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Painting the World Green: Awarenessand Early Detection Can Save Your Sight from Glaucoma

Glaucoma remains the leading cause of preventable irreversible blindness worldwide. Currently, an estimated 78 million people are diagnosed with glaucoma globally, and this number is projected to rise to 111.8 million by 2040. One in 200 individuals aged 40 has glaucoma, with the prevalence increasing to one in eight by age 80. As the global population ages, the incidence of glaucoma is expected to escalate, making it a growing public health concern.

Early detection through regular eye examinations is crucial, as glaucoma often presents without symptoms in its early stages. Once vision is lost due to glaucoma, it cannot be restored; however, early diagnosis and treatment can prevent further damage.

The World Glaucoma Association (WGA), under the leadership of President Ningli Wang, is dedicated to eliminating glaucoma-related disability worldwide. The WGA encompasses a network of 91 Glaucoma Societies, representing over 20,000 individual members globally.

For over more than 15 years, the WGA has been raising global awareness about glaucoma and the importance of prevention through initiatives like World Glaucoma Week. The "The world is bright, save your sight" campaign urges individuals worldwide to take proactive steps in preserving their vision

President Ningli Wang emphasizes, "The World Glaucoma Association is committed to driving glaucoma awareness by organizing the World Glaucoma Week and providing a wealth of scientific content for the larger glaucoma community, member societies, patients, and the general public."

The WGA Executive Office can assist with connecting media outlets to our global network of experts and patients. Please reach out to the WGA Executive General Manager, <u>Liezl Botha</u>, for interview requests, quotes, photos, or other media-related inquiries.