

OUR DOCTORS



Dr Rushmia Karim

BSc MBBS MMed(Clin Epi)(Hons) MMed(Ophth Sci) Genomics(PGCert)
FRCOPHTH FRANZCO

Dr Rushmia Karim is a skilled surgeon, performing cataract surgery and refractive lens exchange. She has a special interest in neuro-ophthalmology and performs complex cataract surgery, squint surgery and lid procedures (blepharoplasty).

Dr Karim has a particular interest in understanding the visual needs of her individual patients. 'A one-size-fits-all model doesn't work in eye health,' she says.

'Understanding each patient's daily visual needs so I can best approach their surgery is key. I want to know whether my patient drives a car, plays golf, paints, or plays an instrument, so I can tailor my treatment to their needs. As an artist myself, I know first-hand how important it is to take into account my patient's hobbies, activities and lifestyle.'

Dr Karim likes to carefully discuss a patient's future visual needs to inform her treatment. 'Future-proofing patients' vision requires careful consideration. The visual needs of someone who works can be different to someone in retirement, and I need to anticipate patients' changing needs as they age.'

BACKGROUND

Dr Karim completed her medical degree at the University of New South Wales and two Master qualifications at the University of Sydney. She is currently a Clinical Lecturer at Sydney University Save Sight Institute, Department of Medicine and Health.

After working as a doctor at the Concord Repatriation General Hospital for five years, Dr Karim was selected to train at the prestigious Moorfields Eye Hospital, London, in ophthalmology. At Moorfields Eye Hospital and Western Eye Hospital she undertook vocational training in cataract surgery, retinal ophthalmology and oculoplastics. In addition to the six years of ophthalmology training, Dr Karim undertook a two-year fellowship in strabismus/paediatric ophthalmology and neuro-ophthalmology.

Before returning to Sydney, Dr Karim was the Head of the Paediatric Eye Service at the distinguished Prince Charles Eye Unit at the Royal Berkshire Hospital Trust, Reading, UK.

A committed medical researcher, Dr Karim has contributed to multiple Cochrane reviews, randomised controlled trials and other articles. Among her publications is the Cochrane review, 'Corneal collagen crosslinking for treating keratoconus', which paved the way for the intervention to be funded by the National Health Service (NHS) in the UK. This paper is widely used and referred to worldwide.

Dr Karim has chaired conference sessions as an expert researcher and travelled the world presenting her research findings. Notably, she was awarded the best presentation at the 2013 European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons (ESCRS) Winter Meeting for her contribution entitled, 'ESCRS management of patients with Herpetic eye disease undergoing cataract surgery in the United Kingdom: A survey'.

In addition, it was Dr Karim's dedication to high-quality research that helped secure her a prestigious appointment as an expert panel member with the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). NICE is the foremost organisation promoting health and social care through evidence-based medicine in the UK.

Dr Karim is a dual Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO), and a Fellow of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists, UK. She is also a RANZCO board examiner for physiology and sits on the Public Health Committee. She has also been appointed to the RANZCO medical advisory committee and CPD committee.

Further to this, Dr Karim is a member of the British & Irish Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus Association (BIPOSA), the European Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgeons (ESCRS), the International Strabismological Association (ISA), and the World Society of Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus (WSPOS).

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PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO)
- Fellow of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists, United Kingdom (FRCOPHTH)
- Member of the British & Irish Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus Association (BIPOSA)
- Member of the European Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgeons (ESCRS)
- Member of the United Kingdom and Ireland Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons (UKISCRS)
- Member of the International Strabismological Association (ISA)
- Member of the World Society of Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus (WSPOS)
- Member of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)
- Member of the General Medical Council (GMC)
- Cochrane committee member

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

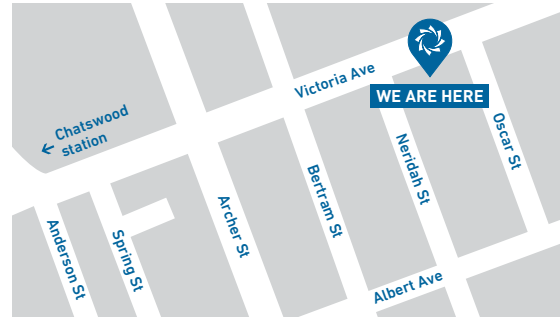
- Permanent peer reviewer, Dove Medical Press, Publications peer reviewed for *Clinical Ophthalmology*, *Clinical Audit and Therapeutics* and *Clinical Risk Management*
- Former peer reviewer: Reviews for *Ophthalmology*, *Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*, *Archives of Ophthalmology* and *BMJ Case Reports*
- Best presentation: ESCRS management of patients with Herpetic eye disease undergoing cataract surgery in the United Kingdom: A survey. European Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgeons: ESCRS Winter Meeting, Warsaw, 2013

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