



My life's mission is to make the world a better place by eradicating avoidable blindness in T&T and our Caribbean Region.

After several years of working in the Public Hospital system, I started a private practice and have been the CEO and Chief Surgeon there at Trinidad Eye Hospital, for more than 13 years. Although my subspecialty is vitreo retinal surgery and I perform approximately 500 vitreo retinal procedures yearly, I also do an average of 1500 cataract operations annually.

Creating an Ophthalmic Specialist Training Program for Residents is one of my proudest achievements as developing new surgeons is something I deeply value.

I also enjoy leading Audits and practicing Clinical Governance as I see firsthand the elevation of patient care that results.

I firmly believe that Public-Private models of eye care delivery, can make a difference in a population's ability to reduce blindness effectively and continue to advocate in this regard.

Overall, my aim is to serve patients together with our team of doctors and eyecare professionals at Trinidad Eye Hospital, with love, kindness and compassion.

QUALIFICATIONS

FRCOphth (UK), FRCS (Ed), CCT (UK), Dip Ed (UK), MBBS (UWI)

FRCOphth 2022 (By Election) – Royal College of Ophthalmologists, London

CCT 2007 - Royal College of Ophthalmologists, London

Dip Ed 2006 - University of Sheffield, Sheffield

FRCS 1999 - Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Edinburgh

MBBS 1993 - University of the West Indies, Jamaica

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING

Sept 2012- John A. Moran, University of Utah, USA
General Ophthalmology Observership

Oct 2010 - Kathmandu, Nepal
Small Incision Cataract Surgery

Jan 2017 – Aravind Eye Care System, India
Management Priorities In Eye Care Delivery For Heads Of Eye Hospitals

WORK EXPERIENCE

July 2011 to Present

Caribbean Vitreous & Retina Surgery Limited (CVRS) | Trinidad Eye Hospital (TEH)

Chief Executive Officer

- Leads the organization towards a vision of a world where everyone sees.
- Collaborates with local, regional and international leaders in eye health to increase the standard of care and collaboration across public and private eyecare systems.

Consultant Ophthalmologist/ Vitreo Retinal Surgeon

- Successful performed approximately 10,000 cataract surgeries, 5,000 vitrectomy surgeries and other eye procedures to date.
- Average of 10,000 patient interactions per year.

August 2016 – March 2024

Trinidad Eye Hospital (TEH), Non -profit Organization

Chairman of the Board

- Founded TEH to design and implement free programs for the prevention of avoidable blindness.
- Diabetic Eye Screening, Charity Surgery and Vision Screening Programs designed and implemented.

2011 - 2014

San Fernando General Hospital

2008 - 2011

Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex

TEACHING & TRAINING POSTS

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|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2018- Present | Educational Supervisor, CVRS TEH. |
| 2012- Present | Adjunct Professor, John A. Moran Eye Centre, University of Utah |
| 2009- 2019 | Associate Lecturer, University of the West Indies |
| 2001 - 2007 | Clinical Lecturer in Ophthalmology, University of Sheffield, England. |

OTHER POSTS

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2023 – Present | Examiner, Royal College of Ophthalmologist |
| 2022- 2024 | Vice President, Ophthalmological Society of the West Indies |
| 2021- Present | Public Relations Officer, Ophthalmological Society of Trinidad & Tobago |
| 2014- 2016 | Secretary/Treasurer, Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. |

KEY CONFERENCES

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| July 2024 | 35th Annual OSWI Congress Meeting, Trinidad |
| May 2024 | 2024 RCOphth Annual Congress, Belfast |
| March 2024 | 2024 Ophthalmological Society of Jamaica Conference, Jamaica |
| July 2023 | 34th Annual OSWI Congress Meeting, Miami |
| Sept 2022 | Trinidad and Tobago Medical Association 28 th Annual Medical Research Conference, Trinidad |
| July 2022 | 33rd Annual OSWI Congress Meeting, Antigua |
| July 2021 | 32 nd Annual OSWI Congress Meeting, Virtual |
| Feb 2020 | Latest Updates in Ophthalmology, Barbados |

REGIONAL TEACHING, TRAINING & PRESENTATIONS

Bhola R, Salvi S, Fagbola B, Badasee V. Choroidal Tumours at Trinidad Eye Hospital. Ophthalmological Society of Jamaica Conference. Jamaica 2024

Bhola R. Role of the Physician in Diabetic Retinopathy Screening. SANFER Conference. Guyana 2023

Bhola R. Reducing Cataract Surgery Backlog in the region through Partnerships. Trinidad and Tobago Medical Association 29th Annual Medical research Conference. Trinidad and Tobago 2023

Bhola R. 'Trini back flip' Quick Bimanual Scissor Surgery delamination technique. Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. Miami 2023

Bhola R. Mohammed Z. Hyaloid Elevation. Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. Miami 2023

Bhola R. Capsulorhexis. Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. Miami 2023

Bhola R. Fraser A. Posterior Polar Cataract. Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. Miami 2023

Bhola R. Fraser A. Laser for DME-CI. Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. Miami 2023

Bhola R. Diabetic Retinopathy Screening and Treatment. Trinidad and Tobago Medical Association 28th Annual Medical research Conference. Trinidad and Tobago 2022

Bhola R. Scientific Session 4- Other Emergencies, Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Antigua 2022

Bhola R. Scientific Session 8- Interesting Surgical Videos, Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Antigua 2022

Bhola R. Dubay S. Vitreous in AC with Sublux IOL. Video Based presentation. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago 2021

Bhola R. Proliferative Retinopathy Case. Retina Section Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago 2021

Bhola R. Iris Prolapse Video based presentation, Cataract Section, Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago 2021

Bhola R. Vitreo-Retinal Interface, Latest Updates in Ophthalmology, Barbados Feb 2020

Bhola R. Update on Macular Hole in the Caribbean, Latest Updates in Ophthalmology, Barbados Feb 2020

Bhola R. An analysis of failure rates utilizing scleral loops to position bands for encirclement. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago, 2019

Bhola R. To present a relatively new technique using ILM inverted flap that provides a scaffold over macular holes to aid closure, and their outcomes. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago, 2019.

Mohammed Z, Bhola R. Complications of intravitreal Bevacizumab injections at the Trinidad Eye Hospital, Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago, 2019.

Bhola R. Update on the Trinidad Eye Hospital Diabetic Eye Screening Program. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago, 2019.

Bhola R. Challenges of setting up the Trinidad Eye Hospital, Latest Updates in Ophthalmology, Barbados Feb 2019.

Bhola R. Buckling in Retinal Detachment Surgery. Latest Updates in Ophthalmology, Barbados Feb 2019.

Bhola R. Inverted flap technique for macular hole surgery. Latest Updates in Ophthalmology, Barbados Feb 2019.

Bhola R. Combining Retina and Glaucoma Surgery in Rubeotic Eyes. Latest Updates in Ophthalmology, Barbados Feb 2019.

Bhola R. Diabetic in the English-Speaking Caribbean. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago, 2018.

Bhola R. Cataract surgery in presence of Weak Zonules, OSWI, Guyana 2017.

Bhola R. Diabetic retinopathy - when to consider surgical treatment in the age of Avastin, OSWI, Guyana 2017.

Bhola R. Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy and Diabetic Vitrectomy, Latest Updates in Ophthalmology, Barbados Feb 2016.

Bhola R. Macular degeneration in Trinidad and Tobago, do we have a different perspective in the Caribbean? Latest Updates in Ophthalmology, Barbados Feb 2016.

Bhola R. Traumatic retinal detachment repair, Latest Updates in Ophthalmology, Barbados Feb 2016.

Bhola R. Most interesting case of my career, Latest Updates in Ophthalmology, Barbados Feb 2016.

Bhola R. Phaco Pearl in Cataract Surgery (Anterior Vitrectomy via Par Planar). OSWI, Curacao July 2015.

Bhola R. Pterygium Surgery (Perfect for Pterygium Surgery; 'Caribbean population experience'). OSWI. Curacao July 2015

Bhola R. Anti-VEGF vs IVTA vs FAL for foveal sparing diabetic macula oedema, Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Jamaica 2014

Bhola R. Phacoemulsification Cataract Surgery Pearls (Phacoemulsification and SICS), Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Jamaica 2014.

Bhola R., Anterior Vitrectomy in Cataract Surgery, Ophthalmological Society of West Indies Jamaica 2014.

Bhola R. Maharaj A, Persad N, Modeste D. The Caribbean Diabetic Vitrectomy– When to Operate, Aim of Surgery and Causes of Poor Visual Outcomes. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Jamaica 2014.

Bhola R. Modeste D, Persad N, Maharaj A. ‘The Macular Hole’ A survey of the most common non-diabetic cause of vitreoretinal surgery in a Caribbean population, Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Jamaica 2014.

Bhola R. Novel Retinal Surgical Maneuvers using a 4 and 5 port pars planar vitrectomy approach. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Suriname 2013.

Bhola R. Cataract Complications requiring vitreo-retinal surgical management. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Suriname 2013.

Bhola R. Diabetic Retinopathy Photographic Screening in Trinidad and Tobago. World Congress of Surgery, Obstetrics and Trauma, Trinidad 2013

Bhola R. High Volume Cataract Surgery at San Fernando General Hospital doubles cataract surgical rate. World Congress of Surgery, Obstetrics and Trauma, Trinidad 2013

Bhola R. Are Visiting Cataract Surgeons and Cataract projects a thing of the past? World Congress of Surgery, Obstetrics and Trauma, Trinidad 2013

Bhola R. Paediatric Retina Trauma. Latest Updates in Ophthalmology, Barbados 2013

Bhola R. Diabetic Eye Disease. Arnott Cato Symposium, St Vincent 2011

INTERNATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Bhola R, Shah S, Shillingford-Ricketts H, Mohammed F. Reducing Cataract Surgery Backlogs in the Caribbean Region through Public-Private & Private-Private Partnerships. 2024 RCOphth Annual Congress, Belfast. **2024**, Ireland.

Maharaj A, Persad N, Sohanpal G, Ramoutar R, **Bhola R**. ‘Haptic lasso’ makes for simplified intrascleral insertion of haptics in fixation of three-piece intraocular lens.

Bhola R. Vitrectomy in the Caribbean. World Ophthalmology Congress **2016**, Mexico.

Poster session presented at: American Academy of Ophthalmology Annual Meeting; **2013** November 16-19; New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

NATIONAL TEACHING & TRAINING CONTRIBUTION

I initiated and held a national local eye meeting yearly for 5 consecutive years using CVRS|TEH, which started as south doctor meeting and grew to a national meeting.

Nov 2017 Ophthalmological Society of Trinidad and Tobago Conference, 1 day

Nov 2016- Ophthalmological Society of Trinidad and Tobago Conference, 1 day

Dec 2015- Ophthalmological Society of Trinidad and Tobago Conference ‘Updates in Ophthalmology’, 1 day

Dec 2014 - South Doctors Eye Meeting, 1/2-day meeting,

IN-HOUSE TEH RESIDENT TRAINING PROGRAMME

TEH OST program has 2 residents.

Our curriculum mirrors the RCOphth curriculum.

I am actively involved as the lead educational supervisor in our Resident OST Training Program.

SUPPORTING TRAINEE PRESENTATIONS

Fagbola B, **Bhola R**, Bhola D, Mohammed I. Trinidad Eye Hospital School Screening Project. Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. Trinidad **2024**

Mohammed Z, **Bhola R**, et al. Evaluating The Efficacy Of Color Fundus Photography-Based Referral Criteria In Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Program In Detecting Glaucoma. Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. Trinidad **2024**

Fagbola B, **Bhola R**. A rare case of left choroidal melanoma in an Afro-Caribbean male. Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. Trinidad **2024**

Fraser A. **Bhola et al**. Occupational Sedentary Behavior of Ophthalmologists. Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. Miami **2023**

S Sooknanan, R Ramoutar, N Udit, **Bhola R**, et al. Pioneering Diabetic Retinopathy Screening in Trinidad and Tobago: 'The Early Years'. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Jamaica **2015**.

Ramoutar R, Udit N, Maharaj A, **Bhola R**. Cataract Surgical Rate (CSR) at Public Hospitals in Trinidad and Tobago, Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Jamaica **2015**

Udit N, Ramoutar R, Sooknanan Shival, **Bhola R**. A comparative analysis of the different modes of topical anaesthesia utilized for the administration of intravitreal Anti-VEGF injections Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Jamaica **2014**.

Modeste D, Persad N, Maharaj A, **Bhola R**. Is Dilation Necessary for Diabetic Screening in the Caribbean Eye. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Jamaica **2014**.

Maharaj A, **Bhola R**, Persad N, Sohanpal G. A comparative analysis of the various suture-less sulcus fixation techniques. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Jamaica **2014**.

Maharaj A, Persad N, Sohanpal G, **Bhola R**. Extensive tenonectomy for pterygium surgery, how important is it? Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Jamaica **2014**.

Persad N, Sohanpal G, Maharaj A, **Bhola R**. An analysis of the surgically induced astigmatism (SIA) of corneal incision extracapsular (ECCE) surgery. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Suriname **2013**.

Maharaj A, Sohanpal G, Persad N, **Bhola R**. P.E.R.F.E.C.T. for PTERYGIUM... Is it perfect for the Caribbean Pterygium? Ophthalmological Society of West Indies, Suriname **2013**.

EXPERT PANEL MEMBER/ CHAIR

Bhola R. Chair of Session 4: Ocular Oncology. Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. Trinidad **2024**

Bhola R. Panel: Surgical Retina Clinic – Cases and Panel Discussion. Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. Trinidad **2024**

Bhola R. Panel: Medical Retina Mini Symposium – Retinal Vascular Occlusion. Ophthalmology Society of the West Indies. Trinidad **2024**

Bhola R. Chair of Ophthalmic Surgical “Mishap” Videos. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies. Miami **2023**

Bhola R. Chair of Scientific Session 3- Cataract Session. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies. Antigua **2022**

Bhola R. Retina Panel. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies. Trinidad and Tobago **2021**

Bhola R. Chair of Retina Panel. Latest Updates in Ophthalmology Conference. Barbados **2020**

Bhola R. Chair of Cataract Panel. Latest Updates in Ophthalmology Conference. Barbados **2020**

Bhola R. Chair Medical Retina Session. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies. Jamaica **2014.**

Bhola R. et al Virtual Retina Clinics (Video based case panel discussion) Ophthalmological Society of West Indies. Trinidad and Tobago **2019.**

Bhola R. Virtual Cataract Clinics (Video based case panel discussion) Ophthalmological Society of West Indies. Trinidad and Tobago **2019.**

Bhola R. Interactive Retina Clinical Cases. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies. Jamaica **2018.**

Bhola R. Cataract Session. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies. Guyana **2017.**

Bhola R. Mini Macular Symposium. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies. Guyana **2017.**

Bhola R. Cataract Misadventures, video presentation with panel discussion. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies. Barbados **2016.**

Bhola R. OSWI Retinas: Retinal Misadventures in the operating theatre. Ophthalmological Society of West Indies. Barbados **2016.**

PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

Bhola R. Diabetic Screening and Diabetic Retinal Surgery. West Indian Med J **2016**;65 (Suppl.4) 36.

Bhola R. Ocular Pharmacology. West Indian Med J **2015**;64(Suppl.3) 39.

PUBLICATIONS

Mohammed, F., **Bhola, R.**, Bodoie-Bunsee, A. et al. Forming cataract surgery partnerships can reduce reversible blindness; an example from the Caribbean. Eye (2024). DOI:10.1038/s41433-024-03479-2

Mohammed I, Dubay S, **Bhola R**, et al. Optometry meets ophthalmology- cycloplegic refraction and examination under general anaesthesia in a paediatric high myope. Adv Ophthalmol Vis Syst. 2023;13(1):20-24. DOI: 10.15406/aovs.2023.13.00433

Sareta D K, Dorian D, **Ronnie B.** Corneal integrity in ahmed valve implantation: pars plana vs ciliary sulcus vs anterior chamber. Adv Ophthalmol Vis Syst . 2022;12(3):87-88. DOI: 10.15406/aovs.2022.12.00426

Sareta K Dubay, Dorian Dwarika, **Ronnie Bhola** and Balakrishna Vineeth Kumar, Long-term outcomes of pars plana Ahmed valve implant and vitrectomy in eyes with refractory glaucoma. Medical Hypothesis discovery and innovation in ophthalmology; 2022.

Amit S Verma, Dorian Dwarika, **Ronnie M Bhola**, Sheraiz Emamali, Photokeratitis following the manipulation of aquaria disinfection lamps. Emerg Med J 2007 March;24(3):232

Sears KS, **Bhola RM**, Winder S. Visually significant persistent outer retinal fluid following closure of a macular hole. Acta Ophthalmol Scand. 2007 Mar;85(2):213-5.

Cirovic S, **Bhola RM**, Hose DR, Howard IC, Lawford PV, Marr JE, Parsons MA. Computer modelling study of the mechanism of optic nerve injury in blunt trauma J Ophthalmol.2006 Jun;90(6):778-83.

Cirovic S, **Bhola RM**, Hose DR, Howard IC, Lawford PV, Parsons MA
A computational study of the passive mechanisms of eye restraint during head impact trauma Comput Methods Biomech Biomed Engin.2005 Feb;8(1):1-6.

Singh AD, Mudhar HS, **Bhola R**, Rundle PA, Rennie IG. Sebaceous adenoma of the eyelid in Muir-Torre syndrome. Arch Ophthalmol. 2005 Apr;123(4):562-5.

Desai SP, Tegghalli BC, **Bhola R**. Superglue mistaken for eye drops. Arch Dis Child. 2005 Nov;90(11):1193.

Bhola RM, Dhingra S, McCormick AG, Chan TK. Central retinal artery occlusion following staphylococcal orbital cellulitis. Eye (Lond). 2003 Jan;17(1):109-11.

Squirrell D, **Bhola R**, Bush J, Winder S, Talbot JF. A prospective, case controlled study of the natural history of diabetic retinopathy and maculopathy after uncomplicated phacoemulsification cataract surgery in patients with type 2 diabetes. Br J Ophthalmol. 2002 May;86(5)

McCormick A, **Bhola R**, Brown L, Squirrel D, Giles J, Pepper I. Quantifying relative afferent pupillary defects using a Sbisa bar. Br J Ophthalmol. 2002 Sep;86(9):985-7.

Bhola RM, Horne GV, Squirrell DM, Chan TK, Kumar D Autosomal dominant congenital superior oblique palsy. Eye (Lond). 2001 Aug;15(Pt 4)

Bhola RM, Prasad S, McCormick AG, Rennie IG, Talbot JF, Parsons MA. Pupillary distortion and staphyloma following trans-scleral contact diode laser cyclophotocoagulation: a clinicopathological study of three patients. Eye (Lond). 2001 Aug;15(Pt 4)

Squirrell DM, **Bhola RM**, Talbot JF. Indocyanine green angiographic findings in serpiginous choroidopathy: evidence of a widespread choriocapillaris defect of the peripapillary area and posterior pole. Eye (Lond). 2001 Jun;15(Pt 3)

McCormick A, Dinakaran S, **Bhola R**, Rennie IG. Recurrent sixth nerve palsy following measles mumps rubella vaccination. Eye (Lond). 2001 Jun;15(Pt 3)

CLINICAL GOVERNANCE

Root Cause Analysis- Occurrence of Endophthalmitis Following the Intraocular Administration of Avastin- 2020

Review of Case of Wrong Biometric Error (IOL)for 2021- Recommendation: A new data form designed

AUDITS & SURGICAL CASE REVIEWS

Intravitreal Injection Audit 2020

Objective: To report the vision threatening complications of intravitreal injection service at CVRS|TEH from January 2019 to December 2019

Retrospective review of patients who were administered intravitreal injections at CVRS|TEH clinics, was conducted for the period January 2019 to December 2019

Glaucoma Audit 2020 - Pars plana Ahmed Valve as a mainstay of treatment for Refractory Rubeotic Glaucoma

Objective: Audit outcomes of pars plana ahmed valves implants for rubeotic glaucoma at Trinidad eye hospital from 2015 to date.

A retrospective case notes review of all patients who had pars plana ahmed valve implants for rubeotic glaucoma from October 2015 to December 2019. Objective was IOP management (minimum 20% reduction) and visual acuity improvement or maintenance.

Diabetic Screening Review 2020 - Diabetic Eye Screening Program at Trinidad Eye Hospital

Objective: Report of Diabetic Eye Screening Program DESP at the Trinidad Eye hospital for the period March 2018 to December 2019.

A retrospective review of all program processes, pathways, execution timelines, interactions, equipment, reach and results

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

- **2019- Present** **Public- Private Partnership – Lead Surgeon**
The Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment, Antigua & Barbuda
Ophthalmology Surgeries
669 surgeries completed
- **2022 – Present** **Private- Private Partnership – Lead Surgeon**
St Lucia Eye Hospital, St Lucia
Ophthalmology Surgeries
38 surgeries completed
- **2023 - Present** **Private- Private Partnership – Lead Surgeon**
HMS Eye Centre Inc, Dominica
Ophthalmology Surgeries
83 surgeries completed

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- **Editor At Large**, Ophthalmological Society of the West Indies Magazine 2022/2023
- **CVRS|TEH Insight Newsletters 2019 - 2024**
<https://www.trinidadseyehospital.org/newsletter>
- **TEH Video Documentaries**
Gift of Sight, Charity Cataract Surgeries: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jClf3h2SkdQ>
Sight Saver, Charity Vitrectomy Surgeries: <https://youtu.be/FYddBzVaG7M>
- +400 Free Surgeries provided since 2016 via TEH Charity Programs

CONTINUOUS MEDICAL EDUCATION

- 2024 – Trinidad Eye Hospital Education Forum –**72 hours**
- 2023 – Trinidad Eye Hospital Education Forum –**65 hours**
- 2022 – Trinidad Eye Hospital Education Forum –**64 hours**
- 2021 – Trinidad Eye Hospital Education Forum –**109 hours**
- 2020 – Trinidad Eye Hospital Education Forum –**88 hours**
- 2019 – Trinidad Eye Hospital Education Forum – **40 hours**

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Toastmasters International - **2023**
- The Leadership Mindset- The Discipline of Adding Zeros- 1 day **April 2023**
- The Global Leadership Summit – *Everyone has Influence* – 1 day, **2019**
- Global Leadership Summit John Maxwell - *Live to Lead* – 1 day, **2018**
- Management Priorities in Eye Care Delivery –Aravind Eye Care System, Madurai, India – 2 weeks, **2017**

REFERENCES

Dr. Randell Olsen
Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and CEO at John A. Moran Eye Centre,
University of Utah.

Dr Vineeth Kumar FRCS(Ed)
Consultant Ophthalmologist