

Why the Eye

[On-screen description: The scenes cut between a young boy exploring a vibrant and beautiful forest, and Doctor Shannon Boye, Professor and Chief-Division of Cellular and Molecular Therapy, working in her lab.]

DR. BOYE: So, the eye is excellent for testing genetic therapies for multiple reasons. If I want to deliver any kind of medicine to the eye, it's easily accessible. It is an immune privilege site so our eyes have evolved such that they don't get all inflamed because if we did, we'd go blind. Another thing is that it's small, right, so you don't need a lot of drug to get the job done. Because of all of those features, the eye has really been the proving ground for a lot of the genetic therapies that have been developed.

[Text on-screen reads: Experience the impact of vision research. NIH.GOV]