

National Eye Institute Perspective

Michael F. Chiang, M.D. Director, National Eye Institute National Institutes of Health Twitter: @NEIDirector

Addressing Health Disparities in CNS Disorders NASEM Neuroscience Forum April 18, 2023 **No Financial Disclosures**

What Can the Vision Field Contribute to this Discussion?

- **Technology development**: qualitative to quantitative paradigms
 - Historically: nuanced examination
 - Now: more **imaging** → **telehealth**, **AI** (first FDA-cleared autonomous AI system)
- Methodological research with potential impact: access for underserved populations, cost of care (imaging biomarkers, e.g. Alzheimer's)
- **Big data & registries** (e.g. IRIS, Bridge2AI): risks of **bias**, risks of **privacy**, challenges of historically marginalized groups
- Importance to technology to narrow, rather than widen, gaps
- Accessibility by visual disabled (and intersection with aging)



Abramoff et al, NPJ Digit Med 2018 Aug 28;1:39 Majeed et al, Front Aging Neurosci 2021; 13:720167

The New York Times At-Home Coronavirus Tests Are Inaccessible to Blind People

With visual cues and complex steps, at-home coronavirus tests are often inaccessible to blind people. But some low- and high-tech workarounds could help.

By Amanda Morris Published Jan. 10, 2022 Updated Jan. 12, 2022





