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Power List 2018

Welcome to The Power List 2018

For a third time, we have mapped the Top 100 most influential people in the world of ophthalmology. The list includes surgeons, scientists, engineers, CEOs and more – and each one has been nominated by you, our readers.

We realize our Power Lists can – and should – never be definitive. But who can argue that the faces within – both familiar and new – do not beautifully highlight the brilliance and diversity found within the field? Accordingly, we bring you 100 reasons to be proud of ophthalmology.

Check out the online version of the Power List – theophthalmologist.com/power-list – for full biographies and more on this year's cadre's mentors, career highlights, and goals for the future.

19. GRAHAM BARRETT

PROFESSOR, LIONS EYE INSTITUTE; CONSULTANT OPHTHALMIC SURGEON AND HEAD OF DEPARTMENT AT SIR CHARLES GARDINER HOSPITAL, PERTH, AUSTRALIA

Graham is the first Australian ophthalmologist to win, in the same year, the prestigious Binkhorst, Ridley, Sushruta, and Choyce Awards. He was also selected by the ASCRS to deliver the 2016 Kelman Innovator Lecture. He devised the popular Barrett Toric Calculator in his quest to improve surgical outcomes and reduce refractive surprises in patients receiving toric IOLs and is a popular speaker at international congresses on all things IOL: from planning and conducting to speculating on the future of the art. Graham is also a founder of the Australasian Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgeons, and a former President of the Asia Pacific Association of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons.

A. JOHN KANELLOPOULOS

CLINICAL PROFESSOR, LASERVISION EYE INSTITUTE, ATHENS, GREECE AND NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, NEW YORK, NY, USA

Over the last 20 years, John has applied and described innovative laser approaches in the management of cataract and, in particular, irregular corneas such as keratoconus. His work with CXL has provided many of the technique's evolutions: higher fluence, combinations with topo-guided PRK ("The Athens Protocol") and LASIK, and as a sole refractive procedure. John has also contributed dozens of reports on more sensitive diagnostics for keratoconus and ectasia, and in the last few years, he has described "topography-modified refraction" as a potentially more accurate target for topography-guided laser vision correction.

ABHAY VASAVADA

DIRECTOR OF RAGHUDEEP EYE CLINIC AND ILADEVI CATARACT & IOL RESEARCH CENTRE, AHMEDABAD, GUJARAT, INDIA

A cataract/refractive surgeon and Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Abhay has expertise in the successful resolution of complicated cataract and pediatric cases. This knowledge is in great demand: Abhay is a renowned educator and is regularly asked to share his experiences by performing live surgery. He started Raghudeep Eye Clinic as a cataract specialty center in 1984 in Ahmedabad, India.

20. FARHAD HAFEZI

PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF GENEVA; CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF OPHTHALMOLOGY, USC KECK SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, LOS ANGELES, CA, USA; CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, THE ELZA INSTITUTE, ZÜRICH, SWITZERLAND

Farhad is an eye surgeon dedicated to improving clinical treatments to solve some of the most complex cases in his field. As an internationally recognized pioneer of CXL and a pacemaker for newer indications like infectious keratitis, he combines his medical expertise to help translate research findings into clinical practice. Farhad and the members of his research groups were the first to publish a clinical study on treating ectasia after LASIK using CXL in 2007, they also proposed the use of hypo-osmolaric riboflavin to treat thin corneas in 2009 and identified oxygen as essential in the CXL process in 2013, all of which are in clinical practice today.

Farhad's research revolves around the cornea, its biomechanics, and in particular, corneal ectasias like keratoconus and laser refractive surgery. His research labs are at the University of Zurich and the USC Roski Eye Institute, Los Angeles in collaboration with Brad Randleman (qv). With over 170 publications in peer-reviewed journals and 18 book chapters, Hafezi's work has been cited 6,900 times. His h-index is 42 and his impact factor is 590.

Farhad and his wife Nikki are also responding to a market need to provide a low-cost portable, slit lamp mountable cross-linking device to help people perform this sight-saving procedure in a considerably more affordable, safe and effective manner. Farhad and Nikki also founded the Light for Sight Foundation, whose mission is to increase awareness about keratoconus, and screen children for this disease and to ensure that no child with keratoconus goes untreated.