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VISION CARE

Vision Care Celebrates Graduation of Advanced PTC Trainees



From June 26–27, Vision Care led a special Advanced PTC (Phacoemulsification Training Course) in Ras Desta Hospital in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia under the leadership of **Dr. Lisa Park, Dr. Jae Yun Kim, and Dr. Sang Woong Moon**. The advanced course comprised lectures and surgical training involving complicated cases of cataract surgery.

Since 2010, Vision Care has been committed to developing sustainable strategies to improve eye health in Ethiopia. One of our approaches is to empower local health professionals by providing high-quality training programs to selected ophthalmologists and surgical nurses.

Since the launch of PTC and SONTC (Surgical Ophthalmic Nurse Training Course) in Ethiopia, over 20 ophthalmologists and over 40 surgical nurses have completed the training with Vision Care. They have become vital members in their respective university-level hospitals and eye clinics, serving their communities – at times joining Vision Eye Camps in neighboring countries.

We would like to acknowledge our local doctors **Dr. Addis, Dr. Dereje, Dr. Yemisrach, Dr. Gebremedhin, Dr. Kumale, and Dr. Tsedeke** for completing this intensive two-day surgical training program. And thank you, Dr. Park, Dr. Kim, and Dr. Moon for leading the course!



Featuring: Vision Eye Camp Volunteers' Next Steps

We are excited to share a series of stories about recent medical school graduates who have volunteered with Vision Care in the past. In this month's newsletter, we would like to feature **Joshua Shin** who participated in Mozambique Eye Camp in 2018.

Congratulations Joshua for your accomplishments and thank you for sharing your experience with Vision Care!



How has your experience with Vision Care shaped your decision to go into medicine?

I was lucky enough to participate in the 283rd Mozambique Vision Eye Camp in 2018 during my senior year of college. I always had an interest in science and potentially pursuing a career in medicine from a young age, but through volunteering with Vision Care I was able to see medicine practiced in a new setting and the impact that ophthalmology can have on global health. These experiences shaped my decision to work as a scribe in an ophthalmology practice and ultimately explore the field of ophthalmology during medical school. I am grateful to the patients, mentors, and ophthalmologists involved in global ophthalmology, and I hope to be involved in global ophthalmology in the future.



What is your medical specialty and plans for the future?

I will be pursuing an ophthalmology residency at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS). Opportunities for global ophthalmology during residency training as well as a high volume of cataract surgery were important factors for me in choosing a program, and I hope to continue to be involved with Vision Care and other local and international organizations working to cure preventable vision impairment and blindness. I am grateful for my experiences with Vision Care Eye Camps locally in NY and globally in Mozambique for leading me on a path to a career in ophthalmology and showing me the impact that the field can have on patients' quality of life.



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