Jessica L. Cao, M.D.

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CLINICAL PRACTICE

9/2026 – Present The Retina Partners (Los Angeles, CA)
Partner Physician and Surgeon – Vitreoretinal Surgery

9/2022 – 8/2026 The Retina Partners (Los Angeles, CA)
Associate Physician and Surgeon – Vitreoretinal Surgery

AFFILIATIONS

8/2024 – 8/2026 West Los Angeles VA Medical Center (Los Angeles, CA)
Clinical Instructor – Vitreoretinal Surgery

EDUCATION

2012 – 2016 MD, Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)
2007 – 2011 BS, Psychobiology, University of California, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)

POST-EDUCATION TRAINING

2020 – 2022 Vitreoretinal Surgery Fellowship, Cole Eye Institute, Cleveland Clinic Foundation (Cleveland, OH)
2017 – 2020 Ophthalmology Residency, Cole Eye Institute, Cleveland Clinic Foundation (Cleveland, OH)
2016 – 2017 Preliminary Internal Medicine Internship, Lankenau Medical Center (Wynnewood, PA)

LICENSURE & CERTIFICATION

3/25/22 – Present Licensed Physician and Surgeon, Medical Board of California (Active)
3/19/21 – Present Board Certified, American Board of Ophthalmology

HONORS & AWARDS

2020 Distinguished Contributor Award Recipient, Journal of VitreoRetinal Diseases, ASRS
09/2015 Induction to Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society
2015 – 2016 Graduate "With Highest Distinction", Keck School of Medicine of USC
2014 – 2016 Dean's Recognition Award, Keck School of Medicine of USC
2014 – 2016 USC George & Zelda Walker Trust Merit Scholarship Award, 2014-2015 and 2015-2016
2014 – 2015 USC Asian Pacific Alumni Association Distinguished Merit Scholar Award
2012 – 2013 Dean's Recognition Award, Keck School of Medicine of USC
06/2011 Induction to Phi Beta Kappa National Honors Society
06/2011 *Summa cum laude*, University of California, Los Angeles
2007 – 2011 College Honors Program, University of California, Los Angeles
2007 – 2011 Dean's Honors List, University of California, Los Angeles

PUBLICATIONS

Valentim CCS, Wu AK., Yu S, Manivannan N, Zhang Q, **Cao J.**, et al. Deep learning-based algorithm for the detection of idiopathic full thickness macular holes in spectral domain optical coherence tomography. Int J Retin Vitr 10, 9 (2024). https://doi.org/10.1186/s40942-024-00526-8

Clevenger LM, **Cao JL**, Steinkerchner MS, Nowacki AS, Yuan A. Demographics, Presenting Features, and Outcomes of Adult Patients with Ocular Trauma. J Ophthalmol. 2024 Jun 12;2024:8871776. doi: 10.1155/2024/8871776.

Cao JL, Kaiser PK. Surgical Management of Recurrent and Persistent Macular Holes: A Practical Approach. *Ophthalmol Ther*. 2021;10(4):1137-1153. doi:10.1007/s40123-021-00388-5

Cao JL, Eisengart J. Response to Letter to the Editor: Long-term Outcomes of Glaucoma Drainage Implants in Uveitic Eyes With Fluocinolone Acetonide Implants. *J Glaucoma*. 2021;30(4):e190-e191. doi:10.1097/IJG.0000000000001817

Chon BH, Blandford AD, Hwang CJ, Petkovsek D, Zheng A, Zhao C, **Cao J**, Grissom N, Perry JD. Dimensions, Function and Applications of the Auricular Muscle in Facial Plastic Surgery. *Aesthetic Plast Surg*. 2021;45(1):309-314. doi:10.1007/s00266-020-02045-x

Cao JL, Srivastava SK, Lowder CY, Sharma S, Baynes K, Eisengart J. Long-term Outcomes of Glaucoma Drainage Implants in Uveitic Eyes With Fluocinolone Acetonide Implants. *J Glaucoma.* 2020;29(9):789-793. doi:10.1097/IJG.0000000000001549.

Cao JL, Conti TF, Hom GL, Babiuch AS, Greenlee T, Ehlers JP, Rachitskaya A, Sharma S, Yuan A, Kaiser PK, Singh RP. Comparative Assessment of Widefield Fundus Autofluorescence Patterns in Retinoschisis and Retinal Detachment. *J Vitreoretin Dis*. 2020;4(4):286-292. doi:10.1177/2474126420907020

Cao JL, Sharma S. Retinal vasculitis in lymphomatoid granulomatosis with concurrent cytomegalovirus retinitis. *J Vitreoretin Dis*. 2020;4(3):236-238. doi:10.1177/2474126419883814

Cao JL, Srivastava SK, Venkat A, Lowder CY, Sharma S. Ultra-widefield fluorescein angiography and OCT findings in tubulointerstitial nephritis and uveitis syndrome. *Ophthalmol Retina*. 2020;4(2):189-197.

Cao JL, Browne AW, Clifford T, Sharma S, Patel V. Intravitreal silicone oil migration into the lateral cerebral ventricles. *J Vitreoretin Dis*. 2019;3(6):466-473. doi:10.1177/2474126419875298

Fletcher ND, Andras LM, Lazarus DE, Owen RJ, Geddes BJ, **Cao J**, Skaggs DL, Oswald TS, Bruce RW. Use of a novel pathway for early discharge was associated with a 48% shorter length of stay after posterior spinal fusion for adolescent idiopathic scoliosis. *J Pediatr Orthop.* 2017;37(2):92-97.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Cao JL, Lowder CY, Gordon S. Syphilis. In: Venkat A, Shrestha N, Lowder C, eds. *Emerging Ocular Infections.* 1st ed. Berlin: Springer; 2023.

Cao JL. Chapter 23: Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration. In: Ehlers J, Modi Y, Srivastava SK, Kaiser PK, eds. *OCT and OCTA in Retinal Disorders*. 1st ed. Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer; 2020.

Cao JL. Chapter 28: Central Serous Chorioretinopathy. In: Ehlers J, Modi Y, Srivastava SK, Kaiser PK, eds. *OCT and OCTA in Retinal Disorders*. 1st ed. Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer; 2020.

PRESENTATIONS & ABSTRACTS

Invited Speaker – "Retina Complications of Cataract Surgery," San Fernando Valley Optometric Society Meeting. April 25, 2025; Tarzana, CA.

Invited Speaker – "New Non-Injectable Therapeutics in Retina," Research Study Club of Los Angeles 91st Mid-Winter Conference. Jan 6, 2024; Universal City, CA.

Invited Speaker – "Retina Complications of Cataract Surgery," San Fernando Valley Optometric Society Meeting. Oct 24, 2023; Los Angeles, CA.

Cao JL, Little L, Steinkerchner M, Yuan A. Exam and ocular ultrasound findings in blunt and penetrating ocular traumas. Podium presentation at: Cole Eye Institute Annual Ophthalmology Research, Residents, and Alumni Meeting 2022; June 2022; Cleveland, OH.

Cao JL, Kang H, Manivannan N, Kalur A, Iyer A, Valentim C, Muste J, Conti T, Singh RP. Feasibilty and Validation of a deep-learning algorithm for the detection of macular holes with spectral domain optical coherence tomography. Paper presentation at: 2021 American Society of Retina Specialists Annual Meeting; October 2021; San Antonio, TX.

Cao JL, Little L, Steinkerchner M, Yuan A. Exam and ocular ultrasound findings in blunt and penetrating ocular traumas. Podium presentation at: Cole Eye Institute Annual Ophthalmology Research, Residents, and Alumni Meeting 2021; June 2021; Cleveland, OH.

Mendel TA, **Cao JL**, Rachitskaya AV. Scleral windows for choroidal effusions. Surgical pearl video and online article. Link: https://www.retina-specialist.com/article/scleral-windows-for-choroidal-effusions. July 24, 2020.

Cao JL, Knapp A, Schachat A, Singh RP, Venkat A, Goshe J. Analysis of secure messages relayed between ophthalmologists and their patients using an electronic medical record portal. Podium presentation at: Cole Eye Institute Annual Ophthalmology Research, Residents, and Alumni Meeting 2020; June 2020; Cleveland, OH.

Cao JL, Balascoe A, Venkat A, Lowder CY, Srivastava SK, Sharma S. Vitamin D Levels in Sarcoid and Non-Sarcoid Uveitis. Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science. 2020 Jun 10;61(7):4915-.

Chen AX, **Cao JL**, Greenlee TE, Conti T, Singh RP. Fluctuations in Retinal Thickness in Patients with Retinal Vein Occlusion Treated with Anti-Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Agents. Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science. 2020 Jun 10;61(7):1345-.

Zhao Y, Li A, **Cao JL**, Eisengart J. Two-year Outcomes after Gonioscopy-assisted Transluminal Trabeculotomy (GATT) for Open-angle Glaucoma. Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science. 2020 Jun 10;61(7):954-.

Cao JL, Srivastava SK, Venkat A, Lowder CY, Sharma S. Posterior segment imaging findings in tubulointerstitial nephritis and uveitis. Poster presentation at: 2019 American Society of Retina Specialists Annual Meeting; July 2019; Chicago, IL.

Cao JL, Conti TF, Hom GL, Babiuch AS, Ehlers JP, Rachitskaya A, Sharma S, Yuan A, Kaiser PK, Singh RP. Wide-field fundus autofluorescence patterns in retinoschisis and retinal detachment. Podium presentation at: Cole Eye Institute Annual Ophthalmology Research, Residents, and Alumni Meeting 2019; June 2019; Cleveland, OH.

Cao JL, Conti TF, Hom GL, Babiuch AS, Ehlers JP, Rachitskaya A, Sharma S, Yuan A, Kaiser PK, Singh RP. Detection of retinoschisis and retinal detachment by wide-field fundus autofluorescence imaging. Poster presentation at: 2019 Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology Annual Meeting; April 2019; Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Cao JL, Srivastava SK, Sharma S, Baynes K, Lowder CY, Eisengart J. Long-term outcomes of glaucoma tube shunt surgeries in uveitic eyes with fluocinolone acetonide implants. Poster presentation at: 2019 American Glaucoma Society Annual Meeting; March 2019; San Francisco, CA.

Cao J, Srivastava S, Baynes K, Eisengart J. Long-term outcomes of glaucoma tube shunt surgeries in uveitic eyes with Retisert implants. Podium presentation at: Cole Eye Institute Annual Ophthalmology Research, Residents, and Alumni Meeting 2018; June 2018; Cleveland, OH.

Li A, Westafer M, **Cao J**, Gandhi A, Eisengart J. Gonioscopy-assisted transluminal trabeculotomy: short term Cleveland Clinic experience. Poster presentation at: 2018 American Glaucoma Society Annual Meeting; March 2018; New York, NY.

Do JL, **Cao J,** Bedrood S, Berry JL, Richter G. Comparison of Ahmed versus Baerveldt Implants in Managing Neovascular Glaucoma. Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science. 2016 Sep 26;57(12):6488-.

Do J, **Cao J**, Bedrood S, Anders M. Effect of Early Aqueous Tube Shunt Placement in the Management of Neovascular Glaucoma. Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science. 2015 Jun 11;56(7):2703-.

Cao J, Fletcher ND, Andras LM, Lazarus DE, Owen RJ, Geddes BJ, Skaggs DL, Oswald TS, Bruce RW. Implementation of an accelerated discharge pathway following posterior spinal fusion for adolescent idiopathic scoliosis. Poster presentation at: USC Keck School of Medicine Medical Student Research Forum; April 2014; Los Angeles, CA.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Society of Retina Specialists (ASRS)
American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO)
Los Angeles Society of Ophthalmology (LASO)
Women in Ophthalmology (WIO)
Vit-Buckle Society (VBS)
Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society (AOA)
Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society (PBK)