Carlo Lovisolo passed away on July 10th this summer after a prolonged battle with a glioblastoma. Born in Acqui Terme in October 1961, he was an outstanding physician and surgeon who enlightened his colleagues in ophthalmology with his surgical talent and meticulous observations, particularly in refractive surgery and most specifically in the field of phakic intraocular lens implantation.

Carlo completed his medical degree in 1986 and his residency in ophthalmology in 1990, both at the University of Pavia. He underwent his refractive surgery fellowship under Italian pioneer Lucio Buratto, who eulogized Carlo’s “outstanding professional preparation, his brilliant intelligence and considerable operating capacity and his intellectual honesty which always led him to give the best of himself to get the best for his patients.”

Carlo made significant contributions to the scientific progression of our specialty, particularly in phakic intraocular lens surgery. We enjoyed many years of learning from his lectures, experiencing his passion and drive for improving patient safety, especially in the sizing of the implantable collamer lens, something for which he will remain in the annals of ophthalmology as a leading light and thinker. He authored a landmark textbook and one of the most highly cited review papers on phakic intraocular lenses. He recently contributed a chapter on complications of posterior chamber phakic intraocular lenses to the second edition of Management of Complications in Refractive Surgery, which will soon be published posthumously as his last but very important contribution to teaching.

Carlo was an elegant and graceful man. Despite his intense passion for ophthalmology, he was devoted to spending time with his wife Luisella Lombardi and his three brilliant and talented sons, Francesco (15), Alessandro (12), and Luca (10, the magician), who now have an extremely difficult period ahead of them. Carlo’s memory will remain in the hearts of all of the friends and colleagues that he came in contact with. We are grateful for his friendship, his love, and his spirit, the last of which will live on in all of us.

REFERENCES
1. Lovisolo CF, Pesando PM. The Implantable Contact Lens (ICL) and Other Phakic IOLs. Canelli, Italy: Fabiano; 2000.