

Avery Leysen

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Summary

An intelligent and passionate Optometrist that strives to continually improve clinical skills and treat every day as a new learning experience. Medically oriented and prepared to treat a wide variety of ocular disease including Diabetic Retinopathy, Macular Degeneration, and Glaucoma. Well versed in almost every aspect of Optometry and is someone who loves to problem solve. Extremely easy going team player that puts efficiency and high quality patient care as top priorities.

Education

Illinois College of Optometry – Chicago, Illinois

Doctor of Optometry

Graduated May 2021

Winona State University – Winona, Minnesota

Bachelor of Science in Cellular and Molecular Biology

Graduated May 2017

Externship Experience

MyEyeDr – Tallahassee, Florida

November 2020 – February 2021

- Increased efficiency in a primary care setting seeing 20+ patients each day
- Performed numerous soft contact lens fittings including monovision and multifocal modalities
- Fitted scleral lenses for patients with Keratoconus

The Salisbury VA Healthcare System – Kernersville, North Carolina

August 2020 – October 2020

- Expanded posterior segment ocular disease knowledge base by participating in a weekly journal club, working with residency trained attendings, and caring for several complex patients
- Performed diagnostic testing including OCT, OCT-A, fundus photography, visual field testing, and B-scans
- Performed numerous low vision exams and prescribed many low vision devices

Michiana Eye Center – Mishawaka, Indiana

June 2020 – August 2020

- Cared for patients with severe dry eye utilizing TearLab, Meibography, LipiFlow, and IPL therapy
- Managed a wide range of ocular disease including ARMD, Diabetic Retinopathy, and Ischemic Optic Neuropathies
- Assisted Ophthalmologists in pre and post-cataract operation care
- Handled anterior segment urgent care patients including numerous corneal ulcers, abrasions, and foreign bodies

Clinical Experience

Chicago Public Schools – Chicago, Illinois

Student Clinician

November 2018 – March 2019

- Treated children as young as four years old
- Performed cycloplegic refractions and retinoscopy
- Conducted extensive binocular vision exams including phoria, vergence, and Worth-4 Dot testing

Illinois Eye Institute (Advanced Care) – Chicago, Illinois

Student Clinician

June 2019 – September 2019

- Worked with a Retinal Ophthalmologist
- Observed multiple laser procedures
- Examined patients with Severe Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy

Professional Experience

Virginia Eye Institute – Richmond, Virginia

June 2021 – Present

- First and only job after graduation
- Shadowed multiple Ophthalmologists in clinic and surgery including Cornea, Retina, Pediatric, and Oculoplastic subspecialties
- Developed a close working relationship with an experienced Ophthalmologist who took on a mentorship role
- Entrusted with the role of seeing many patients the day after cataract surgery
- Cared for an abundance of complex patients, many whom required constant attention and communication with other medical specialties
- Performed Light Adjustable Lens Treatments on 100+ patients after cataract surgery

Volunteer Experience

Sixth Grace Presbyterian Church Health Fair Vision Screening

June 2019

University of Illinois Chicago Vision Screening

December 2019

Organizations/Affiliations

American Optometric Association, *Member*

September 2017 — Present

Virginia Optometric Association, *Member*

June 2021 — Present

Certifications

CPR and AED Certification

February 2024

Light Adjustable Lens LDD Certification

September 2024