

VISIONARY

2025 EDITION

FORSEE AFRICA

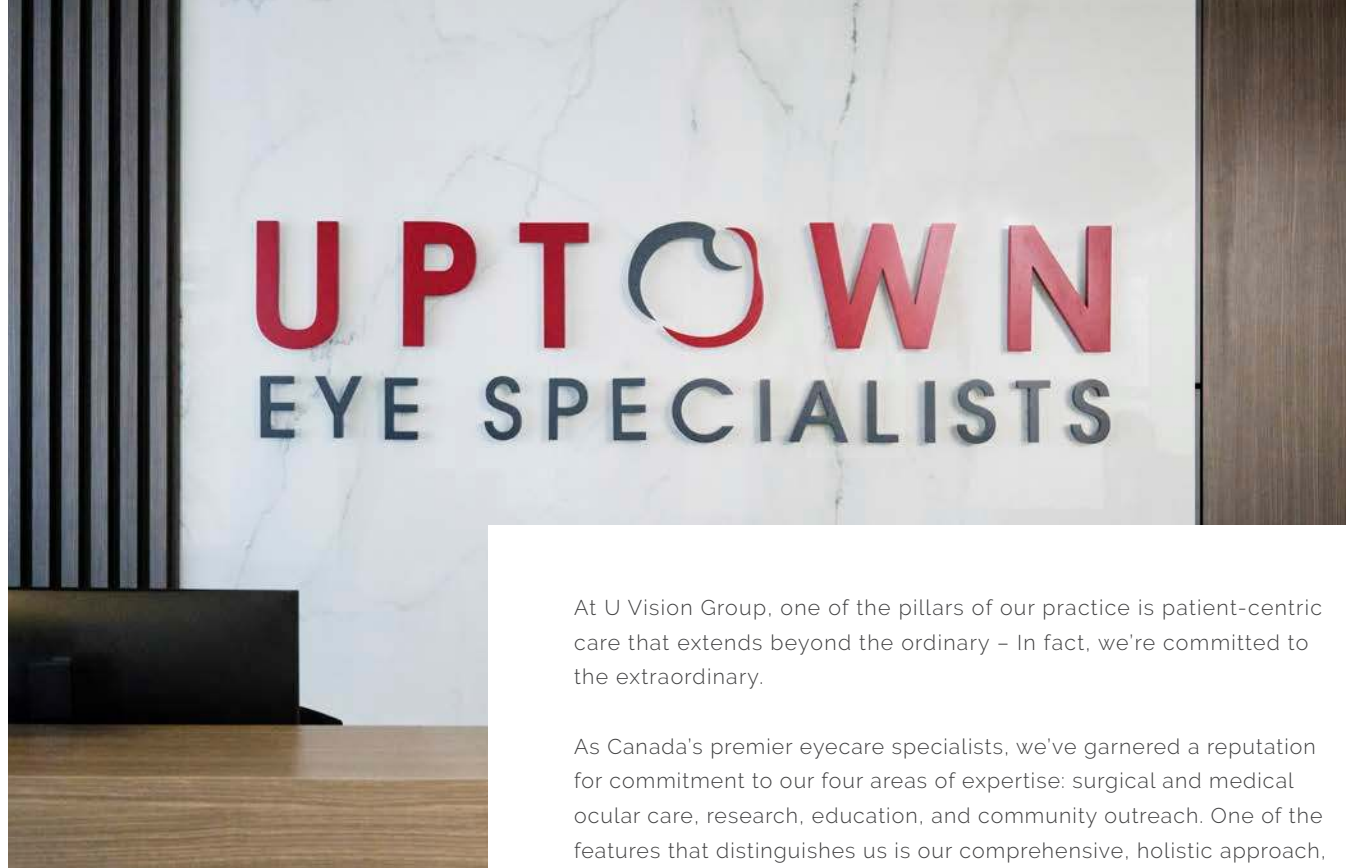
*Dr. Eric Tam, Dr. Lili Tong,
Dr. Sohel Somani: Training other
Ophthalmologists & Outreach*

DRY EYE INSTITUTE

*Dr. Eric Tam –
Ocular Hygienists and
their role on the team*

PEDIATRICS

*Dr. Fariba Nazemi –
Taking Special Care of Children*



2025: THE ONGOING PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

U Vision Group

At U Vision Group, one of the pillars of our practice is patient-centric care that extends beyond the ordinary – In fact, we're committed to the extraordinary.

As Canada's premier eyecare specialists, we've garnered a reputation for commitment to our four areas of expertise: surgical and medical ocular care, research, education, and community outreach. One of the features that distinguishes us is our comprehensive, holistic approach, comprising sub-specialty eye care, dry eye management, and refractive + aesthetic procedures that cater to patients at all age ranges from pediatric patients through to the elderly.

Dr. Eric Tam's commitment and that of his staff is to follow and monitor patients – and their families through every step of their care journey from the initial meet and greet to their last follow-up care appointment. In this issue of Visionary, you'll read about Margaret Ranieri's experience having cataract surgery under the watchful guidance of Dr. Sohel Somani, as well as a story about the incredible spirit of teamwork between our Ocular Hygienist, Medical Ophthalmic Technician and Medical Aesthetician staff.

In the area of research, retina specialist Dr. Efrem Mandelcorn describes his work on a heavy silicone oil called Densiron 68 to help improve retina attachment surgery outcomes, and Dr. Yan explains his published article reviewing the advantages of combining retina and cataract surgery.

You'll also read about our continued participation in outreach missions to Africa with FORESEE Canada where our dedicated team works with local Kenyan eye surgeons to bring sight-saving eyecare to an area near Nairobi where roughly one-third of residents lack access to healthcare. These missions helped train area eye surgeons to learn new skills to better serve the population in need.

As always, we aspire to seamlessly blend advanced vision care and aesthetic services, fostering improved lives, self-confidence and well-being for our patients. We greatly value the trust our patients and their families have placed in us for nearly 20 years and we look forward to meeting – and surpassing – our patients' needs and expectations for many years to come.

CONTENTS

4

FORSEE MENTORS AND STUDENTS

Dr. Hannah Chiu and Winnie Yu

6

PEDIATRICS – DR. FARIBA NAZEMI

Taking Special Care of Children

8

OCULOPLASTICS

*Dr. Sangsu Han –
A Welcome Addition to the Team*

10

OPTIMIZING THE PATIENT JOURNEY TOWARD IMPROVED SIGHT

18

U VISION GROUP & FORSEE

*Advancing Eyecare Together
with Dr. Sohel Somani*

20

DRY EYE INSTITUTE

*Dr. Eric Tam:
Well-rounded Dry Eye Team,
focus on Ocular Hygienists
and their role on the team*

25

DR. SOHEL SOMANI RESTORES VISION THROUGH CUTTING- EDGE TECHNOLOGY

28

ULTRAVIEW FREEDOM

*A New Era of Tailored
Vision Correction*

30

RETINA AND CATARACTS:

*Combined or Sequential
Surgeries?*

32

RETINA – DR. EFREM MANDELCORN

*Enhancing Retinal
Attachment Success*

34

SWING FOR SIGHT 2024 GOLF TOURNAMENT!

14
**FORSEE
AFRICA**



*Dr. Eric Tam, Dr. Lili Tong,
Dr. Sohel Somani,
Dr. Husayn Gulamhusein,
Dr. Jean Junior: Training other
Ophthalmologists and Outreach*

FORSEE MENTORS AND STUDENTS

DR. HANNAH CHIU AND WINNIE YU



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DR. HANNAH CHIU AND WINNIE YU

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For Winnie Yu, her experience as a FORSEE mentee has been a great opportunity

to train under the guidance of a diverse team of eye physicians and surgeons and to gain a deeper understanding of ophthalmology as a specialty.

Ms. Yu is a second year medical student at the University of Toronto and the 2024 recipient of the FORSEE Canada Summer Research Scholarship. Her research project is to assess the impact of ocular hygiene regimens being offered to cataract surgery patients with dry eye, working closely with lead investigators Drs. Hannah Chiu, Eric Tam and Sohel Somani.

With FORSEE, Ms. Yu's favourite part of the experience is being able to learn about different subspecialties within ophthalmology and the intricacies of the treatments for ocular diseases. A day in the life of a FORSEE scholar involves two to four clinical days per week, with the remaining work week dedicated to research. She would absolutely recommend this opportunity to other medical students who want to specialize in ophthalmology. *"The opportunity to gain hands-on clinical skills in ophthalmology this early in my medical training has helped me build a solid foundation and is pivotal in strengthening my passion in ophthalmology."*

One of the lead investigators, Dr. Hannah Chiu, shared that she finds a deep sense of meaning in passing the baton. Dr. Chiu is an Assistant Professor at the University of Toronto

(U of T) and is the lead ophthalmology course instructor for second year medical students at U of T. This is her eighth year of mentoring medical students and one of the aspects that she finds very rewarding is witnessing the development of the next generation of physicians. *"I love seeing students turn their curiosity in ophthalmology into a passion to pursue it in their own career,"* she stated. Another aspect that she finds very meaningful is that each year, the research projects that students are involved in transform into real-world clinical applications that benefit patients.

To learn more about mentee opportunities, please visit www.forseecanada.com.

“ I love seeing students turn their curiosity in ophthalmology into a passion to pursue it in their own career. DR. HANNAH CHIU

PEDIATRICS – DR. FARIBA NAZEMI

TAKING SPECIAL CARE OF CHILDREN



DR. NAZEMI

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When a child experiences an eye problem, often the whole family becomes involved, said Dr. Fariba Nazemi, a pediatric ophthalmologist at Uptown Eye Specialists.

Sometimes the children come in with their mother, and other times with their father, or they might be accompanied by their aunt, uncle, siblings, or grandparents. For this reason, as clinicians working in the Pediatric Ophthalmology Practice, we need to show a lot of patience and spend time educating patients and their families. Various family members may ask their own questions or repeat the same ones that have already been answered to other family members. In addition, a child having to undergo surgery can take an emotional toll on all involved. Many parents say they'd rather be sick themselves than witness their child being ill," said Dr. Nazemi.

While pediatric ophthalmology surgery can affect the entire family in different ways, Dr. Nazemi noted that the emo-

tional impact is often the greatest. One young patient, Emmanuel, had to undergo two cataract surgeries by age 12. His cataracts began to affect him by obstructing his vision at an early age. Dr. Nazemi noted the cataract at age nine and it had to be removed soon after diagnosis. Emmanuel recently undergone cataract surgery on his other eye.

Dr. Nazemi pointed out that cataract surgery and other eye-related procedures have to be managed differently when done at a young age.

"Visual rehabilitation following cataract surgery in children might not be as quick and easy as it is in adults. In many cases, children continue to grow and

their vision continues to develop for years after their cataract surgery. Parents need to be educated about the process of vision development, as well as potential problems and the need for long-term follow-up," noted Dr. Nazemi.

The surgeons need to check for any possible systemic problems that might be causing the cataract. In addition, children may experience more severe inflammation after cataract surgery and require more aftercare than adults. Children are also at risk of amblyopia that reduces their vision potential. *"Technically, cataract surgery in children is very similar to adults, but there are additional factors at play in children,"* stated Dr. Nazemi.

"I had cataract surgery done on both of my eyes by Dr. Nazemi," said Emmanuel. "When I had my first surgery done at age nine I was very scared. But with the second surgery, I was less scared because the first one had gone very well. Everyone was so friendly and caring. I'd like to thank Dr. Nazemi and her team for all their hard work and for the support they gave me." Emmanuel's mother was also extremely grateful for the level of care the clinic staff showed her son. "I want to thank Dr. Nazemi and the entire clinic team for the excellent way they took care of my Emmanuel. He recovered very well. The entire staff, both in-clinic and in-hospital were very supportive and caring. I'm very happy to see my son recover so well. May God bless you all."

“When I had my first surgery done at age nine I was very scared. But with the second surgery, I was less scared because the first one had gone very well.

EMMANUEL (PATIENT)





OCULOPLASTICS

DR. SANGSU HAN – A WELCOME ADDITION TO THE TEAM

Uptown Eye Specialists is pleased to add Dr. Sangsu Han to its team of eminent eyecare experts.

Dr. Han brings a wealth of experience having worked at Carrot Eye Surgery Clinic, another prominent eye clinic focused on oculoplastics, a subspecialty of ophthalmology that deals with disorders of the eyelids, orbit, and lacrimal system.

Born in Korea in 1991, Dr. Han moved to Canada with his family at age 10 and completed his education here. After completing his ophthalmology residency he pursued an oculoplastics fellowship at McMaster University in June 2023. He subsequently undertook three months of additional training in Seoul, Korea, where he acquired the skills to perform cosmetic surgeries for Asian eyelids. "Korea has one of the highest numbers of cosmetic surgeries in the world," Dr. Han said. Among them, eyelid surgery is the most popular.

Dr. Han is passionate about cosmetic eyelid surgery, in particular the procedures that are popular in Asian communities. As Dr. Han is of Korean descent and is fluent in the language,

he is committed to becoming one of the most sought-after Asian eyelid specialists in Canada. Bringing this skill set to the Toronto area is an asset to his community, Dr. Han noted. He is aware that his community prefers seeing doctors who share the same culture and background, allowing them to more easily relate specifically to the unique differences in their eyelids and their specific eye concerns. *"Asian eyelids are anatomically different from those of non-Asians,"* Dr. Han commented.

Dr. Han chose to work at Uptown Eye Specialists for two reasons. He wanted to resume work in cataract surgery, and he knows there is a high volume of patients who consult with the clinic for its multi-faceted expertise. He also wanted to gain additional experience in cosmetic surgeries with a view toward his overall goal of becoming a go-to expert for the Asian population's eyelid procedures. At Uptown Eye Specialists, Dr. Han is looking forward to serving his community as a leading clinician in ptosis, upper and lower lid blepharoplasty, epicanthoplasty, and Asian double eyelid surgeries.

Dr. Han is in-office on Thursdays and Fridays, so please feel free to schedule your consultation with him regarding cosmetic eye surgery, eyelids and concerns relating to Asian eyes.



“Asian eyelids are anatomically different from those of non-Asians.”

DR. HAN

OPTIMIZING THE PATIENT JOURNEY TOWARD IMPROVED SIGHT

A At U Eye Laser Cosmetic, a talented group of eyecare professionals in a wide range of disciplines

has dedicated itself to helping Canadians achieve the best sight of their lives.

The clinic offers comprehensive surgical procedures for the eye, catering to patients of all ages. Their flagship services include UltraView ReLACS for advanced refractive laser-assisted cataract surgery, UltraView FREEDOM for

personalized laser vision correction, and UltraView VISION, the ultimate in vision surgery.

When the clinic was founded in 2006, the goal was to provide a venue where people seeking eye correction or treatment could access state-of-the-art care but just as importantly, top-of-the-line customer service. *"We try to create a patient journey where people become educated and knowledgeable about why they're visiting the clinic,"* says Dr. Tam

The staff at U Eye Laser Cosmetic are "relationship builders" who go the extra mile in counseling patients with patience and great care.

Rutmila Uddin is an Ophthalmic Technician and Ocular Hygienist at the



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: RUTMILA UDDIN, JOCELYN FLORESCA AND MAY SARHAN



KOMAL PATEL

“Led by a team of skilled professionals, we offer the latest in ophthalmic treatments and technologies.” KOMAL PATEL

clinic's Scarborough location. As an Ophthalmic Technician, she deals with patients who are coming in for both laser vision correction and lens-based vision surgeries, and blepharoplasty. Her responsibilities include comprehensive eye examinations, diagnostic testing, and history taking prior to surgery to ensure optimal outcomes. She is also a part of the Patient Care Team, where she provides post-operative care, including follow-ups to address any concerns and regular check-ups.

“As an Ocular Hygienist, I focus primarily on dry eye care and treatment,” she explained. “In addition, I perform assessments on patients preparing for any eye surgery to implement preventative measures that minimize the risk of postoperative dry eye. We offer a variety of treatment options, including dry eye care products, the Zohx procedure, DEL/IPL, iLUX, and LipiFlow. Additionally, as a Certified Phlebotomist, I draw blood and prepare special eye drops derived from patients' own blood serum to treat severe dry eye who have not responded to other treatments,” Uddin added.

May Sarhan is a Medical Aesthetician, responsible for acne treatments, fractional resurfacing, laser hair removal, HaiRestart, rosacea, skin tightening, and the 4D non-invasive facelift (our crown treatment), as well as chemical peels, and more. I support patients throughout their journey with us at U Eye Laser Cosmetic. *“During the consultation, I create a treatment plan tailored to address patients' concerns while considering their budget. Additionally, I explain pre-treatment and post-treatment care,” she explained. She also collaborates with the clinic's ocular surgery team to consult with, book, and follow up with patients regarding their cosmetic eye surgeries. “We also refer patients between cosmetic and the dry eye clinic based on their symptoms and concerns.”*

Komal Patel is a Medical Ophthalmic Technician at the clinic's Brampton location, specializing in the management of the patient journey for LASIK and Refractive Lens Exchange (RLE) surgeries. In addition, she also does PTK/PRK consults and blepharoplasty. She is also a part of the Patient Care Team, where she provides post-operative care, including follow-ups to address any concerns and regular check-ups. She is dedicated to providing an exceptional level of care, ensuring a “red carpet” experience for each patient. Her responsibilities encompass conducting eye examinations, assessing patient eligibility for surgical procedures, gathering detailed medical histories, evaluating lifestyle factors, and verifying eyewear prescriptions.

“Led by a team of skilled professionals, we offer the latest in ophthalmic treatments and technologies. This combination of expertise and dedication ensures the best possible outcomes for all our patients,” stated Patel.

“We're leaders in diagnosing and treating dry eye disease with advanced tools such as meibography and tear osmolarity testing,” said Jocelyn Floresca, Patient Coordinator Lead. Our treatments include radiofrequency (RF), intense pulsed light (IPL), and Lipiflow. Customized at-home care plans with prescription drops and lifestyle advice help provide lasting relief.

“We offer a variety of non-invasive cosmetic treatments, including radiofrequency skin tightening, dermal fillers, and Botox for the eye area. These treatments are safe, with minimal downtime and natural results, complemented by high-quality skincare products.”

“Within our organization we have the expertise to manage patients through every stage of life from cradle to grave,” concluded Dr. Tam.

“Within our organization we have the expertise to manage patients through every stage of life from cradle to grave.”

DR. ERIC TAM

FORSEE AFRICA

*Dr. Eric Tam, Dr. Lili Tong, Dr. Sohel Somani,
Dr. Husayn Gulamhusein, Dr. Jean Junior:
Training other ophthalmologists and Outreach*



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What stood out to Dr. Sohel Somani the most about his recent trip to Africa with FORSEE Canada was the interest in the mission and the striving for excellence among the local eye surgeons with whom they worked in Nyeri to enhance their capabilities, learn, and embrace new skills. Furthermore, although the patients spoke a different language, Dr. Somani noted that their gratitude was evident.

Dr. Somani is part of a group of Canadian ophthalmologists who participate in regular outreach to underserved communities around the world through the the FORSEE Canada initiative.

Additional Canadian eye surgeons who have participated in these global out-

reach missions are Dr. Eric Tam, Dr. Lili Tong and Dr. Husayn Gulamhusein, along with Burundian ophthalmologist Dr. Jean Junior who joined the group as a trainee.

This year, the group travelled to Nyeri, a town located in the central part of Kenya about two hours outside the capital city Nairobi. It is a rural environment where roughly one-third of residents lack access to healthcare. At City Eye Hospital in Nyeri, the FORSEE Canada team trains other ophthalmologists and provides outreach support. They also assist the hospital's eye clinic in conducting eye examinations for local residents.

FORSEE Canada learned that this clinic wanted to transition from using manual small incision cataract surgery (MSICS), which is the standard in the developing world, to the more modern technique of phacoemulsification cataract surgery.

In the developing world it is still common to rely on the MSICS approach

for treating cataract patients. With this technique, larger incisions in the eye-ball are required to extract the cataract and replace the lens. This can take longer to heal and lead to a slower visual recovery afterward. Additionally, it is not as simple to adjust after surgery as the newer, more precise and less invasive technologies that FORSEE doctors use to train students.

The cost of the technology and the barriers to training in the developing world make it difficult to provide this more advanced technique without the training and outreach support of organizations like FORSEE. However, with time the costs are being reduced and training is becoming more available. Being able to guide ophthalmologists in this transition process is important to Dr. Somani.

Dr. Somani and Dr. Tong participated in a FORSEE mission in November 2023, while Dr. Eric Tam and Dr. Husayn Gulamhusein participated in the most recent trip in February 2024. Dr. Gulamhusein likens the experience to the wisdom of the

proverb, "If you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime". As his mother was born in Kenya, he felt a deep personal connection to Kenya when he visited. He also found this mission trip to be a skills exchange rather than simply an opportunity to train others in a developing part of the world. *"We had the pleasure of working with excellent surgeons with MSICS skills that we don't utilize as often,"* Dr. Gulamhusein stated. *"It was an opportunity to exchange skills training with established surgeons and augment or redirect our approaches."*

Dr. Gulamhusein has a strong interest in small incision surgery without the use of machines which is extremely useful in many parts of the world and within certain contexts such as during wartime, emergency situations, or when faced with a restricted budget. He was

passionate about learning the techniques used in Africa so that he could develop his skill set for other international opportunities that might arise in the future. *"The clinicians were very appreciative of the work we do,"* he commented.

In describing her experience of the mission, Dr. Lili Tong said what stood out to her as most interesting was the dedication of the team to get the day done no matter the long hours in surgery. *"There was an eagerness to accomplish so much in the short period FORSEE was in-country. The clinicians are dependent on these international trainings. We had just one week to train,"* Dr. Lili Tong said. *"In Canada it takes months to learn all of this."*

Dr. Tong noted that the surgeons worked hard from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. each day. She found it intriguing that

every morning at exactly 10 a.m. the surgical team needed to have their tea break, however they didn't mind how late in the day the work continued. *"I was eager to teach as much as I could,"* she commented.

The team identified patients by venturing into rural areas and offering consultations, gaining community interest in the days prior to the surgeries. FORSEE offered the patients meals, as well as room and board at the hospital for the patients' overnight stays.

The next FORSEE mission is scheduled for fall 2024, and it will be guided by Dr. Fariba Nazemi. This will be the first mission trip to adopt a two-pronged approach including pediatric as well as adult eye care.

“We had the pleasure of working with excellent surgeons with MSICS skills that we don’t utilize as often.”

DR. HUSAYN GULAMHUSEIN



“In Canada it takes months to learn all of this... I was eager to teach as much as I could.”

DR. LILI TONG



U VISION GROUP & FORSEE

ADVANCING EYECARE TOGETHER WITH DR. SOHEL SOMANI



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U Vision Group uses a multidisciplinary approach to eye care, focusing on two main areas of research:

clinical research, which directly impacts patient care, and social eyecare, which explores the social determinants of ophthalmology and their influence on eye health.

"We're committed to the concept of self-improvement at both the micro and macro levels. We have two broad areas of research areas and there is a lot of room for exploration," Dr. Sohel Somani said.

At U Vision Group the clinicians are passionate about the work that they do at UVG. They're always ready to make time for research and are always willing to adapt as new scientific evidence becomes available. *"This year we're focusing on three different dry eye regimens and their impact on microbial load before cataract surgery,"* stated Dr. Somani, one of the primary Medical Directors at the U Vision Group.

Dr. Somani knows that this sort of research will be beneficial to patient outcomes as dry eye is such a common issue and can make a tremendous difference specifically in cataract surgery outcomes. He hopes their research will support them in refining their approach to patients with dry eye. In 2023 the team studied the social determinants of vulnerable populations in northern Ontario, notably accessibility and burden. This encompassed refugees, women who had been living in shelters, and individuals who are otherwise unhoused. This year, Dr. Somani noted, they embarked on a global research study exploring surgical outcomes in Nyeri, the same town in Kenya where FORSEE Canada has conducted outreach missions.

Dr. Somani and his team of doctors are exploring the barriers patients may encounter during their post-cataract surgical journey. As this Kenyan eye clinic services a large amount of patients in rural areas, this research will aim to improve the rate and quality of patient follow-ups, with the hope that in so doing it will also improve broader patient outcomes as they relate to eye care in the region as whole.



“ This year we’re focusing on three different dry eye regimens and their impact on microbial load before cataract surgery. DR. SOMANI

DRY EYE INSTITUTE

Dr. Eric Tam:
Well-rounded Dry Eye Team,
focus on Ocular Hygienists
and their role on the team

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As co-medical director for the U Vision Group and co-founder of the Dry Eye Institute, Dr. Eric Tam has been

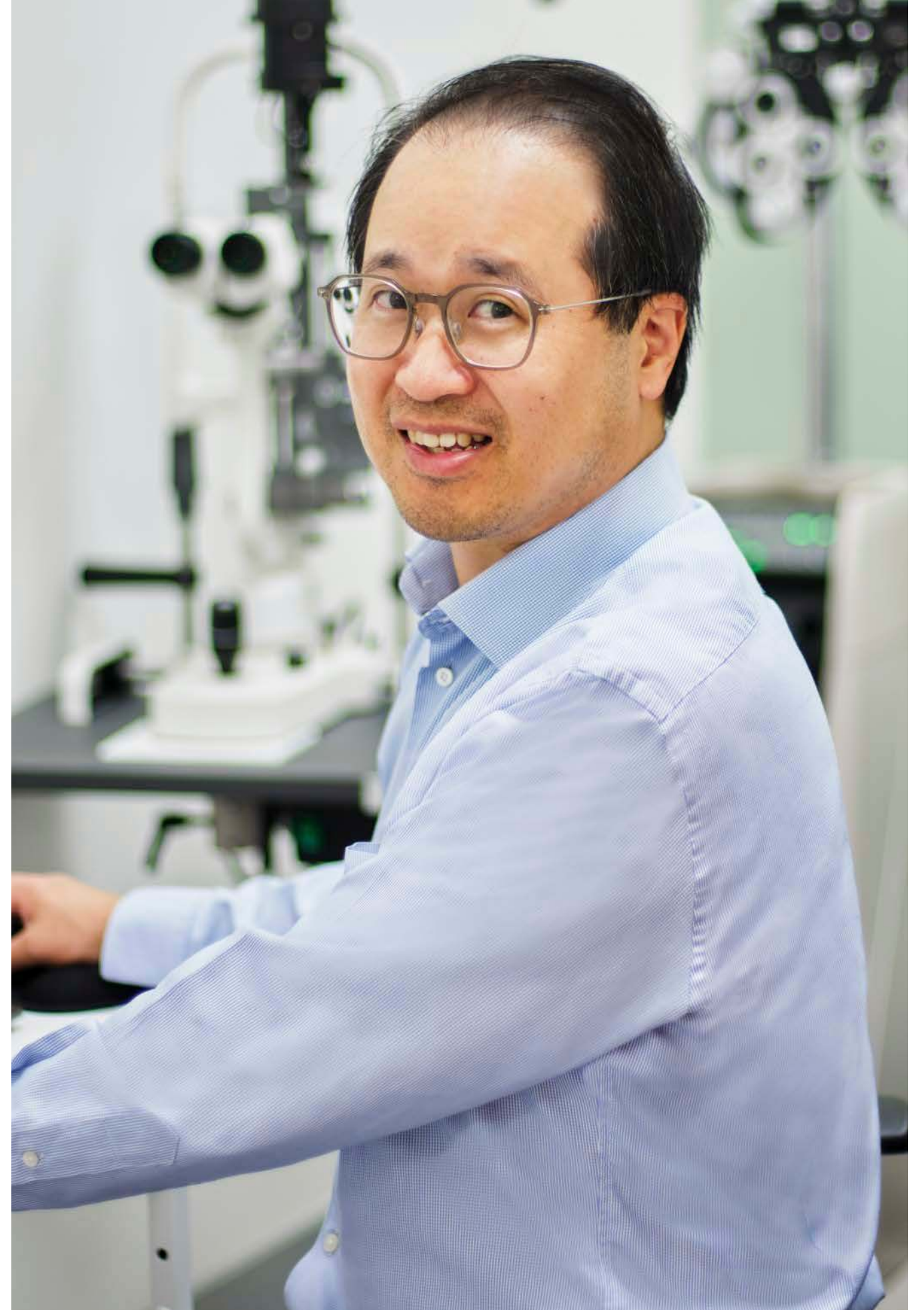
treating dry eye and other common ocular conditions for over 20 years.

Dry eye is an under-recognized and underdiagnosed condition that impacts a significant number of patients, stated Dr. Tam. While it doesn't typically signify a medical emergency or a situation requiring urgent care, it can be a contributing factor when seeking eye procedures such as Lasik or cataract surgery.

This is why the Dry Eye Institute is so important. *"In a very busy practice dry*

eye isn't necessarily the highest priority so we wanted to create the Dry Eye Institute to dedicate our resources to this increasingly prevalent condition," Dr. Tam noted.

There are several reasons why dry eye is so common these days. Our lifestyle and habits have changed significantly over the years, including our heavy reliance on computers and mobile phones throughout each day.





"When you're looking at a screen the blink frequency is reduced,"
Dr. Tam said.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, our daily habits and reliance on digital devices have increased significantly. We spend more time working remotely and participating in online meetings. These factors have been major contributors to rising numbers of dry eye complaints.

Naturally, like most other health conditions, dry eye can affect people to a greater extent as they age. In addition to reduced tear production, changes in oil secretion caused by hormonal changes can lead to dry eyes. In addition, when patients have an eye infection, or undergo any type of procedure involving the eye it can disrupt the balance of the eyes' secretions. This

can contribute to even more dryness, according to Dr. Tam.

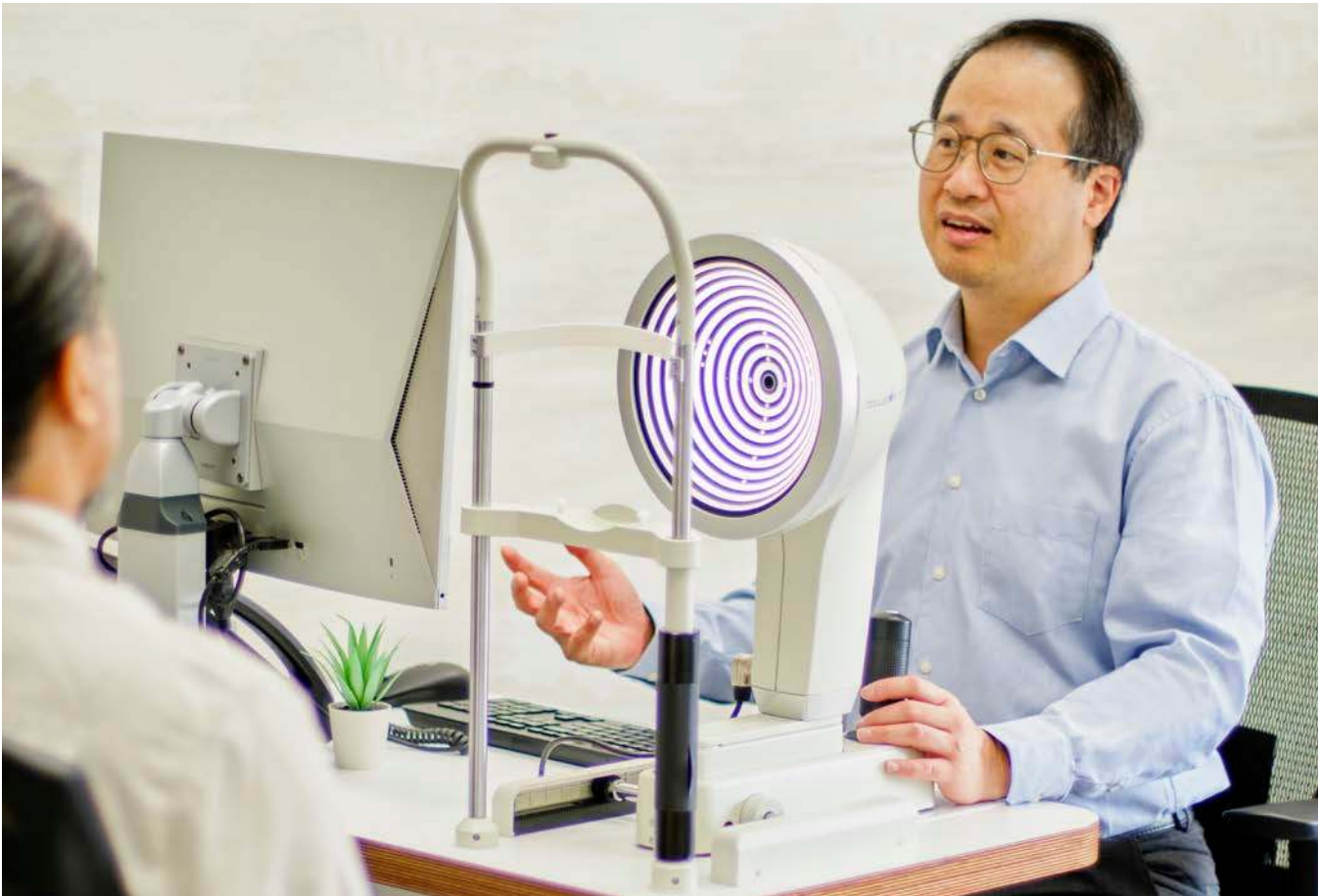
With dry eye or after an eye procedure, patients typically rely on artificial tears to relieve their symptoms. As most over-the-counter eye drops contain preservatives to prolong their shelf life, when used regularly over a long period of time their ingredients can cause additional irritation to the eyes.

"As the Dry Eye Institute is integrated into all of the other branches of the U Vision Group, we can focus all of our expertise and attention on helping our patients manage this common but potentially debilitating condition," Dr. Tam stated. *"Our comprehensive team provides a wide range of dry eye treatment,"* he added.

As Dr. Tam often sees patients come in to the Dry Eye Institute as a secondary

**“
In a very busy
practice
dry eye isn’t
necessarily
the highest
priority so
we wanted
to create the
Dry Eye
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DR. ERIC TAM



or tertiary consultation, when other more common approaches to resolving their dry eye conditions such as artificial tears or warm compresses) haven't worked, more specialized treatment approaches are recommended.

One such option is to use serum tears. This involves drawing blood from the patient and processing it into eye drops that have specific growth factors to help the cornea heal and regenerate. However, Dr. Tam noted this product isn't always easily accessible. There are not that many specialized pharmacies offering this kind of service or product in the Greater Toronto area and Dr. Tam is proud that the Dry Eye Institute can play a key role in this area. *"We make it convenient for patients,"* he said. *"Our facilities can produce these serum tears for our patients on site at all three of our locations across the GTA."*

Another more advanced approach to healing dry eye symptoms is through Intense Pulse Light (IPL), a technology more commonly used in the beauty and wellness industries.

When this type of light is applied to the skin around the eyelid, it can modify the oil secretion to improve the quality of the tearfilm. It also has some aesthetic benefits, helping to improve the skin's texture and complexion in the eye area, which also restores a youthful look.

For any type of dry eye concerns, Dr. Tam and his team of specialists are happy to answer your questions and deliver results tailored to your specific needs.

**“
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DR. ERIC TAM



DR. SOMANI

DR. SOHEL SOMANI RESTORES VISION THROUGH CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY

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When Margaret Ranieri booked her appointment for cataract surgery at Uptown Eye Specialists she knew she'd be in good hands as her trusted optometrist had referred her to the clinic – but like a lot of patients, she was understandably nervous and wasn't sure what to expect. Margaret's anxiety was quickly relieved as she met with the members of her cataract team and began the path toward improved vision.

Margaret's vision in her left eye had been blurry for some time and was steadily worsening, prompting her to have surgery earlier this year. Dr. Somani had previously performed standard intraocular lens implantation surgery in 2020 but new UltraView Vision sight-restoring technology has been developed since then. UltraView

combines a light adjustable lens plus ReLACS to correct near-sightedness, farsightedness or astigmatism. A corrective lens is implanted and once the eye has healed, ultraviolet light is used to make any necessary adjustments to the lens according to the patient's prescription. This revolutionary process allows a degree of precision fitting that hasn't been possible until now.

At her first visit, an Ophthalmic Technician took her vital signs and completed a detailed eye examination. *"Following that, the surgery itself was quick and most importantly, I was so relieved that for the first time in a long time I was able to see clearly. I had three postoperative follow-up appointments to adjust my vision and once I was happy with it they locked the lens in place."*

For patients like Margaret, the UltraView technique has been life-changing, allowing her to enjoy the daily activities she loves without the inconvenience of having to wear eyeglasses or contact lenses.



“
The surgery itself was quick and most importantly, I was so relieved that for the first time in a long time I was able to see clearly.

MARGARET RANIERI

Margaret is grateful to Dr. Somani and the entire cataract team for greatly improving her quality of life and providing the peace of mind of knowing she received the best possible eyecare from experts in not only cataract surgery but also in patient communication and post-operative care.



U EYE
LASER
COSMETIC
ultimate vision. universal beauty. this is *U*.



Where Vision meets Beauty in the Pursuit of a better U.

At U Eye Laser Cosmetic (UELCC), we combine advanced vision correction with leading cosmetic procedures to help you look and feel your best. Our state-of-the-art clinics in Brampton, Vaughan, and Scarborough go beyond industry standards for safety, comfort, and innovation.

We are proud to be the only clinic in North America offering UltraView Freedom (SMILE/LASIK) and UltraView Vision (Refractive Lens Exchange). Whether you're seeking vision correction or aesthetic treatments, our expert team is dedicated to delivering outstanding results in a welcoming and professional environment.

Visit us today and discover the perfect balance of vision and beauty.
Welcome to UELCC!



uelc.uvisiongroup.com





DR. ERIC TAM

ULTRAVIEW FREEDOM

A NEW ERA OF TAILORED VISION CORRECTION

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For over three decades, laser vision correction has transformed the lives of millions

by restoring clarity to their world. Now, a revolutionary approach called UltraView FREEDOM is raising the bar even higher, offering patients an unprecedented level of personalization in their journey to clear vision.

UltraView FREEDOM is built on the philosophy that vision correction should be tailored to the unique needs of each individual. While traditional techniques like PRK, LASIK, and SMILE have long been trusted methods for laser eye surgery, what sets UltraView FREEDOM apart is its comprehensive, holistic

approach. By using advanced diagnostic technologies to assess the patient's eyes, the method creates a treatment plan specifically suited to their vision needs and lifestyle goals.

"Vision correction is not one-size-fits-all," says Dr. Eric Tam. "Our approach combines state-of-the-art technology with a deep understanding of our patients' unique eye characteristics and visual expectations."

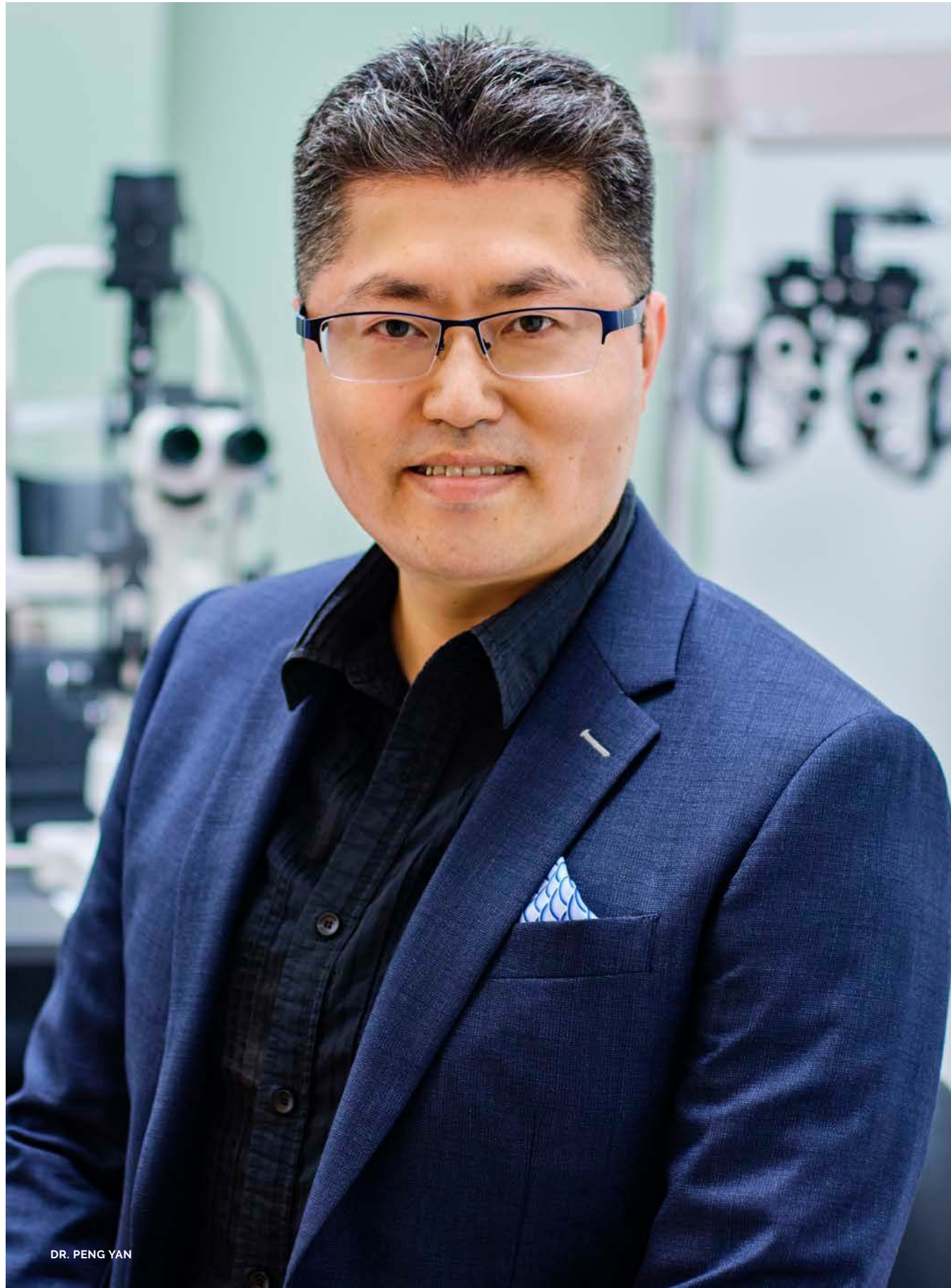
The program integrates the latest laser technology, including blade-free, wavefront-optimized PRK, LASIK, and SMILE procedures, all of which are known for their precision and safety. These techniques reshape the cornea to correct common vision issues like nearsightedness, farsightedness, and astigmatism. The focus is always on delivering the best possible outcome, whether that means clear vision without

the need for glasses or contact lenses or finding alternative treatments if laser correction isn't ideal for a patient.

In cases where laser correction is not suitable, UltraView FREEDOM offers other options, such as Implantable Contact Lenses (ICL) or Refractive Lens Exchange (RLE). These alternatives ensure that every patient has access to the most appropriate and effective treatment for their specific condition.

Ultimately, UltraView FREEDOM is designed to empower individuals with the freedom to choose the best path to clearer vision, giving them the opportunity to enjoy life without the constraints of eyewear. With its combination of advanced technology and personalized care, it's setting a new standard in the world of vision correction.

“ Our approach combines state-of-the-art technology with a deep understanding of our patients’ unique eye characteristics and visual expectations. DR. ERIC TAM



DR. PENG YAN

RETINA AND CATARACTS: COMBINED OR SEQUENTIAL SURGERIES?

I Imagine your eye as a conventional camera, with the retina acting as the film that captures every

moment. If that film (retina) gets scratched, no matter how great your intraocular lens is, the picture will be blurry. This is where Dr. Peng Yan, a dedicated surgical retina specialist, comes in. He's on a mission to keep those images—your vision—clear!

Dr. Yan treats various surgical conditions, including epiretinal membranes, macular holes, diabetic retinopathy, retinal detachment, and complications from cataract surgery. His passion for retina and patient care shines through in everything he does, from his meticulous surgical techniques to his tireless research efforts aimed at advancing eye care.

In 2023, Dr. Yan led a pivotal study published in the Ophthalmology Retina journal. This research compared two surgical approaches: combining vitrectomy (the fancy term for removing the cloudy gel from the eye) with phacoemulsification (the procedure

that breaks up and removes the cloudy lens in cataract surgery) versus performing them one after the other. The big question? Is it better to do both surgeries at once or sequential surgeries (one after the other)?

Let's break it down. Vitrectomy is like cleaning out the inside of your camera—removing the old, cloudy gel to make way for clearer views. Phacoemulsification (the fancy term for cataract surgery) is the process of getting rid of the cloudy lens that blocks your vision and replacing it with a clear artificial lens. Together, these surgeries can restore clear sight, but how you approach them makes a big difference.

Dr. Yan's study was no small feat—it involved analyzing a whopping 6,470 previous studies! The goal was to see if patients would experience better visual outcomes by combining the two surgeries. His findings showed that there was no significant difference between the two approaches, which is a game-changer for patient convenience.

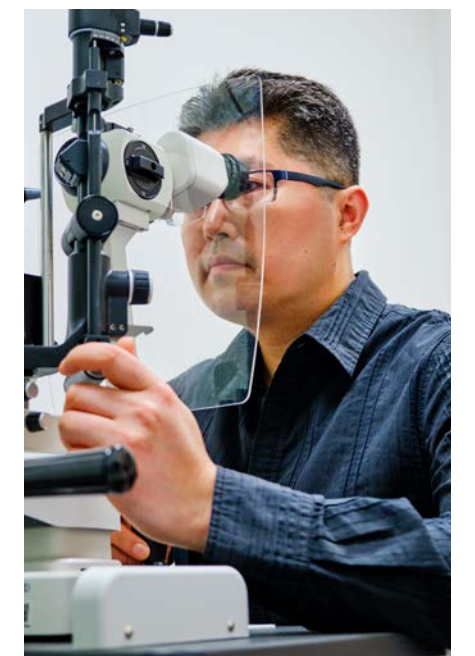
Traditionally, surgeons have followed a step-by-step method: fix the retina first, then tackle the cataracts later. But Dr. Yan points out a critical insight: *"Most patients develop cataracts within one to two years after retinal surgery."* That means many patients are facing

yet another surgery soon after the first one, which can be both inconvenient and daunting.

By performing both procedures at once, patients can skip the long wait and the stress of multiple surgeries. It simplifies their journey and even helps save on costs. Dr. Yan's motto? *"It's truly about patient convenience. Patients deserve to have this option available to them."*

Through his innovative research and unwavering dedication, Dr. Yan is not just a surgeon; he's a champion for his patients. His work not only illuminates effective treatment options but also emphasizes the importance of making the entire process easier and more accessible. In the complex world of eye care, Dr. Peng Yan proves that every detail matters, and he's committed to keeping the picture perfect for all his patients!

“It's truly about patient convenience. Patients deserve to have this option available to them.” DR. PENG YAN



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DR. EFREM MANDELCORN



RETINA – DR. EFREM MANDELCORN

ENHANCING RETINAL ATTACHMENT SUCCESS

Dr. Mandelcorn likens a detached retina to wallpaper that needs to be pushed back onto

the inner wall of the eye and held in place, enabling the patient's vision to be restored. In retinal re-attachment surgery, a laser is used to reposition the retina, which is then held in place by oil or an intraocular gas bubble until it heals. In his research, Dr. Mandelcorn studies the best ways to ensure that both healing agents are successful in complex retinal detachment.

Following retinal surgery, patients are often uncomfortably positioned face down to hold a gas bubble in place, securing the retina. Dr. Mandelcorn and his colleagues use magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to study the

effective positioning of gas in retinal surgery patients.

In the study entitled "Orbital MRI demonstrates better contact between the gas and the anterior inferior retina in side versus face-down position," published in *Ophthalmology Retina*, the researchers found that, contradictory to popular practice, the gas is more effective in securing the retina when patients are positioned more comfortably on their side vs face down.

Oil is the closest equivalent to a cast for the retina, securing it to the inner wall of the eye. In the way that a thicker cast is used for more complex bone fractures, heavier oil is often used for more complex types of retinal detachment in the hopes of increasing the likelihood of success. Yet, even very simple cases of correcting retinal detachment may fail. As a result, Dr. Mandelcorn and his colleagues studied the success rate of using

heavier oils instead of lighter viscosities in simpler cases of retinal detachment.

Dr. Mandelcorn provides retinal surgical consultations for conditions including retinal detachment, macular holes, epiretinal membrane, diabetic retinal disease, and complications related to previous cataract surgery. He stated that Uptown Eye Specialists provides his patients comprehensive care through collaboration with the various subspecialty eye doctors. The clinicians at Uptown Eye Specialists helps each other's patients and this cross-collaboration is extremely beneficial.

Each doctor has their own specialty and expertise allowing them to complement each other's skills, providing a full-spectrum, multi-tiered approach to eye care. *"One key benefit patients can look forward to at the clinic is good communication between the specialists,"* Dr. Mandelcorn stated.



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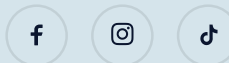


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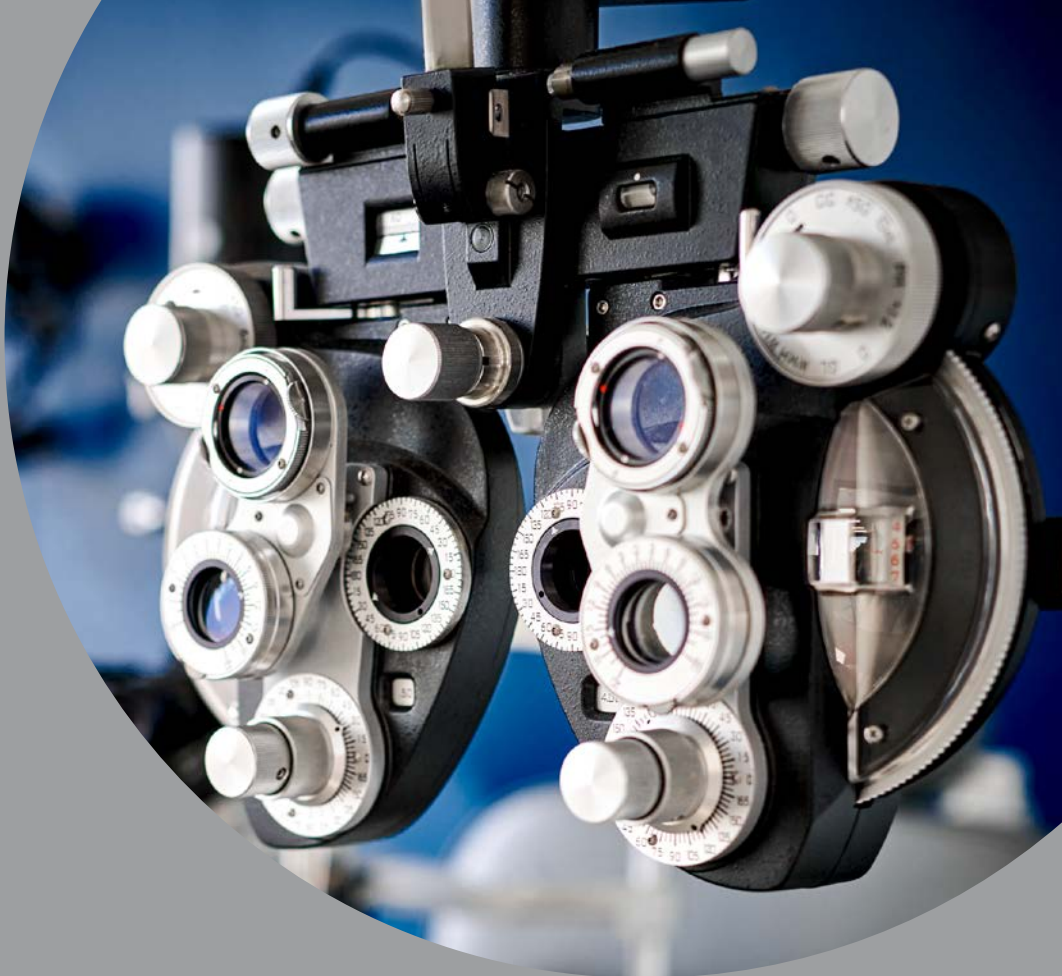
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