

JOAN W. MILLER, M.D.

Joan W. Miller, M.D., retina specialist at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (MEEI) and Harvard Medical School (HMS) Professor of Ophthalmology, Henry Willard Williams Professor of Ophthalmology at MEEI and Chairman of Ophthalmology at HMS.

A graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and HMS, Dr. Miller is the director of the Infirmary's Angiogenesis Laboratory and a full time physician in the Retina Service at the Infirmary. She has served as the first chairman of the Joint Governance Committee of the Center for Clinical Research, Department of Ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School and the first woman president of the medical staff of the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, and is the first woman to be named Chief and Chairman of Ophthalmology at MEEI and HMS.

Dr. Miller's research interests are focused on ocular neovascularization, particularly as it relates to macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy, including the role of growth factors, the development of anti-angiogenic therapy, and photodynamic therapy. She, along with Evangelos Gragoudas, M.D. pioneered the development of photodynamic therapy for neovascular macular degeneration. In addition, Dr. Miller and her colleagues were among the first to demonstrate the importance of a growth factor, vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) in the development of ocular neovascularization and the potential use of drug therapies targeting VEGF.

An internationally recognized expert in the field of macular degeneration, Dr Miller has published more than 64 original peer-reviewed papers, 38 book chapters and review articles, and is a named inventor on four U.S. patents.

She has received numerous awards, including the Rosenthal Award of the Macula Society, the Retina Research Award from the Club Jules Gonin and the Alcon Research Institute Award. Dr Miller and her husband John live in Winchester, Mass. with their two younger children, Douglas and Mary. Their son John will begin medical school at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor this fall.