

Growing up with a father who has served as an academic chair in ophthalmology for over two decades, I was introduced early to the impact of combining clinical care, teaching, and research. I vividly recall accompanying him to clinic, observing not only his diagnostic precision but also the trust he built with patients and trainees alike. These early experiences sparked my interest in ophthalmology and shaped my aspiration to pursue a career in academic medicine.

Prior to medical school, my experience as a retinal technician and ophthalmic photographer solidified this interest. Working in high-volume practices, I developed proficiency in clinical workflows, diagnostic imaging, and patient care. Performing and conducting fundus photographs and fluorescein angiograms that directly informed diagnosis and management was particularly rewarding, and it gave me an early appreciation for the power of multimodal imaging in ophthalmology. These formative experiences also strengthened by technical skills, efficiency, and confidence in the clinic.

Throughout medical school and during residency at Yale, my interest in academic ophthalmology has continued to grow through clinical training, research, and medical education. I have been especially interested in the role of evolving imaging technologies in clinical care, as well as in opportunities to contribute to teaching and mentorship. Serving as Chief Resident for the upcoming academic year, I am committed to fostering leadership, collaboration, and service. I look forward to supporting my co-residents, teaching junior trainees, and gaining a deeper understanding of the structure and responsibilities inherent to academic medicine.

As I apply for fellowship, my goal is to pursue training in vitreoretinal surgery and ultimately build a career in academic ophthalmology. I aim to integrate clinical excellence with education and innovation, contributing to advancements in retinal disease while mentoring the next generation of physicians – continuing the legacy that first inspired my path into this field.