



*Diseases & Surgery of the  
Retina and Vitreous*

**Jeffrey D. Zheutlin, M.D.**  
**Frank W. Garber, M.D.**  
**Louis C. Glazer, M.D.**  
**Renee L. Williams, O.D.**

#### **VRA Grand Rapids**

2505 East Paris Ave.  
Suite 100  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
Phone (616) 285-1200  
Fax (616) 940-0864

#### **VRA Kalamazoo**

1080 North 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite 100  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
Phone (269) 353-9700  
Fax (269) 353-8534

#### **VRA Muskegon**

3102 Glade Street  
Muskegon, MI 49444  
Phone (231) 830-1200  
Fax (231) 737-9008

#### **Clinical Trials**

Allergan Posurdex Implant for DME  
Alimera Iluvien Implant for DME  
ThromboGenics Microplasmin  
for Vitreo-Macular Traction  
Lpath-iSONEP for ARMD  
Regeneron VEGF-Trap for ARMD  
Genentech Lucentis for CRVO  
Genentech Lucentis for CRVO Ext.  
Regeneron VEGF-Trap for CRVO  
Novartis Aliskiren for DME  
DRCR Lucentis for Diabetic VH  
Regeneron VEGF-Trap for ARMD Ext.  
Alimera Iluvien Implant for DME Ext.  
GSK Oral Pazopanib for ARMD  
GSK Topical Pazopanib for ARMD  
Alcon ESBA 1008 for ARMD  
Santen DE-109 for Posterior Uveitis  
Allergan Ozurdex vs. Lucentis for DME  
Regeneron VEGF-Trap for BRVO  
Novartis LFG316 for Dry AMD  
Van Andel Institute Vitreous Sample  
DRCR Topical NSAID for DME  
Wilmer iDEAL for DME  
Saint Mary's Vitreous Sample

[www.vrapc.com](http://www.vrapc.com)  
[www.facebook.com/vrapc](http://www.facebook.com/vrapc)

## **Vitreo-Retinal Associates, P.C.**

### **Leave the Fireworks to the Professionals this Fourth of July**

Each Fourth of July, thousands of people are injured from using consumer fireworks. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, more than 9,000 fireworks-related injuries happen each year. Of these, nearly half are head-related injuries, with nearly 30 percent of these injuries to the eyes. One-fourth of fireworks eye injuries result in permanent vision loss or blindness.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology and VRA want to remind consumers to leave fireworks to professionals. Too many Fourth of July celebrations are ruined because a child has to be rushed to the emergency room after a fireworks accident. Potentially blinding injuries can be avoided if families attend a professional public fireworks display instead of putting on a home fireworks display.

Children are the most common victims of firework accidents, with those 15 years old or younger accounting for half of all fireworks eye injuries in the United States. For children under the age of five, seemingly innocent sparklers account for one-third of all fireworks injuries. Sparklers can burn at nearly 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, which is hot enough to cause a third-degree burn.

Among the most serious injuries are abrupt trauma to the eye from bottle rockets. The rockets fly erratically, often injuring bystanders. Injuries from bottle rockets can include eyelid lacerations, corneal abrasions, traumatic cataract, retinal detachment, optic nerve damage, rupture of the eyeball, eye muscle damage and complete blindness.

#### **For a safe and healthy Independence Day celebration, VRA urges observance of the following tips:**

- Never let children play with fireworks of any type.
- View fireworks from a safe distance: at least 500 feet away, or up to a quarter of a mile for best viewing.
- Respect safety barriers set up to allow pyrotechnicians to do their jobs safely.
- Leave the lighting of fireworks to trained professionals.
- Follow directives given by event ushers or public safety personnel.
- If you find unexploded fireworks remains, do not touch them. Immediately contact your local fire or police departments.
- If you get an eye injury from fireworks, seek medical help immediately.

#### **VRA is West Michigan's most experienced ophthalmology practice for highly specialized eye care with convenient locations in Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, and Muskegon.**

Drs. Jeffrey Zheutlin, Frank Garber, and Louis Glazer, all board certified and renowned ophthalmologists, specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the eye including macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, macular disease and retinal detachment. As the area's leader in innovative eye research, we offer the latest advancements in diagnostic and surgical technologies.

*This article reprinted with permission from the American Academy of Ophthalmology's EyeSmart™ campaign. For more information about AMD, visit [www.geteyesmart.org](http://www.geteyesmart.org).*