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Dr. Sunness is an ophthalmologist, specializing in low vision rehabilitation, and macular and retinal disease. She is the Medical Director of the Hoover Low Vision Rehabilitation Services at the Greater Baltimore Medical Center. She was on the Wilmer faculty for 20 years, during which she directed a large NIH-funded study of advanced dry age-related macular degeneration, whose findings have served as the basis for most clinical research and trials for this condition. She has done pioneering work in understanding how macular disease progresses, and how the patient can adapt to central visual loss. She was the 2011 recipient of the Gass Medal from the Macula Society and the 2014 Envision Award in Low Vision Research. She is on the Medical Advisory Board of the MVA, so she sees driving issues from the perspective of the treating physician and the patient, as well as from the perspective of the MVA to ensure safe driving. She received her hospital's Compassionate Caregiver Honor Award in 2009.