

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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NAME: Victor Sanchez

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login):

POSITION TITLE: Resident Physician

EDUCATION/TRAINING (*Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.*)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Florida Gainesville, FL	B.A.	05/2020	Economics
Grossman School of Medicine New York University New York, NY	M.D.	05/2024	Medicine
Jackson Memorial Hospital/University of Miami Hospital Miami, FL	Internship	07/2025	Internal Medicine
Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, Miami, FL	Residency	Est 07/2028	Ophthalmology

A. Personal Statement

I first became interested in ophthalmology through a serendipitous opportunity to work on a telemedicine research project at the University of Florida with Drs. Mark Sherwood and Siva Iyer. Under their guidance, I was able to help develop a glaucoma screening program at a local free clinic using a smartphone based ophthalmoscope. This experience served as my first encounter with research methods, study design, and translating lessons from research to improve patient care. Thanks to these early experiences I remained passionate about ophthalmology throughout medical school and was fortunate to work under excellent research mentors who continued to nurture my academic growth. I worked under Dr. Anat Galor to perform ocular surface disease research in a veteran population, looking at discordant presentations of dry eye symptoms and signs. We also studied the lipidomics of the ocular surface, and our work together yielded a presentation at the Associated for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology Conference. I also had the fortunate of working under Dr. Lama Al-Aswad and performing research on the cost effectiveness of glaucoma interventions, in the hopes of informing practice patterns and guiding evidence-based research allocation in ophthalmic care. I have helped to conduct telephone-based surveys to evaluate obstacles to follow up for patients with diabetic retinopathy, and as a medical student I developed a simulation based cataract surgery learning activity under the supervision of Dr. Christina Prescott, to innovate ways to improve ophthalmological educations for medical students. Now in residency at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute I have the privilege of caring for some of the sickest and most vulnerable patients in South Florida. I continue to seek out research opportunities and have worked mentors in the Department of Retina and Vitreous Diseases including Drs. Basil

Williams, Nicolas Yannuzzi, and Harry Flynn to answer questions that I hope will inform and improve the care I provide. These initiatives include using large scale databases to assess socioeconomic drivers of poor outcomes in diabetic retinopathy, population level trends in endophthalmitis, and risk factors for retinal tear progression. The ultimate goal of these endeavors is to use the scientific method and find ways to better care for my patients. The Heed Resident Retreat would be an invaluable opportunity to meet and learn from the great leaders in our field.

B. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors

Positions:

2025-Present	Residency, Ophthalmology, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
2024-2025	Internship, Internal Medicine, Jackson Memorial Hospital/University of Miami
2023-2024	Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) Northeast Regional Conference Research Chair
2021-2024	Research Associate, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute/Miami VA
2021-2024	Research Associate, Department of Ophthalmology, NYU Grossman School of Medicine
2018-2020	Research Associated, Department of Ophthalmology, University of Florida

Honors:

2024	NYU Department of Ophthalmology Lynne and Jack Dodick Prize in Ophthalmology
2023	NYU Grossman School of Medicine, Alpha Omega Alpha Inductee, Vice President
2023	NYU Grossman School of Medicine Community Service Distinction
2023	NYU Grossman School of Medicine Research Travel Grant
2022	NYU Department of Medicine Anthony J. Grieco Award for Outstanding Essay in Creative Arts
2022	Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) Roger Beuerman Travel Grant
2021	NYU Grossman School of Medicine Office of Medication Education Summer Research Grant
2021	NYU Grossman School of Medicine Cost of Attendance Deans Scholarship
2020	University of Florida Honors Medallion
2019	University of Florida Phi Beta Kappa Inductee
2019	Florida Blue Key Inductee
2018	University of Florida Anderson Scholar
2018	John G.D. Knight Memorial Scholarship
2016	National Speech and Debate Association, Congressional Debate Finalist
2016	Palm Beach County Pathfinder Award, 4 th Place in Forensics

C. Contributions to Science

Undergraduate

- a) As an undergraduate student I conducted research under the mentorship of Dr. Siva Iyer MD and Dr. Mark Sherwood MD, within the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Florida. We evaluated the efficacy of implementing teleophthalmology into local free clinics as a way to screen patients as glaucoma suspects. My contributions included piloting the program, training students to collect optic nerve photos using a smartphone based digital ophthalmoscope (D-EYE), and conducting a study to assess whether captured images could be used by ophthalmology providers to grade the nerve and identify glaucoma suspects. This work resulted in the establishment of ophthalmology screening protocols within the local student run free clinic and an abstract which was accepted at the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) Annual meeting
- i) Mittal A, Sanchez V, Azad NS, Zuyev Y, Robles R, Sherwood M. The Utility of a Smartphone-Based Retinal Imaging Device as a Screening Tool in an Outpatient Clinic Setting: Protocol for an Observational Study. JMIR Res Protoc. 2025 Mar 25;14:e52650. doi: 10.2196/52650. PMID: 40132180; PMCID: PMC11979543.

Medical School

- a) Under the supervision of Dr. Lama A. Al-Aswad MD, MPH we performed research using Markov Models to evaluate whether glaucoma interventions including minimally invasive glaucoma surgery and prophylactic laser peripheral iridotomy were cost-effective at a societal level in select population. I also participated in the recruitment for a study to validate the use of a novel smartphone based visual acuity tool. Our research yielded presentations at ARVO, and the American Academy of Ophthalmology
- i) Sood S, Heilenbach N, Sanchez V, Glied S, Chen S, Al-Aswad LA. Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Minimally Invasive Trabecular Meshwork Stents with Phacoemulsification. *Ophthalmol Glaucoma*. 2021;S2589-4196(21)00210-6.
 - ii) Iskander M, Hu G, Sood S, Heilenbach N, Sanchez V, Ogunsola T, Chen D, Elgin C, Patel V, Wronka A, Al-Aswad LA. Validation of the NYU Langone Eye Test application, a Smartphone-Based Visual Acuity Test. *Ophthalmology Science*. 2022 Jun 15:100182
 - iii) Sood S, Sanchez V, Heilenbach N, Al-Aswad LA. Cost effectiveness of prophylactic Laser Peripheral Iridotomy in Primary Angle Closure Suspects. *Ophthalmol Glaucoma*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ogla.2022.10.005>
- b) I worked with Dr. Anat Galor MD, MPSH within the Bruce W. Carter Miami VA to study ocular surface diseases, particularly neuropathic corneal pain in a veteran population. Our work spanned several different domains. Through federally funded research, we studied the ocular sequelae of Gulf War Illness, a disease observed in veterans of the 1991 Gulf War. In collaboration with Dr. Nawajes Mandal PhD, at the University of Tennessee, we studied the lipidomics of tear film in patients with ocular surface disease, to better understand how structural abnormalities in the tear film, and changes to inflammatory signaling pathways may contribute to disease pathogenesis. We further collaborated on review articles on the role that corneal nerve abnormalities may play in patients with Sjogren's syndrome. Our work on sphingolipids was accepted as a paper presentation at ARVO and awarded the Roger Beuerman Travel Grant
- i) Sanchez V, Baksh BS, Cabrera K, et al. Dry eye symptoms and signs in US veterans with Gulf War Illness. *Am J Ophthalmol*. 2021;S0002-9394(21)00588-2. doi:10.1016/j.ajo.2021.11.010
 - ii) Galor A, Sanchez V, Jensen A, et al. Meibum sphingolipid composition is altered in individuals with meibomian gland dysfunction—a side by side comparison of Meibum and Tear Sphingolipids. *Ocul Surf*. 2021;S1542-0124(21)00138-5.
 - iii) Sanchez V, Galor A, Jensen K, Mondal K, Mandal N. Relationships between ocular surface sphingomyelinases, Meibum and Tear Sphingolipids, and clinical parameters of meibomian gland dysfunction. *Ocul Surf*. 2022;S1542-0124(22)00048-9. doi:10.1016/j.jtos.2022.06.003
 - iv) Sanchez V, Cohen NK, Felix E, Galor A. Factors affecting the prevalence, severity, and perception of ocular surface pain. *Expert Review of Ophthalmology*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17469899.2023.2157813>
 - v) Sanchez V, Kim CK, Locatelli EVT, Cohen AK, Cabrera K, Aenlle K, Klimas NG, O'brien R, Galor A. Dry eye symptoms and signs in United States Gulf War era veterans with myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome. *Clin Exp Ophthalmol*. 2024;52(1):10-21. doi:10.1111/ceo.14313
 - vi) Sanchez V, Dobzinski N, Fox R, Galor A. Rethinking Sjögren Beyond Inflammation: Considering the Role of Nerves in Driving Disease Manifestations. *Eye Contact Lens*. Published online February 7, 2024. doi:10.1097/ICL.0000000000001068
 - vii) Baeza DC, Sanchez V, Goldhardt R, McCoy SS, Tang F, Baer A, Fox R, Galor A. The eye as a window to oral and pain symptoms in Sjögren's disease. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2025 Aug 20;109(9):982-989. doi:10.1136/bjo-2024-326748. PMID: 40180442.
- c) Under the supervision of Dr. Yasha Modi I participated in a project to evaluate patient barriers to ophthalmic care after engagement with teleretinal screening service through a series of telephone-based patient interviews
- i) Patil S, Sanchez V, Bank G, Nair A, Pandit S, Schuman J, Dedania V, Mehta N, Parikh R, Colby K, Modi Y. Follow up Rates After Teleretinal Screening for Diabetic Retinopathy: Assessing Patient Barriers to Care. *Journal of VitreoRetinal Diseases*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/247412642211471>
- d) I worked under Dr. Christina Prescott MD, PhD, to establish a simulation-based cataract surgery learning activity for medical students and conducted a survey based study to evaluate the effect of such learning initiatives of medical student interest within the field
- i) Sanchez V, Diaz C, Elkin Z, Palazzolo L, Blitzer A, Shah M, Prescott C. Cataract simulator training and medical student attitudes towards ophthalmology. *Journal of Academic Ophthalmology*, Vol. 16: Iss. 1, Article 13.

- e) During medical school I served as an officer for the Latino Medical Student Association (LSMA). My final year of medical school our institution hosted the Northeast Regional Conference, where I served as the Research Chair of the meeting. In this capacity I helped to organize a research conference of over 300 undergraduate and medical students, led a committee of 4 people to review 150 abstracts, recruited faculty judges, organized a poster and presentation sessions, and helped to select winner of \$3000 in cash prizes

Residency

- a) Under the guidance of Dr. Basil Williams MD, I have worked on social determinants research using large scale databases such as the Epic Cosmos Registry to evaluate how socioeconomic variables, such as neighborhood, and social vulnerability index affect clinical presentations and outcomes in diabetic retinopathy. We have several ongoing projects looking at initial severity on presentations, progression of diabetic retinopathy, and complications
- i) Massoumi S, Hucko L, Sanchez V, Ozimba K, Persad L, Borkar D, Williams B.K. Impact of Sociodemographic, Neighborhood Geocodes, and Clinical Comorbidities on Severity of Diabetic Retinopathy at Presentation: Insights from the Epic Cosmos Registry (In Submission, Ophthalmology Science)
- b) I have worked with the Department of Retina and Vitreous Diseases, under the guidance of several faculty members including Dr. Basil Williams MD, Dr. Nicolas Yannuzzi MD, and Dr. Harry Flynn MD, to study population-level trends in different retinal conditions. We have ongoing projects utilizing the TriNetx database to assess trends in endophthalmitis incidence across different ocular surgeries, and to assess risk factors for retinal tear progression
- i) Zhang C, Tadross M, Sanchez V, Rohowetz L, Yannuzzi N.A, Flynn H.W. Risk of acute-onset postoperative endophthalmitis following ophthalmologic surgery. *Expert Review of Ophthalmology*, 1–6. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17469899.2026.2645129>
 - ii) Zhang C, Khan S, Sanchez V, Yannuzzi N.A, Flynn H.W. Temporal patterns of acute-onset post operative endophthalmitis after ophthalmic surgery (In Submission, Eye)
 - iii) Pham B, Zhang C, Sanchez V, Flynn H.W, Miller D. Endophthalmitis Caused by Gram-Negative Bacteria: Etiologies, Antibiotic Susceptibilities, and Treatment Outcomes (In Submission, Journal of Ophthalmic Inflammation and Infection)
- c) I have worked with faculty members at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute to publish case reports of interesting clinical cases we have encountered within our practice. We aim to highlight unique presentations of disease that may aid in the diagnosis and treatment of patients
- i) Sanchez V, Arreguin A.J, Zhang C, Nuesi R, Theotoka D, Yannuzzi N.A, Bullous central serous chorioretinopathy with choroidal effusions (In Submission, Ophthalmic Surgery, Lasers, and Imaging Retina)

Selected Meetings/Presentations

- a) Sanchez V, Kim C, Cabrera K, Locatelli E, Johnson M, Aenlle K, Klimas N, Galor A. Symptoms and signs of dry eye in US veterans with Myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (Poster Presentation). Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA, May, 2023
- b) Sanchez V, Galor A, Jensen K, Mondal K, Mandal NA. Ocular Surface Sphingomyelinases, Meibum and Tear Sphingolipids, and Clinical Parameters of Meibomian Gland Dysfunction (Paper Presentation). Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) Annual Meeting. Denver, CO, May, 2022
- c) Sanchez V, Baksh B, Cabrera K, Choudhury A, Jensen K, Klimas N, Galor A. Assessment of dry eye signs and symptoms in veterans with Gulf War Illness. Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA, March, 2022
- d) Sanchez V, Sood S, Heilenbach N, Al-Aswad LA. Cost effectiveness of minimally invasive ab interno goniotomy (Kahook Dual Blade). American Glaucoma Society Annual Meeting. Nashville, TN, March, 2022
- e) Sanchez V, Mittal A, Ramchander K, Robles R, Patel N, Iyer S. The Utility of a Smartphone-Based Retinal Imaging Device as a Screening Tool in an Outpatient Clinic Setting. APSA South Atlantic Regional Meeting, Gainesville, FL, October 2019

Complete List of Published Work in MyBibliography

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/myncbi/victor.sanchez.3/bibliography/public/>