



# Natalie Afshari, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

REFRACTIVE SURGERY SERVICE, CORNEAL AND EXTERNAL DISEASES SERVICE

## Medical School

Stanford University

## Internship

Harvard University

## Residency

Harvard University, Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary

## Fellowship(s)

Harvard University, Refractive Surgery, Corneal and External Disease

## Background

Natalie Afshari, MD, is a full time faculty member of Cornea and Refractive Surgery Services at Duke University Eye Center. Her accomplishments in corneal and refractive surgery has been recognized by her peers as one of The Best Doctors in America in 2003-2004 and 2005-2006 by Best Doctors, Inc and one of the Best Doctors in North Carolina by Business North Carolina. Afshari specializes in laser refractive surgery including LASIK, LASEK/Advanced Surface Ablation, PRK, and PTK, as well as surgical and medical diseases of cornea. She is highly skilled in cataract surgery, and holds national positions on cataract committees. She is also an expert in corneal transplantation, as well as refractive surgery. In addition to her clinical and surgical expertise, Afshari has contributed a great deal to her subspecialty through numerous publications in medical journals and textbooks. She has pioneered investigative work in successful gene therapy in cornea. She has also done creative work in mathematical models for different types of corneal transplantations, study of ocular microbiology, and different aspects of LASIK surgery. Her extensive research experience has won her multiple honors including the prestigious RPB Research to Prevent Blindness award and the HEED Foundation Ophthalmic Award. Her pioneering sight restoring procedure has been featured on televised programs. Additionally, her dedication for teaching and training ophthalmologists has earned her accolades such as teacher of the year award at Duke University Eye Center. Afshari has been invited to lecture nationally and internationally and is a committee member of American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery and a Fellow of American Academy of Ophthalmology.



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Duke Center for Vision Correction  
DUKE UNIVERSITY EYE CENTER

Afshari was elected by her peers to the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) cornea program committee which oversees the scientific program of the largest eye research association in the world. She was also invited to join the editorial board of the EyeNet magazine published by the American Academy of Ophthalmology. She serves as a reviewer for the scientific journals such as Ophthalmology, American Journal of Ophthalmology, Cornea, Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science, Molecular Vision, Experimental Eye Research, and Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery.

She is part of the cataract and anterior segment panel of American Academy of Ophthalmology as well as Cataract Subspecialty Interest team, which provides information about cataract surgery to ophthalmologists worldwide. Dr. Afshari was invited by the U.S. Government to serve as a consultant to the Ophthalmic Drugs Panel of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

In addition to all of her clinical and research work, Afshari has been active as an international volunteer eye surgeon. She has traveled to West Africa, Central American and Mexico to volunteer her surgical expertise.

## Honors

- The Best Doctors in America 2003-2004, 2005-2006
- Best Doctors in North Carolina 2004, 2005
- Research to Prevent Blindness Research Award
- HEED Foundation Ophthalmic Award
- Teacher of the Year Award Duke University Eye Center
- Editorial Board Member, EyeNet
- American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery Committee
- Cataract Subspecialty Interest Team of American Academy of Ophthalmology
- Cataract and Anterior Segment Panel of American Academy of Ophthalmology
- Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) Cornea Program Committee
- Consultant to FDA Ophthalmic Drugs Panel