



From Chennai to Nashville: a career in contact lenses

Dr Deepa Chandrasekaran is an optometrist from India. She earned her BS in Optometry degree from Elite School of Optometry in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India. She taught in her alma mater for a year before she went on to pursue her MS in Vision Science at the University of Alabama in Birmingham Vision Science Research Center. She continued to do her Advanced OD degree at Pacific University College of Optometry. Due to her interest and passion in keratoconus, she went on to do a Residency in Cornea and Contact lenses at the University of Alabama in

Birmingham School of Optometry to help patients with this condition by fitting them with contact lenses.

Dr Chandrasekaran was exposed to IACLE while she was in India. She became a FIACLE in 2008 and continues to use IACLE resources to help her with the latest in contact lenses and helping patients understand them as well. She is working on becoming the site co-ordinator for IACLE resources at Vanderbilt Eye Institute.

Dr Chandrasekaran is currently a faculty member and the Director of the Vision Rehabilitation Service at Vanderbilt Eye Institute, Vanderbilt Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee where she sees patients in the comprehensive, contact lens, and low vision clinics and lectures to ophthalmology residents about contact lenses and low vision. Before she joined Vanderbilt, she was in private practice for 8 years in Montgomery, Alabama. She has also been an adjunct clinical faculty in the contact lens department at UAB School of Optometry for a year while being in private practice.

Dr Chandrasekaran is a recipient of numerous awards. She was awarded a Certificate of Merit in Pediatric Optometry, Binocular Vision, and Contact Lenses during her Bachelor's in India. She was awarded the 'Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges' during her OD program. She was the recipient of Dr Sheldon Weschler Contact Lens Residency award given by the American Academy of Optometry. She lectures locally and nationally on ocular diseases, contact lenses, and primary care optometry.