

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital/
MedStar Washington Hospital Center
Residency Program in Ophthalmology

Welcome to our Program





“Is it not a privilege to be one of the founders of an institution established for the relief of human misery and the restoration of sight and hearing?”

-- Bishop Satterlee, announcing campaign to build Episcopal Hospital.
Episcopal was built in 1897 and is our direct predecessor.



We are committed to:

- Superior medical and surgical education
- Compassionate, ethical and efficient medical and surgical eye care
- Your training
- Your success



Our Program:

- 18 Residents, 6 PGY1 Interns
- 4 Retina Fellows
- Over 175 Dedicated Faculty in All Subspecialties
- 7 Clinical Sites
- Focus on Autonomy and Clinical Confidence
- 129 Years of Resident Education, Patient Care and Innovation



Clinical Experience

Average Annual Procedures (at MWHC alone):

- 20,000+ clinic procedures
- 1,300 Resident Surgeries
- 13,000+ cataract/general evaluations
- 5,000+ glaucoma evaluations
- 3,000+ retina evaluations



Surgical Experience

The 2026 Senior Residents Performed:

- 3500+ Class I surgeries in all rotations
- 4000+ total resident surgeries

PGY2 residents begin assisting in surgery early in the academic year.

Residents begin performing cataract surgery as primary physician in the PGY3 year.



Quality: Patient Care

The Eye Center at MedStar Washington Hospital Center boasts one of city's largest, most complete facilities, with comprehensive ophthalmology clinics and subspecialty clinics in:

Glaucoma

Ocular motility

Vitreoretinal disease

Low vision

Oculoplastics

Orbital disease

Uveitis

Cornea and external disease

Neuro-ophthalmology

Ocular Trauma



We're All About Residents

- Protected Lecture Time
- Limited Number of Fellows – only retina
- Procedures: Premium Lenses, K-Pro, Advanced Glaucoma Surgery, DSAEK, intravitreal injections, PROKERA, etc.
- Opportunity for international/mission trips
- Free Food (and it tastes good, too)!



Resources

- Georgetown University
- Wet Labs
- Surgical Simulator
- On-Site Ocular Pathology Lab
- Attendance at National Programs and Meetings
- Attendance at National Training Symposia
- Access to Superb Medical Libraries
- GME Support
- National Exam (OKAP) study materials
- Practice Experience of More Than 175 Ophthalmologists



Cutting-Edge Research

- Majority of Residents Present at National Meetings
- Resident Research Day
- Award for Ocular Innovation – cash award given annually to the resident whose proposal is selected for the best original concept, operation, instrument or invention in ophthalmology
- Full-Time PhD Research Faculty
- Faculty Involvement in National Studies



Residency Program Affiliates

MedStar Washington Hospital Center

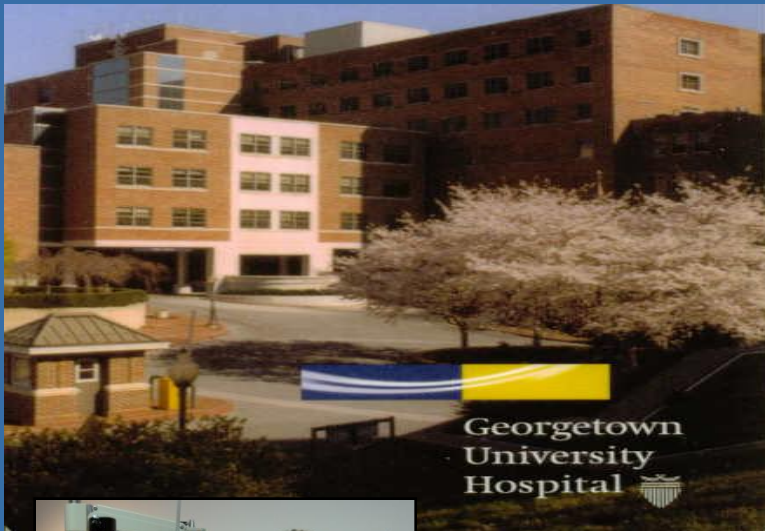
Stacy Bang, MD



- Home Base
- Fully-supervised resident-run clinic
- Level I Trauma Center
- Excellent learning environment
- Extensive and varied pathology

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital

Jay M. Lustbader, MD



- Work directly with attendings in their practices
- Ophthalmic Pathology experience
- Basic science faculty available for research



MedStar St. Mary's Hospital

Walter Q. Wang, MD



- Extensive clinical and surgical experience in a largely underserved area
- Comprehensive, cornea and glaucoma experience
- Excellent learning environment

DC Veterans Affairs Hospital

Soo Y. Shin, MD



- Resident-run clinic
- PGY3 cataract surgery
- Full subspecialty faculty

Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Kevin Broderick, MD



- PGY2 rotation
- Glaucoma and retina experience
- Experience in a large military general ophthalmology setting

Inova Fairfax Hospital

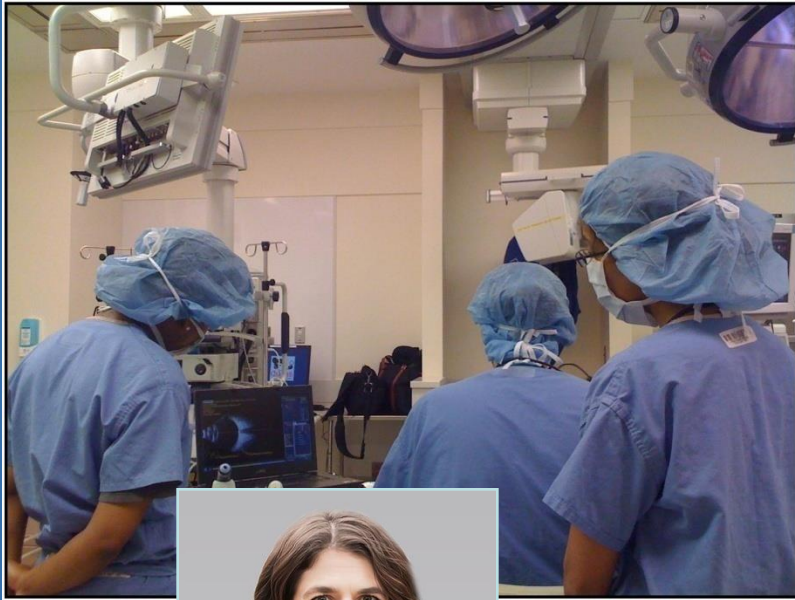
Tofik Ali, MD



- General and subspecialty clinics and operating room experience during PGY3 and PGY4 rotations
- Private surgery center experience

Children's National Medical Center

Laura Kueny, MD



- Nationally recognized pediatric hospital
- Birthplace of Pediatric Ophthalmology
- Exposure to multiple rare inherited disorders in PGY3 rotation



PGY2 Rotations:

MedStar Washington Hospital Center PLUS

- MedStar Georgetown University Hospital
- Walter Reed National Military Medical Center



PGY3 Rotations:

MedStar Washington Hospital Center PLUS

- 2-month pediatric rotation through Children's National Hospital
- 2-month rotation through MedStar Georgetown University Hospital with experience in Cornea, Pediatrics and Neuro-Ophthalmology
- 4-month rotation through DC Veterans Affairs Hospital
- 2-month rotation through Inova Fairfax Hospital/MedStar Washington Hospital Center
- Dedicated research time
- Ocular Pathology



Rotation Schedule: PGY4

MedStar Washington Hospital Center PLUS

- DC Veterans Affairs Medical Center –or –
Inova Fairfax Medical Center
- MedStar St. Mary's Hospital
- Optional Mission/International Trip



Academics

- Wednesday academic afternoon
- Visiting Professor Series
- Journal Clubs
- FA Conferences
- MRI, Plastics, Ocular Motility, Neuro-op Rounds
- Symposia
- Interaction with other area program residents
- Grand Rounds
- Morbidity and Blindness Rounds
- Surgical Simulation/Wet Labs



Employee Benefits and Compensation

- Health and dental insurance
- Paid vacation
- Meal allowance
- Free parking
- Highly competitive salaries
- Much more!



2026 Graduates:

Amira Abbas	Fellowship – Surgical Retina – Retina Specialists of Alabama
Thomas Dunn	Private Practice – Comprehensive – Scarsdale, NY
Sonia McNamara	Fellowship – Pediatric Ophthalmology – Childrens National Hospital, DC
Kiah McSwain	Fellowship – Glaucoma – Duke University, NC
Shefali Sood	Fellowship – Medical Retina – Stanford University, CA
Caroline Tipton	Private Practice – Comprehensive – Wyomissing, PA



2025 Graduates:

Mazin Elsarrag

Fellowship - Glaucoma – UTSW, TX

Anthony Fiacco

Private Practice - Burlington, NC

Sara Khan

Fellowship – Surgical Retina – UTSW, TX

Felix Kung

Private Practice – Vienna, VA

David McGuigan

Private Practice – Fredericksburg, VA

Abhishek Naidu

Fellowship – Medical Retina – Cole Eye Inst., Cleveland Clinic, OH



Meet the Chiefs:

Jessica Jiamei Lee, MD

Class of 2027

Graduate: Sidney Kimmel Medical College

Undergraduate: Penn State BS/MD
Program

“I have loved Medstar Georgetown/WHC since my away rotation here as an M4 student. The residents and faculty I met were incredibly competent, confident, and welcoming. I was also passionate about taking care of an underserved population to learn how to take care of patients with a wide variety of pathology, and I also wanted a program that had a resident clinic so I could learn how to take ownership of my patients' care. My time at MWHC/MGUH has been very fulfilling as it has checked off all of the things I wanted in a residency program. Over the years, I've also gotten to really know our wonderful attendings, who have been incredibly supportive to the residents in every capacity. The future of this program is so bright, and I'm excited to see how it continues to grow.”

“I can't imagine another place to train other than Georgetown/WHC. The vast range of diseases and pathology and surgeries that we experience as residents is outstanding, and we have the mentorship to be able to manage such significant disease. I know that when I graduate, I will be ready for whatever I encounter in the clinic or in the OR. Additionally, the friendships that I have made in the residency program will last me for a lifetime. Whether we are organizing movie dates, finding fun happy hours, attempting to try every ice cream shop in DC, or simply listening to music in our resident workroom, the people I have met through this program are my rock and are truly the backbone of our residency. I couldn't be prouder to say that I'm a Hoya.”



Meet the Chiefs:

Alexandria J. Marshall, MD

Class of 2027

Graduate: Wake Forest SOM

Undergraduate: Northwestern U



Shefali Sood, MD
Class of 2026

- “This residency provided an exceptional foundation in both clinical ophthalmology and surgery. The strong relationships I built with my co-residents, faculty, and staff created a supportive and collaborative learning environment. Across multiple outstanding training sites, I cared for a diverse patient population with an incredible breadth of pathology, while being given the autonomy to make clinical decisions, operate, and grow into an independent physician under outstanding mentorship.
- The faculty—including Dr. Ali (pictured at Fairfax)—provided exceptional surgical training. The high complexity of cases continually challenged me to refine my clinical judgment and surgical skills. As I begin fellowship, I feel well prepared not only to excel in advanced subspecialty training but also to confidently enter independent practice, equipped to evaluate and manage virtually any patient who walks through the door.”



Amira Abbas, MD
Class of 2026 (Chief Resident)

“I’m so thankful for my time at Georgetown/WHC Ophthalmology. The training was incredible, but what really made it special was the amazing group of people I got to learn and grow with. Some of the closest people in my life came from this program. In getting ready for the next step in my career, I felt confident and prepared—and I have this program to thank for that. I wouldn’t trade the experience for anything. Go Hoyas!”

“I loved being a resident at Georgetown Ophthalmology because of the perfect combination of exceptional training and the deep friendships I was able to build along the way. The program offered rigorous clinical and surgical experience, outstanding mentorship from dedicated faculty, and a diverse patient population that constantly challenged me to grow. But what truly set this experience apart was the camaraderie among my co-residents—we supported each other through long days, celebrated each other’s wins, and shared a bond that turned even the most intense moments into something meaningful. These friendships created a collaborative, uplifting environment that not only enhanced learning but made every day genuinely fulfilling.



Kiah McSwain, MD
Class of 2026 (Chief Resident)



Abhishek Naidu, MD
Class of 2025
Chief Resident

"Where do I even begin?! I absolutely loved our ophthalmology program at Georgetown/Washington Hospital Center! The sense of camaraderie was incredible—we were not just colleagues; we were a tight-knit family that supported each other through thick and thin. Whether we were in the OR or tackling a tough case in the clinic, we always had each others' backs. The mentorship was phenomenal, with attendings who are genuinely invested in our success and push us to excel. Every day brought new challenges that kept us on our toes, from complex surgeries to managing rare retinal diseases. The diversity of cases was thrilling and ensured we were constantly learning and growing. Plus, the environment is just fun—there's never a dull moment, and our sense of humor and personalities made even the toughest days enjoyable. I couldn't imagine a better place to train!"



“At our program, you'll receive comprehensive training that will prepare you for any challenging case for the rest of your career. MedStar Washington Hospital Center (WHC) is the largest Level 1 Trauma Center in the DC-Maryland-Virginia region, and we see a wide array of complex pathology that is invaluable for developing your skills and knowledge as an ophthalmologist. In our resident clinics, our patients view us as their main doctors (as opposed to attendings), which helps us hone our critical thinking skills and become confident in medical and surgical management early on. Graduates from our program frequently note how well their training prepared them, often saying their cases as an attending are a breeze compared to those in residency! Finally, we have amazing faculty and peers and live in the vibrant city of DC which makes this busy time a fun one too!”

Felix Kung, MD
Class of 2025



Having the opportunity to complete residency at this program was the best thing that could have ever happened to me. By training here I developed the skills and confidence to handle any pathology in the clinic. In my first week of fellowship I was staffing a resident clinic in Rwanda, and I was surprised at how comfortable I was with whatever walked through the door. Nothing was overwhelming or scary. In addition to the training that I received, I also met a group of lifelong friends that I would not trade for the world.

Thomas Lamson, MD
Class of 2024



Our residency prepares you for anything that might walk through the front door. You will see a wide breadth of medical and surgical disease in an environment with graduated autonomy. The thing I miss most about residency is our close-knit community. It's a great place to train and build relationships that will last beyond residency.

Philip Conkling, MD
Class of 2024 (Chief Resident)



“If you are looking for a program that will build your confidence in tackling any intimidating ophthalmic case, look no further. We see a wide array of complex pathology at a high frequency with a ton of autonomy, which makes you confident in medical and surgical management well before becoming an attending. Although seeing only eyeballs is daunting at first, the faculty and your peers are very supportive and foster an optimal learning environment. We worked hard, but played harder when enjoying the wonderful city of DC and its surrounding states.”

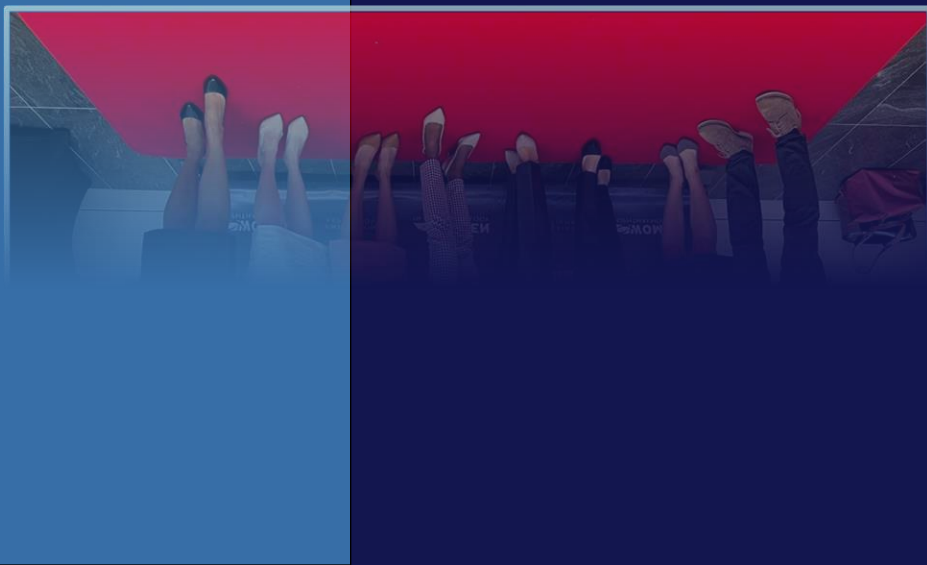
Justin Shortell, MD
Class of 2023 (Chief Resident)
Current Associate Program
Director



“While in the MWHC/GUH ophthalmology residency program, my co-residents became my best friends and my attendings became my lifelong mentors. I graduated from the program with strong clinical and procedural skills, prepared for the next chapter in my career.

Currently, as an anterior segment fellow, I frequently encounter patients with complex ocular pathology and am learning to perform complex anterior segment surgery. Thanks to my residency experience, I can confidently diagnose complex pathology and manage these complex cases!”

Sanam Tiffany Shahrooz, MD
Class of 2023





Our program offers excellence in education and experience, providing comprehensive, compassionate care to all of our patients. Join us!



MedStar Washington
Hospital Center



Washington National Eye Center