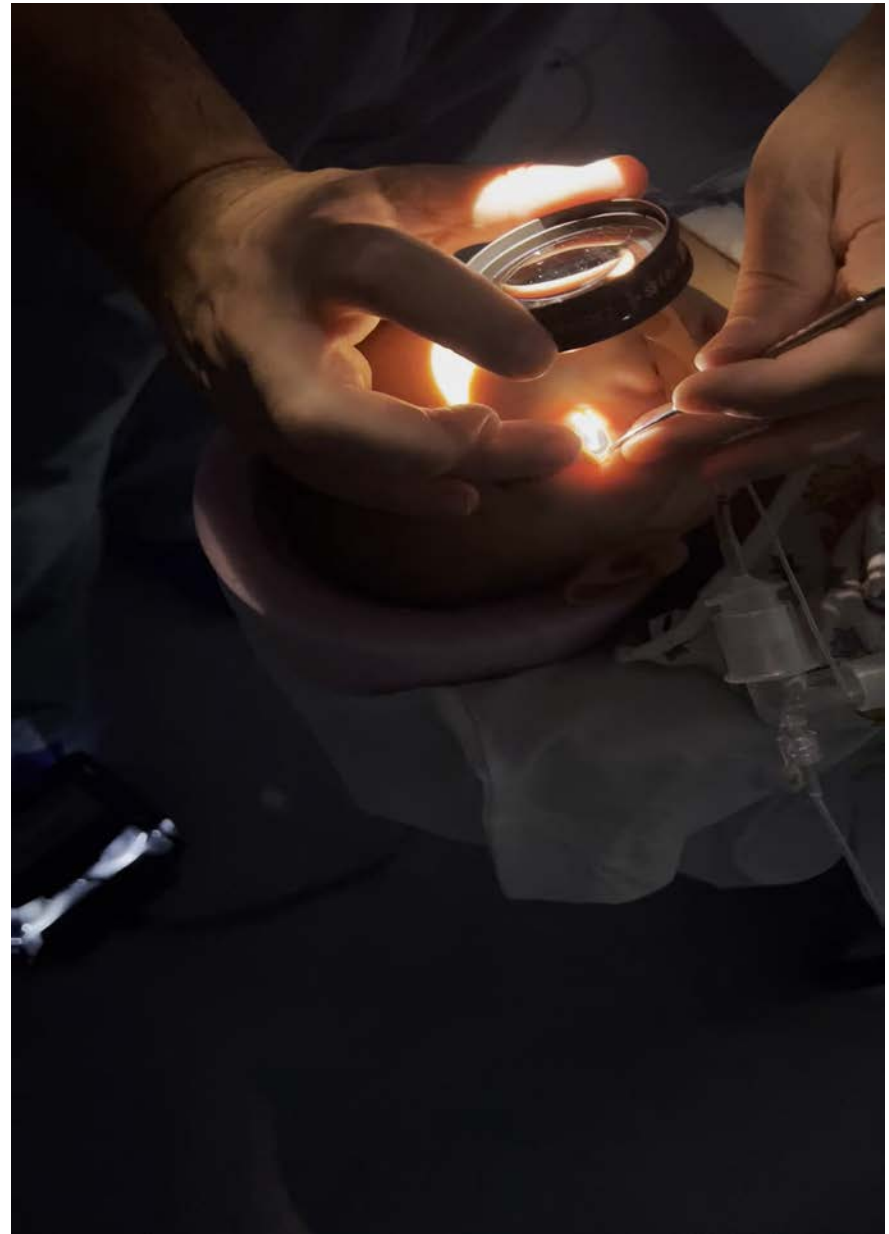


Foot pedal



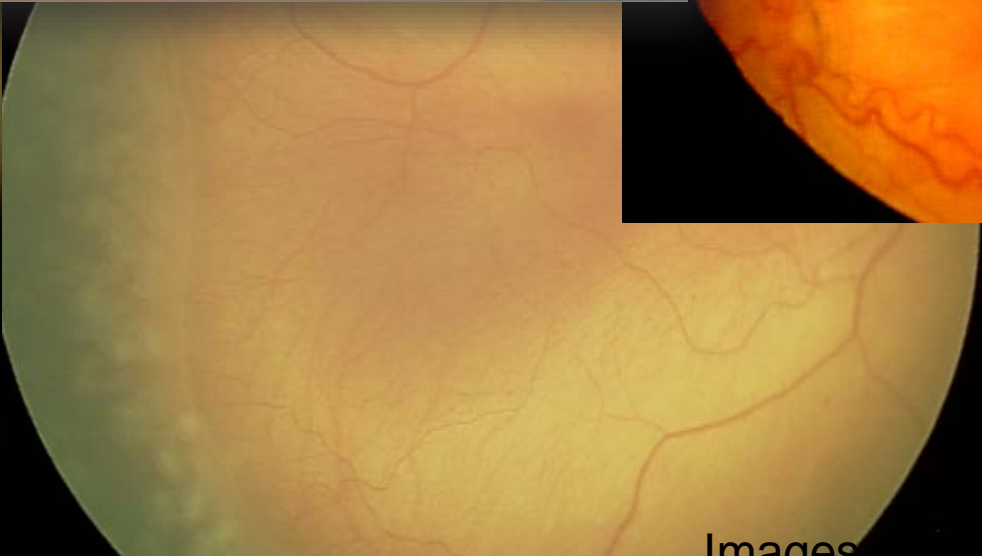
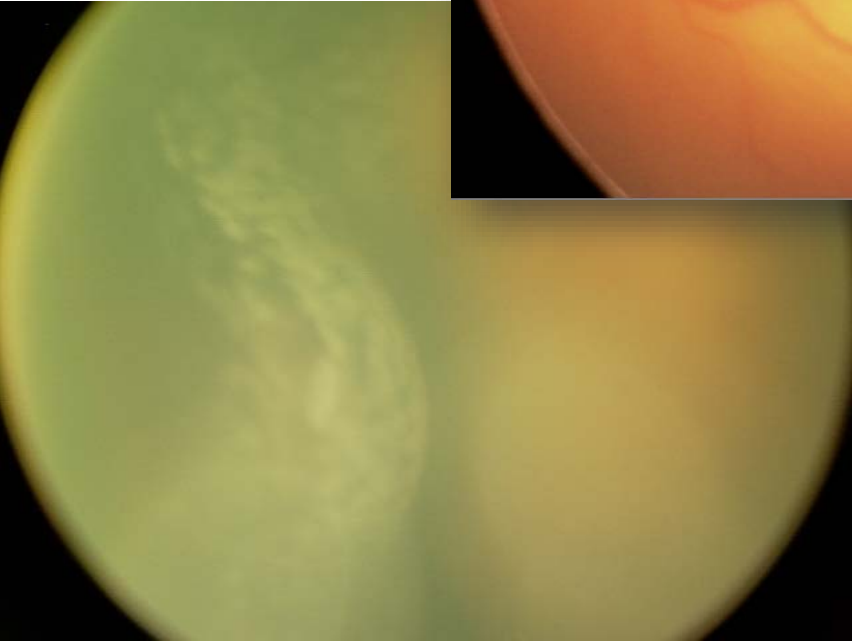
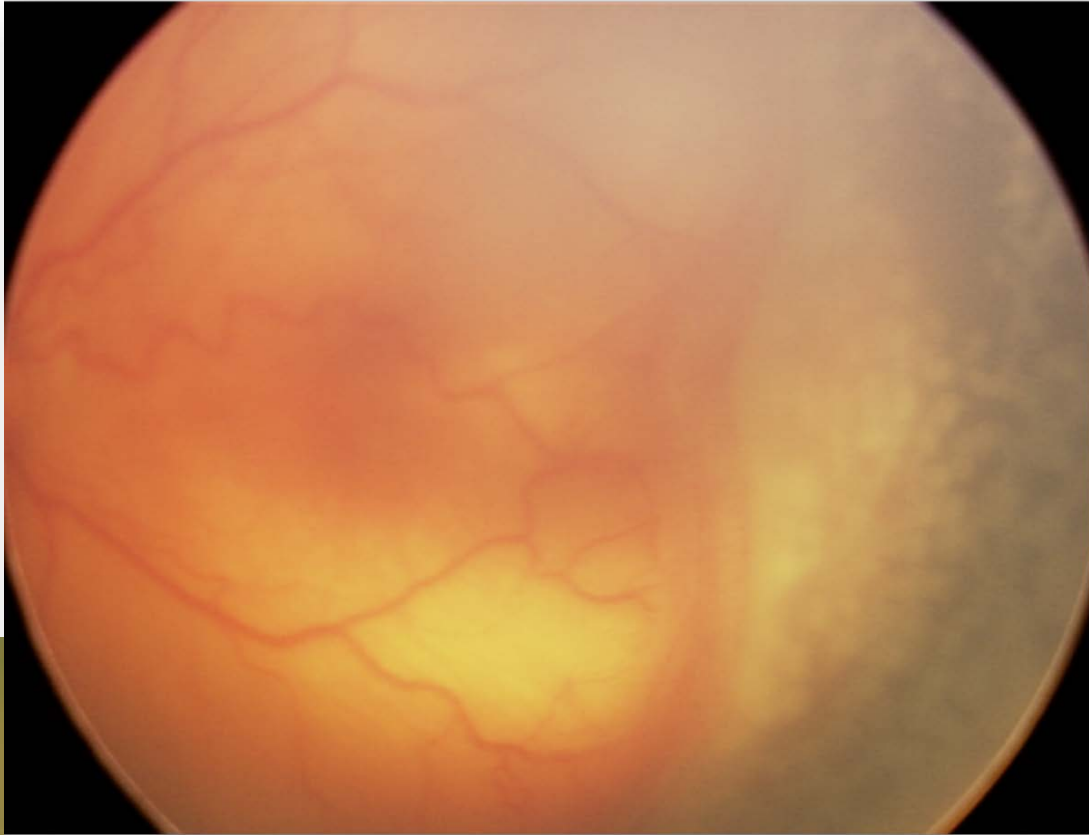
Laser in the Neonatal Unit or Outpatient Clinic



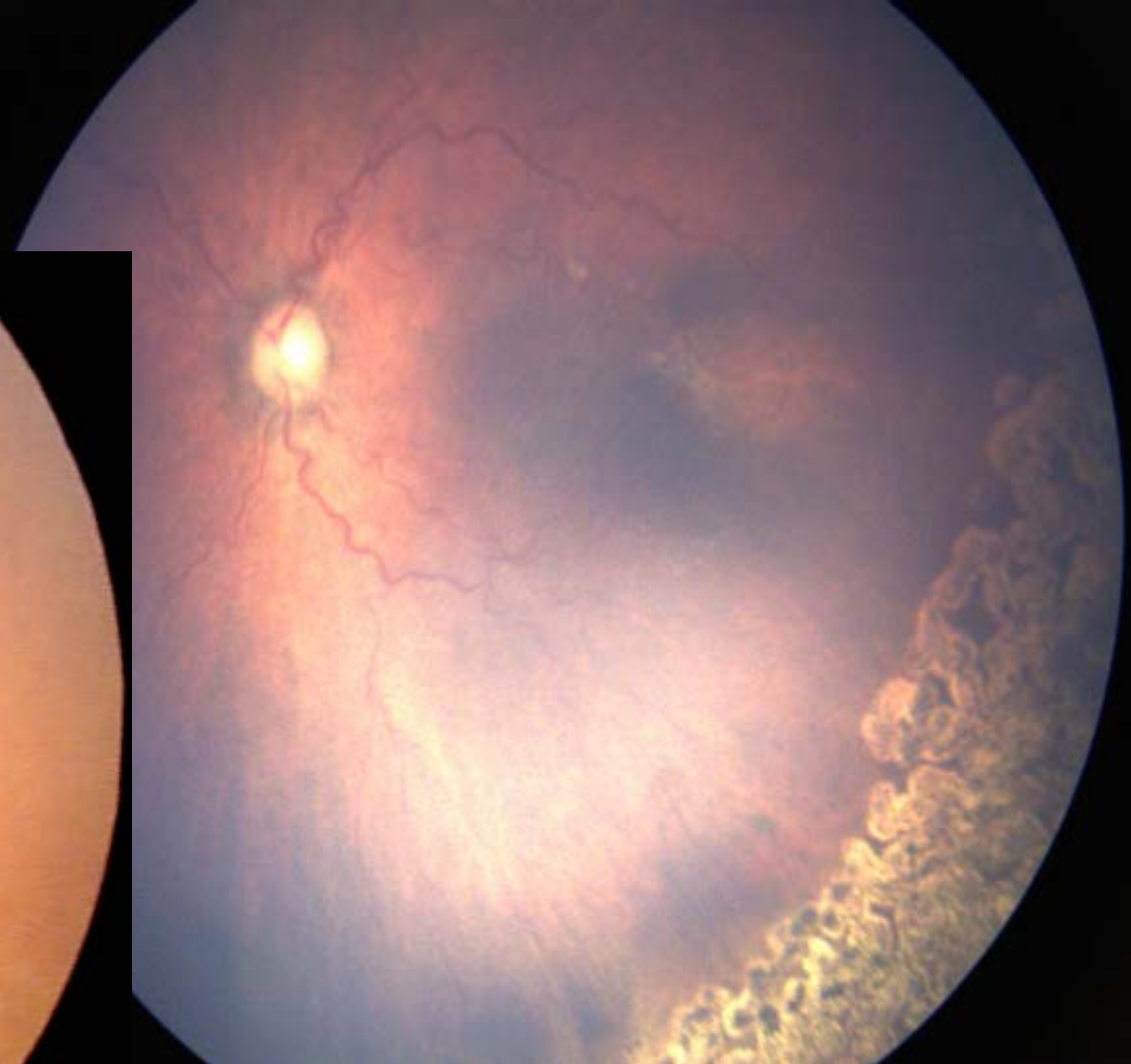


Images courtesy of Michael Blair

Laser Examples

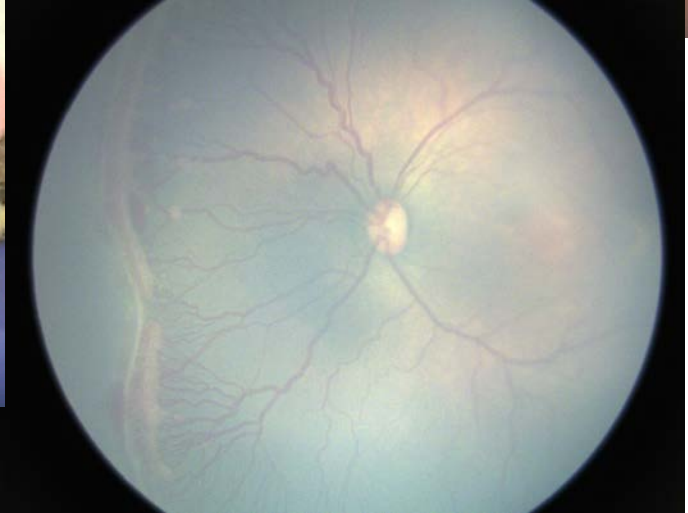


Images courtesy of Michael Blair



Laser scars

Consider Anti-VEGF injection and delayed laser treatment



So ...Let's Collaborate!

- St Francis Nsambya Hospital
- Mengo Hospital
- Lubaga Hospital
- Mulago Specialized Women and Infants Hospital
- Kawempe Hospital
- Nakasero Hospital
- Makerere University



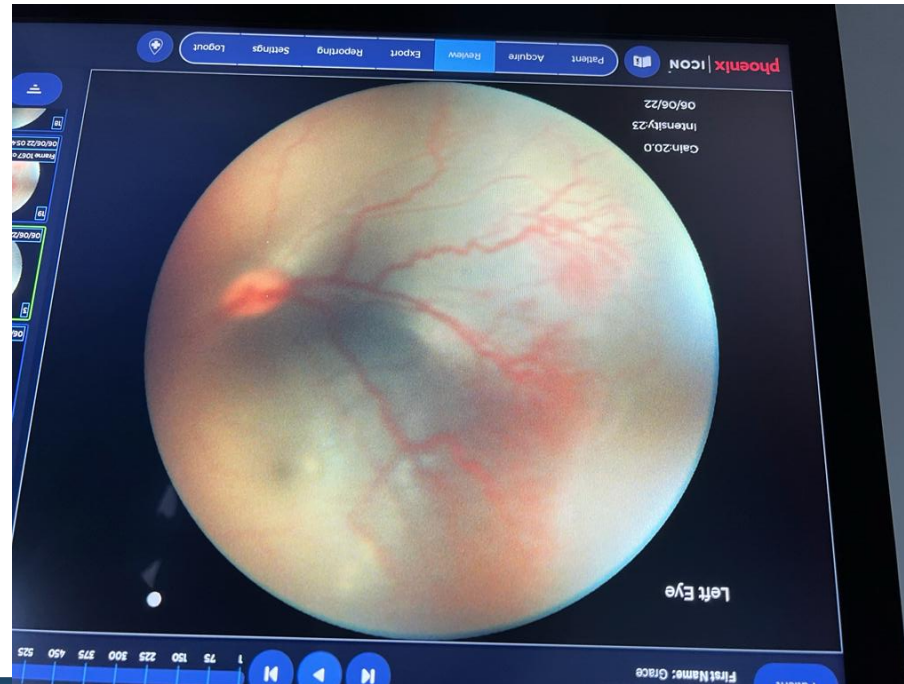
Let's Collaborate!

- Collaboration of the ROP team
 - Nurses, mid-wives
 - Pediatricians, neonatologists
 - Ophthalmologists



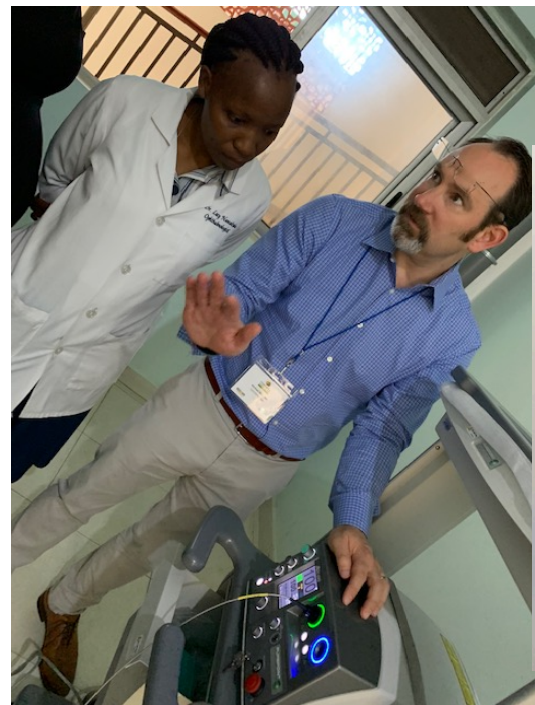
Let's Collaborate!

- Let's collaborate on research and data collection from all the Kampala hospitals involved in ROP care
- ROP data from Uganda can be used to develop national ROP screening guidelines
- Screening guidelines standardize care and prevents blindness



Let's Collaborate!

- Let's collaborate with teaching each other the necessary skills to take good care of the premature infant with ROP
 - Indirect ophthalmoscopy ROP exams
 - ROP treatments such as laser and intra-ocular injections



Let's Collaborate!

- Let's collaborate with education of health care providers, raising awareness of ROP and the complications associated with being born too soon
- Parent education is critical. Parents are the most passionate advocates for change to our health care system.



Let's Collaborate!

- Let's collaborate with each other to advocate to the MOH for resources needed to prevent ROP and blindness





Let Us Collaborate to Prevent 10,000 Infants per Year From Going Blind in Uganda



Children's Eye Foundation of **aaapos**

STOP INFANT BLINDNESS IN AFRICA





Thank you

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