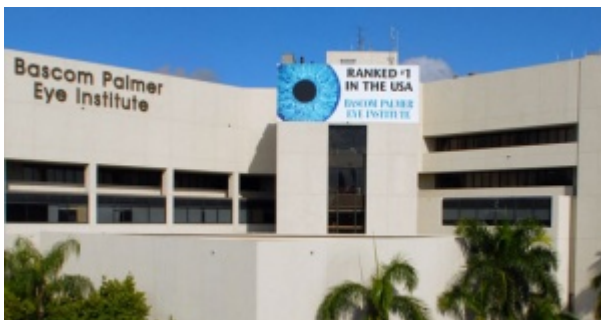


Bascom Palmer Eye Institute Ranked Nation's #1 in Ophthalmology for 16th Time

Bascom Palmer Eye Institute of the University of Miami Health System and University of Miami Miller School of Medicine has again been ranked as the nation's best in ophthalmology by *U.S. News & World Report* in its *Best Hospitals* edition. It is the 14th year in a row and the 16th time that Bascom Palmer Eye Institute has been ranked Number One since the publication began surveying U.S. physicians for its annual rankings.



“Our patients inspire Bascom Palmer’s superb team of 1,200 doctors, scientists, nurses, ophthalmic technicians and support staff to excel in patient care, vision research, education and surgical innovation,” said Eduardo C. Alfonso, M.D., chairman of Bascom Palmer Eye Institute. “Ensuring personalized, exceptional care for each of our patients is our priority. The fact that ophthalmologists from around the country recognize us as the best in the nation again and again is a great honor.”

Bascom Palmer’s doctors and scientists are recognized international leaders in their fields of expertise in every subspecialty of ophthalmology; these include macular, retinal and optic nerve diseases, cataracts and corneal diseases,

glaucoma, eye cancers, and eye diseases in children.

Another University of Miami Health System program – ear, nose and throat at University of Miami Hospital (UMH) – joins Bascom Palmer in the national rankings at Number 35. Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at University of Miami Hospital and Clinics is ranked “high performing” in cancer, as is neurology and neurosurgery at UMH. In the regional rankings, UMH is ranked No. 4 in the Miami Metro Area and No. 12 in Florida.

“It is such an honor to work with the extraordinary physicians, researchers and staff at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, and throughout our medical center,” said Edward Abraham, M.D., Dean and Chief Academic Officer of the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. “The Bascom Palmer experts set the standard for innovation in ophthalmology research, education and care, and patients around the world benefit.”

Bascom Palmer is one of the first academic institutions to initiate the American Academy of Ophthalmology IRIS Registry (Intelligent Research in Sight) – the nation’s first comprehensive eye disease and condition registry. IRIS integrates with electronic health records and allows physicians and surgeons to share clinical data. Upon review of this huge body of information, ophthalmologists can compare their performance against benchmarks and ensure the best possible outcomes for their patients in the delivery of eye care.

The rankings will be published in the *U.S. News Best Hospitals 2018* guidebook and are accessible online at

www.usnews.com/besthospitals.