## **Vision Science and Optometry: Eye Wonder**





#### Welcome everyone

Firstly I would like to acknowledge the Bedegal people that are the Traditional Custodians of this land where we are today. I would also like to pay my respects to the Elders both past and present, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who are present here today.

#### Our plan for today

1. **Introduction:** what we do in vision science and optometry, and inside 'eye' information

2. **Interactive activities**: please look around the various displays on each bench, ask questions, and enjoy the wonder of eyes!

3. 'Eye Closing' session: any questions, comments and thank you



#### **Optometry and Vision Science @ UNSW**



- only Optometry and Vision Science School in NSW (undergraduate and postgraduate)
- UNSW Optometry Clinic run by students and staff





## What do optometrists do?

- Provide comprehensive vision examinations
- Detect, diagnose and manage problems with eye (& general) health
- Refer patients to other health professionals as needed
- Prescribe certain therapeutics & co-manage eye diseases



#### **Optometrists = Primary Eye Health Care Professionals**

## What else can optometrists do?

- Prescribe, supply & repair spectacles
- Prescribe & supply contact lenses, solutions
- Advise & manage areas of special vision needs (e.g. low vision, colour vision)
- 'Kids vision': analyse & treat eye co-ordination problems (paediatric & vision therapy)
- Myopia management (e.g. orthokeratology)



## **Optometry and Vision Science @ UNSW**

**B VisSci / M ClinOptom @ UNSW\*** HSC Direct Entry (ATAR ~98.00)

**B VisSci / M ClinOptom @ UNSW\*** HSC Direct Entry (ATAR ~96.00)

[\* varies each year]

https://www.optometry.unsw.edu.au/future/admission-requirements



#### How to get into Optometry @ UNSW?

## B VisSci / M ClinOptom @ UNSW HSC Direct Entry (ATAR\*)

## \*ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) (or equivalent) 98.00+ Admission requirements

https://www.optometry.unsw.edu.au/future/admissionrequirements

> No UMAT (Undergraduate Medicine & Health Sciences Admissions Test)



#### What is Vision Science all about?

understanding how we see the world (sensory processes); using vision and imaging related technologies to 'repair' or improve vision





#### Ē

## B VisSci / B Sc (VisSci) possibilities?

#### **Ophthalmic industry**

- Business management-related options, practice managers
- Optical lens and contact lens design and manufacturing e.g. multifocal lenses, 'bifocal contact lenses'
- Public health and vision rehabilitation, education (Guide Dogs, MD Foundation)
- Low vision mobility and orientation
- **Biomedical imaging**
- Vision research (e.g. bionic eye UNSW)
- Academic/research & teaching (Honours + PhD pathway)



## What about the Clinical Optometry?

Combines experience in specialty eye clinics, eye therapeutics, research projects, ethics & professional development, business studies + more





Where do our MClinOptom students end up?

# Clinical practice / locum ~80% (corporate optometry vs independent; city vs rural)

Academic/Research ~5%

Overseas ~3%

Industry/Govt ~5% (contact lens companies, ergonomics, lighting, road safety, vision standards, eye safety, advocacy etc)

Other riles ~3% (dispensing roles or out of profession)



## **Eye Parts and Functions**





## A few 'inside' eye and vision details

## **Describing the Human Eye**

- Human eye = a simple lens system
- Outer cornea & sclera = 'tough container'
- Cornea and lens = transparent, focussing
- Iris/pupil = control light levels inside
- eye muscles = 'dance ' together to keep images on the right spot of the retina (both eyes together)
- Retina = neural 'screen' light → signal → optic nerve (axons) → brain visual cortex





#### Human eye showing main structures: average size?





#### Where do tears come from?



## How do eyes move?



#### https://aclandanatomy.com/content/4010614



#### **Inside the eye – the retina**



## How do we see the world? Pathways from eye → brain





### Central versus peripheral vision





## Retina

Visual pathways





#### What happens when things go wrong?





## Matching examples?



#### Seeing the world through different eyes?





Optometry @ UNSW: please visit our Clinic (https://www.optometry.unsw.edu.au/appointment) and for more news, updates, stories ...... https://www.facebook.com/UNSWOptom/





#### Thank you – any questions?



You are very welcome to visit our clinic https://www.optometry.unsw.edu.au/clinic

