

**Kaleb Abbott, OD, MS, FAAO**  
**University of Colorado School of Medicine**  
**Sue Anschutz-Rogers Eye Center**  
**1675 Aurora Court, Mail Stop F731**  
**Aurora, CO 80045**  
**720.848.2020 (clinic)**

## **Current Academic Appointments**

### **Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, University of Colorado School of Medicine**

Faculty in the Department of Ophthalmology and the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Work in the dry eye clinic doing comprehensive dry eye evaluations and managing ocular surface disease. Role also includes attending medical students, medical interns, and ophthalmology residents. Conduct research centered on dry eye disease and ocular surface disease and participate in various clinical trials. Focuses include general ocular surface disease, blepharitis, demodicosis, meibomian gland dysfunction, neuropathic pain, neurotrophic keratitis, graft versus host disease, ocular cicatricial pemphigoid, Sjogren's Syndrome, and thyroid eye disease.

**Faculty, Dry Eye Clinic, Sue Anschutz-Rogers Eye Center**

**Faculty, Center for Ocular Inflammation, Sue Anschutz-Rogers Eye Center**

## **Current Research**

### **Safety Review of Topical Vitamin-A Used Ocularly and Peri-orbitally: a systematic review protocol**

Conducting a systematic review to assess the safety of topical vitamin A derivatives used both ocularly and peri-ocularly, especially pertaining to meibomian gland integrity and function.

### **Retrospective Analysis of Ocular Cicatricial Pemphigoid Systemic and Topical Management**

Conducting a retrospective analysis of the demographics, systemic treatment, and topical treatment of cicatrizing conjunctivitis and confirmed ocular cicatricial pemphigoid pertaining to the controlling the disease process and ocular surface disease.

### **Colorado Health Network Expansion of Healthy Aging Programs for Older People Living with HIV: Cultural Adaptation & Enhancing Aging Services Vision Screening and Linkage to Care Program**

Pilot program working to develop pathways of care for vision related services in the aging population in Colorado.

### **Nursing Home Epidemiological Study**

Investigating prevalence of ocular conditions, demographics, visual acuities, access, and barriers to care in nursing homes nationwide.

## **Current Clinical Trials**

### ***Demodex* Blepharitis Longitudinal Real-World Patient Journey Study**

Principal investigator. Study protocol 165-701.

**A multicenter, observational study to evaluate corneal neurosensory abnormalities in patients with Sjögren's dry eye (GEMINAE).**

Principal investigator. Study protocol DOP0013/DEV0123.

**Trial to Evaluate Safety and Efficacy of KPI-012 Ophthalmic Solution in Participates with PCED. (CHASE).**

Sub-investigator. Study protocol NCT05727878. KPI-012-C-001.

**Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of CSB-001 Ophthalmic Solution 0.1% in Stage 2 and Stage 3 Neurotrophic Keratitis Subjects by Claris Biotherapeutics Inc**

Sub-investigator. Study protocol NCT04909450. CSB-C20-003.

## Academic Institutions

### University of Houston College of Optometry, Houston, Texas

*Doctor of Optometry*

August 2014 - May 2018

GPA: 3.62 (cum laude)

### University of Houston College of Optometry, Houston, Texas

*Master of Science in Physiological Optics and Vision Science*

May 2015 - May 2018

GPA: 3.93 (magna cum laude)

### Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

*Bachelor of Science in Nutritional Sciences*

August 2010 - May 2014

GPA: 3.60 (cum laude)

## Past Clinical Trials

### Tivanisiran for Dry Eye in Subjects with Sjogren's Syndrome by Syntentis Inc.

Sub-investigator. Protocol SYL1001\_V. IND #130383.

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

**Abbott, K.**, Pucker, A., Orgill, M., Tichenor, A., Kruoch, Z., & Qureshi, R. (2024, March 25). The safety of topically applied vitamin A ocularly and periorbitally: A systematic review protocol. Open-Source Framework. [osf.io/saq7n](https://osf.io/saq7n).

**Abbott K**, Engle M, McCourt E. Neurotrophic Ulcer Secondary to a Hypoplastic Trigeminal Nerve in a 3-Year-Old. Clinical Insights in Eyecare. 2024. (In Press).

Liu SH, Shaughnessy D, Leslie L, **Abbott K**, Abraham AG, McCann P, Saldanha IJ, Qureshi R, Li T. Social determinants of dry eye in the United States: A systematic review. American Journal of Ophthalmology. 2024.

**Abbott K**, Pelak V. Topiramate Associated Bilateral Monocular Diplopia, Palinopsia, and Photopsia. Clinical Insights in Eyecare. Vol. 1, Issue 2, 2023. October 30, 2023.

**Abbott K**, Hanson K, Lally J. Prevalence of Dry Eye in the Low Vision Population at the University of Colorado. Journal of Optometry. Volume 17, Issue 2, April–June 2024, 100501.

Ostrin LA, **Abbott KS**, Queener HM. Attenuation of short wavelengths alters sleep and the ipRGC pupil response. Ophthalmic Physiol Opt. 2017;37(4):440-450.

**Abbott KS**, Ostrin LA, Queener HM. The ipRGC Pupil Response with Light Exposure, Refractive Error, and Sleep. Ophthalmic Physiol Opt. 2017.

## Invited Conference Presentations

**Abbott K**. 2023. "Hey Doc, why do my eyes hurt (or don't hurt)?". University of Colorado Department of Ophthalmology 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium. Cornea section. (Oral presentation)

**Abbott K**. 2023. The Role of Sleep in Ocular Surface Disease. American Academy of Optometry. (Oral presentation)

**Abbott K**. 2023. The Prevalence of Dry Eye Disease Amongst the Low Vision Population. Vision2023. Keynote speaker. (Oral presentation)

## Presentations

**Abbott K.** 2024. The Prevalence and Impact of Dry Eye in the Low Vision Population. Envision Conference East. Salus University. (Oral presentation)

**Abbott K.** 2024. Treatment of ocular surface disease in ocular cicatricial pemphigoid. The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology Conference. (Poster presentation)

**Abbott K.** 2024. The Dry Eye Dilemma in Glaucoma Management. Southern Colorado Optometric Society. Spring Symposium. (Oral presentation)

**Abbott K.** 2024. What the heck is the dry eye clinic? UCHHealth medical staff medication. (Oral presentation)

**Abbott K.** 2023. Community Eye Healthcare. Ophthalmic Academy Chapter 21. UCHHealth Ophthalmic Academy. (Oral presentation)

**Abbott K.** 2023. Resolution of Bilateral Monocular Diplopia, Palinopsia, and Photopsia after Discontinuing Topiramate. American Academy of Optometry. (Poster)

**Abbott K.** 2022. Focal Scleromalacia and Avascular Necrosis Secondary to Mitomycin-C Use During Ahmed Valve Implantation 8 Years Prior. American Academy of Optometry. (Poster)

**Abbott K.** 2022. Community Eye Healthcare. Ophthalmic Academy Chapter 21. UCHHealth Ophthalmic Academy. (Oral presentation)

**Abbott K.** 2018. Neurotrophic Keratitis Diagnosis and Management. Cornea and Contact Lens Clinic. University of Houston College of Optometry. (Oral presentation)

**Abbott K.** 2018. Serous Retinal Detachment secondary to Central Serous Chorioretinopathy. Grand Rounds. University of Houston College of Optometry. (Oral presentation)

**Abbott K.** 2017. The Mysterious Third Photoreceptor and its Profound Implications. Bellaire Family Eye Care Staff Meeting. (Oral presentation)

**Abbott K.** 2017. Modulating input to ipRGCs to Improve Sleep and Circadian Rhythms. University of Houston College of Optometry Annual Research Showcase. (Poster)

Ostrin LA, **Abbott KS**, Queener HM. 2016. The ipRGC Pupil Response with Light Exposure, Refractive Error and Sleep. The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology Conference. (Poster)

**Abbott K.** 2016. Relationship between Intrinsically Photosensitive Retinal Ganglion Cells and Refractive Error, Light Exposure, and Melatonin. The American Academy of Optometry 2016 (Oral Presentation) \*\*\*won best student presentation (750 submissions) at AAO in 2016\*\*

**Abbott K.** 2016. Relationship between Intrinsically Photosensitive Retinal Ganglion Cells and Refractive Error, Light Exposure, and Melatonin. University of Houston College of Optometry Annual Research Showcase. (Poster)

## Invited Podcasts

**Abbott K.**, Brujic M. Impact of glaucoma medications on the ocular surface and how ocular surface disease can influence glaucoma treatment. Clinical Podcast Series. American Academy of Optometry Foundation. October 2023.

**Abbott K.**, Pucker A. Outcomes of Scleral Lenses for Dry Eye Disease in Chronic Graft-Versus-Host-Disease. Clinical Podcast Series. American Academy of Optometry Foundation. April 2023.

**Abbott K.**, Pucker A. Age-Related Changes in Corneal Sensitivity. Clinical Podcast Series. American Academy of Optometry Foundation. March 2023.

**Abbott K.**, Pucker A. Bright Ideas Pitch Competition: SunSnap Kids. Clinical Podcast Series. American Academy of Optometry Foundation. February 2023.

**Abbott K.**, Glover D, Lyerly J. Defocus Media. February 2020. Optometry Podcast: SunSnap Kids Sunglasses with Dr. Kaleb Abbott.

**Abbott K.**, Sheets S. Sara Sheets Podcast for Social Leads Strategy Pro. January 2020. Interview with Dr. Kaleb Abbott, founder of SunSnap Kids.

## Hosted Podcasts

Tichenor A. **Abbott K.** Efficacy of Topical Azithromycin versus Systemic Doxycycline in Treatment of Meibomian Gland Dysfunction. Clinical Podcast Series. Dry Eye and Ocular Surface Disease. American Academy of Optometry Foundation. (anticipated April 2024).

Tichenor A. **Abbott K.** Multi-frequency RF Combined with IPL Improves Signs and Symptoms of Dry Eye due to MGD. Clinical Podcast Series. Dry Eye and Ocular Surface Disease. American Academy of Optometry Foundation. (anticipated May 2024).

Pucker A. **Abbott K.** The relationship between habitual water intake and dry eye disease. Clinical Podcast Series. Dry Eye and Ocular Surface Disease. American Academy of Optometry Foundation. (February 2024).

## Editor Reviewed Publications

**Abbott K.** Navigating the Dry Eye Dilemma in Glaucoma Requires Skilled Eye Drop Management. Optometry Advisor. Glaucoma. March 2024.

**Abbott K.** Vitamin A and OSD: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly. Modern Optometry. March 2024 issue.

**Abbott K.** Research spotlight: Does dry eye get overlooked in visually impaired patients? Optician. Features. February 2024.

**Abbott K.** Does My Dry Eye Patient Have Stage 1 Neurotrophic Keratitis? *How to differentiate between the two disease entities*. Modern Optometry. Online Exclusive. December 2023.

**Abbott K.** Vision in Motion: Unveiling the Eye-Open Benefits of Exercise. Review of Presbyopia and the Aging Eye. Jobson Medical Information / WebMD. eResource. October 2023.

**Abbott K.** The Profound Impact of Sleep on Ocular Health. Review of Presbyopia and the Aging Eye. Jobson Medical Information / WebMD. eResource. October 2023.

**Abbott K.** Long-awaited Treatment for Demodex Blepharitis Receives FDA Approval. Modern Optometry. Online Exclusive. July 2023.

**Abbott K.** Awareness can reduce challenges associated with preservatives in glaucoma treatment. Healio. Cornea/External Disease. Perspective. July 2023.

**Abbott K.** Managing Ocular Cicatricial Pemphigoid Related Ocular Surface Disease. Modern Optometry. Complex Cases. July/August 2023 Edition.

**Abbott K.** Intrinsically Photosensitive Retinal Ganglion Cells: The Mysterious Third Photoreceptor (Part II). Eyes on Eyecare. Clinical Guide. Retina. September 3, 2019.

**Abbott K.** Intrinsically Photosensitive Retinal Ganglion Cells: The Mysterious Third Photoreceptor (Part I). Eyes on Eyecare. Clinical Guide. Retina. November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

## Non-Peer-Reviewed Articles

**Abbott K.** Beyond Omega-3 Supplementation: Nutrition for Dry Eye Disease. Ocular Wellness and Nutrition Society. Members Blog. September 2023.

**Abbott K.** Glaucoma is No Longer a Disease of Elevated Intraocular Pressure Only. Restore Vision Clinic. 2020.

**Abbott K.** What is Retinitis Pigmentosa. Restore Vision Clinic. 2020.

**Abbott K.** Leber Congenital Amaurosis. Better Eyesight Without Retinal Cell Regeneration. Restore Vision Clinic. September 26, 2020.

**Abbott K.** Life with Retinitis Pigmentosa. Retinitis Pigmentosa. Restore Vision Clinic. April 30, 2020.

**Abbott K.** What is NAION and is Eyesight Loss Reversible? Restore Vision Clinic. 2019.

**Abbott K.** Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension. Vision at Risk. Restore Vision Clinic. December 3, 2019.

**Abbott K.** Optic Nerve Hypoplasia. Your Child Can See Better. November 10, 2019.

**Abbott K.** Sleep Apnea is a Risk for Optic Nerve Damage. Restore Vision Clinic. October 14, 2019.

## Honors and Awards

<b>Optometry Innovation Awards Finalist – SunSnap Kids</b>	2023
3 <sup>rd</sup> place in the Eyes on Eyecare second annual pitch competition.	
<b>American Academy of Optometry Leadership Summit Invitation</b>	2023
Invited and attended leadership summit with small group of selected optometrists.	
<b>Fellowship of the American Academy of Optometry</b>	2022
Primarily scientific candidate with some clinical work. Passed oral defense at AAO 2022.	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place in the inaugural Bright Ideas Pitch Competition – SunSnap Kids</b>	2022
Top spot out of 28 companies. Written business plans, video pitches, and live pitch at AAO in front of 5 judges.	
<b>Clinical Letter of Excellence x 2 Award</b>	2017
Awarded to students who demonstrated excellence in each clinic rotation per semester	
<b>Clinical Letter of Excellence Award</b>	2016
Awarded to students who demonstrated excellence in each clinic rotation per semester	
<b>Best Student Presentation Award at American Academy of Optometry</b>	2016
Awarded to the best graduate or optometry student presentation (over 750 submissions)	
<b>Beta Sigma Kappa Invitation</b>	2015
Optometry school GPA of greater than 3.5.	
<b>NIH Summer Research Grant Recipient</b>	2015
Applied and received stipend for summer research project from National Eye Institute	
<b>UHCO Merit Scholarship Award</b>	2014
Awarded to select few students upon acceptance to University of Houston optometry program	

## Consulting

<b>Guidepoint</b>	2024-present
Consult on ocular surface disease and dry eye.	
<b>Navitus</b>	2024-present
Consult on ocular surface disease and dry eye.	
<b>Tarsus</b>	2023-present
Consult on ocular surface disease, specifically demodex blepharitis.	
<b>Dompé farmaceutici</b>	2023-present
Consult on ocular surface disease, specifically neurotrophic keratitis.	
<b>Syneos Health</b>	2023-present
Consult on ocular surface disease therapeutic and diagnostic landscape.	
<b>Scope Eyecare</b>	2023-present
Consult and speak on Optase dry eye disease / ocular surface disease products.	
<b>SunSnap Kids LLC</b>	2023-present
Advisor for the wholesale arm (optometry offices, boutique kid shops, etc) of this kid sunglasses company.	

## Leadership Roles

<b>Host of the American Academy of Optometry Foundation Clinical Podcast Series</b>	2024-present
Founded and host the Dry Eye and Ocular Surface Disease section of the podcast.	
<b>Flom Leadership Academy Candidate</b>	2023-2024
Accepted and enrolled into the leadership academy through American Academy of Optometry.	
<b>Board of Directors for the Ocular Wellness and Nutrition Society (nominated)</b>	2023-present
<b>Advisory Council for Academic Medical Center Optometrist Special Interest Group (nominated)</b>	2023-present
<b>Vice-Chair of the Nutrition, Disease Prevention, and Wellness SIG of AAO (elected)</b>	2022-present
Organize annual symposium, raise corporate funds, maintain meeting notes.	
<b>BSK Vice President (elected)</b>	2016-2017
Organized events, fundraisers, and meetings for the international optometric honors society.	
<b>BSK Class Representative (elected)</b>	2015-2016
Represented 2 <sup>nd</sup> year student interests to officers in BSK and assisted officers with meetings/events.	
<b>SOPMA Technology Chair (elected)</b>	2016-2017
Created website for practice management association and advertised/communicated to information to students.	
<b>SOPMA Secretary (elected)</b>	2015-2016

Created a digital meeting sign up page and communicated with members for upcoming meetings/events.

## Review and Referee Work

<b>Journal of Visualized Experiments</b> Reviewer and ad hoc contributor.	2024-present
<b>Optometry and Vision Science: Journal of the American Academy of Optometry.</b> Reviewer and ad hoc contributor.	2023-present
<b>The Ocular Surface</b> Reviewer and ad hoc contributor.	2023-present

## Media Mentions

<b>Social Factors Shown to Contribute to Dry Eye.</b> Review of Optometry. News Feed. January 22, 2024. <a href="https://www.reviewofoptometry.com/news/article/social-factors-shown-to-contribute-to-dry-eye">https://www.reviewofoptometry.com/news/article/social-factors-shown-to-contribute-to-dry-eye</a>
<b>How Cold Winter Weather Affects the Eyes.</b> Kara Mason. CU Anschutz News. January 9, 2024. <a href="https://news.cuanschutz.edu/ophthalmology/how-cold-winter-weather-affects-the-eyes">https://news.cuanschutz.edu/ophthalmology/how-cold-winter-weather-affects-the-eyes</a>
<b>Eyes on 2024 highlights eyecare's biggest innovations.</b> Alex Delaney-Gesing. Eyes on Eyecare. Events. December 6, 2023. <a href="https://glance.eyesoneyecare.com/stories/2023-12-06/eyes-on-2024-highlights-eyecare-s-biggest-innovations/">https://glance.eyesoneyecare.com/stories/2023-12-06/eyes-on-2024-highlights-eyecare-s-biggest-innovations/</a>
<b>Second annual Optometry Innovation Awards showcase top 3 winners.</b> Alex Delaney-Gesing. Eyes on Eyecare. Events. November 28, 2023. <a href="https://glance.eyesoneyecare.com/stories/2023-11-28/second-annual-optometry-innovation-awards-showcase-top-3-winners/">https://glance.eyesoneyecare.com/stories/2023-11-28/second-annual-optometry-innovation-awards-showcase-top-3-winners/</a>
<b>Dry Eye Syndrome Persists Among the Low Vision Population.</b> Courtney Dryer. Optometry Advisor. Low Vision. November 27, 2023. <a href="https://www.optometryadvisor.com/low-vision/dry-eye-syndrome-prevalence-is-high-among-patients-with-low-vision/">https://www.optometryadvisor.com/low-vision/dry-eye-syndrome-prevalence-is-high-among-patients-with-low-vision/</a>
<b>One-third of Low Vision Patients Have Dry Eye.</b> Review of Optometry. News Feed. November 16, 2023. <a href="https://www.reviewofoptometry.com/article/onethird-of-low-vision-patients-have-dry-eye#:~:text=In%20a%20new%20study%2C%20researchers,over%20a%20third%20of%20patients.">https://www.reviewofoptometry.com/article/onethird-of-low-vision-patients-have-dry-eye#:~:text=In%20a%20new%20study%2C%20researchers,over%20a%20third%20of%20patients.</a>
<b>Nasal Spray Provides a Novel Approach to Treatment of Dry Eyes.</b> Toni Lapp. CU Anschutz News. September 9, 2022. <a href="https://news.cuanschutz.edu/ophthalmology/nasal-spray-provides-treatment-for-dry-eyes">https://news.cuanschutz.edu/ophthalmology/nasal-spray-provides-treatment-for-dry-eyes</a>
<b>Meet Kaleb Abbott: Founder of SunSnap Kids and Optometrist.</b> Shoutout Colorado. Local Stories. May 11, 2021. <a href="https://shoutoutcolorado.com/meet-kaleb-abbott-founder-of-sunsnap-kids-and-optometrist/">https://shoutoutcolorado.com/meet-kaleb-abbott-founder-of-sunsnap-kids-and-optometrist/</a>
<b>Meet Kaleb Abbott of SunSnap Kids in Stapleton.</b> Voyage Denver. Local Stories. May 19, 2020. <a href="http://voyagedenver.com/interview/meet-kaleb-abbott-sunsnap-kids-stapleton/">http://voyagedenver.com/interview/meet-kaleb-abbott-sunsnap-kids-stapleton/</a>
<b>Starting a Frame Line Business with Dr. Kaleb Abbott OD.</b> Success Profile. Aaron Neufeld. ODs on Finance. January 14, 2020. <a href="https://odsonfinance.com/success-profile-starting-a-frame-line-business-with-dr-kaleb-abbott/">https://odsonfinance.com/success-profile-starting-a-frame-line-business-with-dr-kaleb-abbott/</a>
<b>Artificial light from digital devices lessens sleep quality.</b> Science Daily. Chris Stipes. Science News. July 18, 2017. <a href="https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/07/170728121414.htm">https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/07/170728121414.htm</a>
<b>The glow of technology has a dark side.</b> Jenny Deam. Houston Chronicle. Business Section. August 18, 2017. <a href="https://www.houstonchronicle.com/business/article/The-glow-of-technology-has-a-dark-side-11823516.php">https://www.houstonchronicle.com/business/article/The-glow-of-technology-has-a-dark-side-11823516.php</a>

## Professional Organizations

<b>Fellows Doing Research Special Interest Group – member</b>	Since 2023
<b>Colorado Optometric Association -- member</b>	Since 2023
<b>Denver Metro Optometric Society -- member</b>	Since 2023
<b>American Academy of Optometry – fellow</b>	Since 2022
<b>Tear Film and Ocular Surface Society – member</b>	Since 2022
<b>Nutrition, Disease Prevention, and Wellness Special Interest Group – Vice Chair</b>	Since 2022

**American Medical Center Optometrist Special Interest Group – Advisory council, Member**  
**Ocular Wellness and Nutrition Society – Board of Directors, Fellowship Chair**

**Since 2022**  
**Since 2018**

## Community Service

<b>Lutheran Family Services</b>	<b>2023-present</b>
Refugee/Asylee program helping with resettlement, employment, English language, and cultural orientation.	
<b>Funzeleo Board of Directors</b>	<b>2022-present</b>
Encouraging STEM education in the fields of healthcare, engineering, energy, and mining in Africa.	
<b>Nepris</b>	<b>2022-present</b>
Guest lecturer for high school students interested in healthcare jobs, especially in eyecare.	
<b>Houston Welcomes Refugees</b>	<b>2017-2018</b>
Assisted with resettlement of a family from Afghanistan to the Houston, TX.	
<b>BSK Talent Show Fundraiser for World Sight Day</b>	<b>September 2016</b>
Organized and ran talent show and silent auction fundraiser to raise money for World Sight Day.	
<b>UHCO 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Competency</b>	<b>Fall 2016</b>
Coordinated the planning and organization of competency with BSK officers.	
<b>Living Water International Mission Trip - Nicaragua</b>	<b>July 2016</b>
Participated in mission trip to drill a clean well for a small village in Leon, Nicaragua and teach healthy hygiene.	
<b>Sponsor Children (Compassion International)</b>	<b>2014-present</b>
Sponsor 2 children in Kabaret, Haiti. Write to them monthly and have visited them on two separate occasions.	
<b>Medical Mission Trip – Costa Rica</b>	<b>January 2013</b>
Participated in a mission trip providing medical services to Cartago, Costa Rica.	

## Licenses/Certifications

<b>Dry Eye University Certification (Ponte Vedra, Florida)</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Colorado Optometric License</b>	<b>June 2018-present</b>
<b>Paragon CRT Fitting Certification</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>ZenLens Scleral Fitting Certification</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>CPR/AED</b>	<b>2007-present</b>

## Start-up Companies

<b>Business Advisor and Minority Shareholder of SunSnap Kids, LLC</b>	<b>2023-present</b>
Sold the majority of the SunSnap Kids and stepped down to become a business advisor specifically for the wholesale arm of SunSnap Kids.	
<b>Co-Founder and President of SunSnap Kids LLC</b>	<b>2019-2023</b>
Conducted market research, designed, and developed prototypes, finalized the product development, and founded the company in 2019 to help solve the problem of kids losing sunglasses, SunSnap Kids' sunglasses, or Snappies, feature slap bracelets as temples to allow the sunglasses to be snapped on wrists, backpacks, bicycle handlebars, grocery carts, strollers, or car seats while not being worn. This allows the sunglasses to not be lost when not being worn by the child. During peak COVID, a historically challenging era of supply chain issues, I manufactured and distributed Snappies to all 50 US states and 4 countries. Grew SunSnap Kids into a profitable and national business through direct to consumer and business to business sales. Snappies can now be found in optometry offices and boutique kid stores nationwide.	

## Clinical and Didactic Teaching

<b>Attending Ophthalmology Residents</b>	<b>2022-present</b>
Trainees	
Conner Nix, MD	
Anne Strong Caldwell, MD	
Mathew Tuckel, MD	
John Volkin, MD	

Tiffany Wu, MD  
Hosannah Evie, MD  
Cheryl Fonteh, MD

### **Ophthalmic Academy**

**2022-present**

Present lectures and help train new ophthalmic technicians at UCHHealth.

### **Laboratory Teaching Assistant – Ophthalmic Optics**

**2018**

Teaching assistant for ophthalmic optics lab for 1<sup>st</sup> year optometry students.

### **Optometry Tutor**

**2016-2017**

Tutored 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students in ocular pharmacology, systemic pharmacology, and ocular disease.

## **Former Research Experience**

### **NIH/NEI Summer Research Fellowship**

College of Optometry, University of Houston, Houston, TX, March 2015-August 2016

Advisor: Lisa Ostrin, O.D., Ph.D., FAAO

Applied and received NIH/NEI summer research grant to perform research

- Created IRB for two new studies
- Organized new research project
- Recruited subjects

### **Graduate Research (Master of Science in Physiological Optics and Vision Science)**

College of Optometry, University of Houston, Houston, TX, August 2016-May 2018

Advisor: Lisa Ostrin, O.D., Ph.D., FAAO

*Influence of Light Exposure on the Melanopsin Driven Pupil Response and Circadian Rhythm*

- Continued and expanded on research from previous summer
- Investigated the relationship between intrinsically photosensitive retinal ganglion cell (ipRGC) sensitivity with light exposure, age, refractive error, gender, and sleep quality
- Examined the feasibility of manipulating ipRGC stimulation through alleviation of short-wavelength light in an attempt to modulate melatonin levels, sleep quality/duration/latency, and ipRGC sensitivity

## **Externships**

**Bellaire Family Eye Care (Summer 2017)** – Specialty practice with heavy emphasis on specialty contact lenses, pediatrics, binocular vision, and vision therapy. Became proficient at fitting scleral lenses and orthokeratology lenses. Gained valuable experience conducting pediatric examinations on children as young as 1 year old. Diagnosed binocular and perceptual vision disorders in children of all ages as well as adults (mostly TBI patients) and helped create a vision therapy schedule and plan. Helped design a new website for the practice and create a new line of affordable frames. Implemented the use of blue-blocking technology in patients with TBI and/or sleep disorders based on clinical research personally conducted at the University of Houston. Also designed new scleral lens stands to be used in patients with difficulty inserting scleral lenses.

**Katy Veteran Affairs (Fall 2017)** – Treated a wide range of eye disease/conditions in the veteran population. Became knowledgeable in the care and management of many forms of glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, hypertensive retinopathy, uveitis, wide array of macular conditions, peripheral retinal conditions, anterior segment conditions, and severe ocular surface disease.

## **Work Experience**

### **Instructor of Ophthalmology**

**2022-2023**

Faculty in the Department of Ophthalmology and the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Work in the dry eye clinic doing comprehensive dry eye evaluations and managing ocular surface disease. Role also included attending ophthalmology residents and conducting research centered on dry eye disease, ocular surface disease, and nursing home epidemiology.

### **Aria Care Partners**

**2021-2022**



Performed medical-based eye examinations in skilled nursing, assisted living, and psychiatric facilities in Colorado. Managed ocular surface disease, retinal, optic nerve, lenticular, and corneal conditions. Examinations were 90% medical and 10% refractive.

**Locum Tenens**

**2019-2021**

Performed fill-in work at Winrock Vision, Flatiron Vision Associates, Clear Vision Associates, and Sowash Optometry Group.

**Cutarelli Vision**

**2018-2019**

Performed pre-operative, post-operative, and full examinations at a refractive surgery center specializing in LASIK, LASEK, CATZ, ICL, CE, RLE, PTK, stromal puncture, PK, and other anterior segment surgeries. Developed a deep understanding of anterior segment, especially the management of complicated corneal conditions.

**Medical Freelance Writer**

**2018-present**

Write articles for neurologists, ophthalmologists, and online magazines. Focused mainly on neuro-ophthalmology, inherited retinal diseases, and refractive surgery but also write about intrinsically photosensitive retinal ganglion cells and my blue light research conducted at University of Houston College of Optometry.