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January 2019 (SINGAPORE) : We have a superstar! IGARD's **Rahjee Muthukumaran** was featured on Mediacorp's Vasantham TV channel. She provided expert opinion on Myopia Control, Orthokeratology and Vision Therapy. Rahjee was previously the Head of Orthoptics and Vision Therapy at Sankara Nethralaya Eye Hospital in India. She has many years of working experience in the U.S. and Singapore.



April 2019 (USA) : IGARD's **Dr Yap Tiong Peng** was a speaker at the College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD) Annual Meeting in Kansas City, USA. This is the largest international meeting on vision therapy where doctors throughout the world get-together to be updated with the latest research and to share their knowledge and clinical expertise so as to provide the best outcomes for patients.



May 2019 (USA) : IGARD's **Dr Yap Tiong Peng** published "Electrophysiological and Psychophysical Studies of Meridional Anisotropies in Children With and Without Astigmatism" on *Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science* (IOVS) – this is the world's leading ophthalmic journal by the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO). His publication was supported by the ARVO Publications Grant and his research was highlighted as a "hot topic" – fewer than 5 to 8% of research each year are awarded these accolades at ARVO. **Download [HERE](#)** (Full article)

Eye Movements, Strabismus, Amblyopia and Neuro-Ophthalmology

Electrophysiological and Psychophysical Studies of Meridional Anisotropies in Children With and Without Astigmatism

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Purpose. We investigated the pattern of meridional anisotropies, if any, for pattern onset-offset visual evoked potential (POVEPs) responses and psychophysical grating acuity (GA) in children with normal letter visual acuity (20/20 or better).

Methods. A total of 29 children (aged 3-9 years), nine of whom were astigmatic (AS), were recruited. Orientation-specific monocular POVEPs were recorded in response to sine-wave gratings stimuli oriented along the subjects' principal AS meridians. Horizontal and vertical gratings were designated Meridians 1 and 2, respectively, for nonastigmatic patients (Non-AS). Binocular POVEPs in response to the same stimuli, but oriented at 45°, 90°, 135°, and 180°, were recorded. Psychophysical GAs were assessed monocularly and binocularly along the same meridians using the same stimuli by a 2-alternative-forced-choice staircase technique. The C3 amplitudes and peak latencies of the POVEP and GAs were compared across meridians using linear mixed models (monocular) and ANOVA (binocular).

Results. There were significant meridional anisotropies in monocular C3 amplitudes

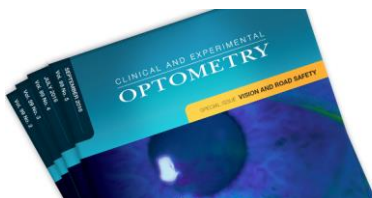
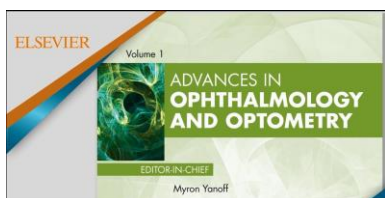


IGARD's Dr Yap is the first author of this scientific paper which was published on one of the world's top ophthalmic journal



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June 2019 (MANILA & USA) : IGARD's **Dr Yap Tiong Peng** attended the Asia Pacific Optometric Conference in Manila, Philippines. Dr Yap is a clinician-scientist who has a special interest in Vision Therapy. He is a reviewer of *Clinical and Experimental Optometry* – a scientific publication by Wiley. He was recently invited to write a book chapter on the 2020 issue of *Advances in Ophthalmology and Optometry (Vol. 5, 2020; Published by Elsevier)*, which reviews of the most current clinical practices in both ophthalmology and optometry.



IGARD's Dr Yap is a reviewer and author to some of these scientific publications.

July 2019 (AUSTRALIA) : IGARD's **Dr Yap Tiong Peng** was awarded a PhD by the *University of New South Wales (UNSW)*, Sydney, Australia, for his research thesis entitled "*Electrophysiology and psychophysics of children with newly diagnosed refractive (non-strabismic) amblyopia and the effect of optical treatment*". His PhD thesis was rated *Excellent* and *Outstanding* by his examiners and he received a nomination for the *Dean's Award*. His research supports the recommendation that all future clinical trials of amblyopia treatments must have an optical-treatment-phase prior to the actual clinical trial.



Dr Yap is pictured here with Prof A Patrizia Tormene (President of the International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision, ISCEV), Dr Mei Boon (UNSW, Australia), Prof Daphne McCulloch (University of Waterloo, Canada), Dr Dorothy Thompson (University College London, UK), Prof Isabelle Jalbert (UNSW, Australia) and Prof Suresh Viswanathan (State University of New York, USA).

[Photographs taken during conferences]



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July 2019 (WALES, UK) : IGARD's Senior Consultant and Vision Therapist **Isobelle Wong** was awarded a *Master of Arts degree in Special Educational Needs* from the *University of Wales in the U.K.* Trained in the U.K. as an optometrist, Isobelle graduated with a BSc (Honours) degree in Optometry from Glasgow in 2002. She subsequently developed a special interest in Vision Therapy and Special Educational Needs. Her dedication and professionalism in caring for children with special needs can be observed in work at IGARD. To find out more about Vision and Learning:

Download [HERE](#) (Review article by IGARD's **Dr Yap Tiong Peng** on Dyslexia and Vision)

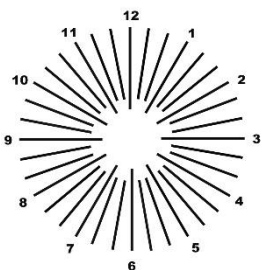
Download [HERE](#) (Newspaper interview of **Dr Yap Tiong Peng** on How Vision impacts Learning)



August 2019 (AUSTRALIA) : *Is astigmatism correction important for classroom performance?*

Here's a recent article published by a research group from Brisbane on *Clinical and Experimental Optometry*. They have quoted **Dr Yap's** recent publication on IOVS (Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science, May 2019) which indicated that astigmatic school-age children have poorer low-contrast grating acuity and visual evoked potentials. It is evident from research that even low degrees of astigmatism (0.50 D) may benefit from correction in school-aged children.

Download [HERE](#) (PubMed)



IGARD Family

Photograph taken during IGARD's annual dinner in Feb 2019

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September 2019 (SINGAPORE) : IGARD's Senior Consultant **Rachel Kelly** was the chairperson of the *Cornea and Specialty Contact Lens Accreditation Course* – an advanced program targeted at experienced optometrists and ophthalmologists. The course was organized by *Singapore International Eye Cataract Retina Centre* at *Farrer Park Hospital*. Rachel is adept in attending to corneal patients. She has several years of experience in clinical practice, including *Moorfields Eye Hospital* in London. Speakers for the course were Dr Richard Wu (Pacific University, USA), Connie Tsung (Taiwan) and Dr Por Yong Ming (Ophthalmic Consultants at Mt Elizabeth Hospital). They covered a range of topics, including cornea ectasia, keratoconus and the prescribing of Scleral, Corneal and Hybrid contact lenses.



September 2019 (CHINA) : IGARD's **Dr Yap Tiong Peng** was invited to speak on Paediatric Orthokeratology and Myopia Control during the 24th Congress of Chinese Ophthalmological Society. The conference was held in Suzhou, China.



<p>吴怡璐 学术分享</p> <p>1. 角膜镜的新未来 2. 高度近视之RGP应用解密</p>	
<p>杨晓 学术分享</p> <p>以问题为导向的 角膜镜近视防控研究</p>	
<p>李剑华 学术分享</p> <p>角膜塑形镜沟通321</p>	
<p>杨顺南 学术分享</p> <p>贝视得视觉工学分析</p>	
<p>Yap, Tiong Peng 学术分享</p> <p>新加坡眼镜光营销策略 与角膜型眼镜趋势</p>	
<p>Ryan O. McKINNIS 学术分享</p> <p>SynergEyes新型态 隐形眼镜</p>	

October 2019 (KOREA) : IGARD's **Dr Yap Tiong Peng** presented his research during the *Paediatric Ophthalmology & Neuro-Ophthalmology Symposium* at the *International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision*, held on 8 October 2019 in Seoul, South Korea. The symposium was chaired by Prof James Odom (West Virginia University, U.S.A.) and Dr Dorothy Thompson (University College London, U.K.). His presentation, entitled "Electrophysiological and psychophysical effect of optical treatment in children with refractive amblyopia", was also published as an abstract on the world's leading scientific journal – *Documenta Ophthalmologica*.



At the meeting, Dr Yap presented his research on the electrophysiological and psychophysical effect of optical treatment in children with refractive amblyopia. During the social events after the meeting, Dr Yap was dressed in a traditional Korean outfit for photo taking with the rest of the delegates.

November 2019 (FLORIDA, USA) : TRIPLE AWARDS !!! IGARD's **Dr Yap Tiong Peng** received a total of three awards this month – from the *American Academy of Optometry* (AAO) and the *Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology* (ARVO). (1) He was awarded the *Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry (FAAO)* for his clinical practice of optometry. The FAAO is a professional title that signifies that rigorous qualifications for the fellowship have been met. (2) He is a recipient of the *2019 AAO Travel Fellowship* for his research on children amblyopia. (3) He was selected for the *ARVO Publications Grant* for his upcoming original scientific paper on refractive amblyopia on *Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science* (IOVS). It is the second time for Dr Yap to receive this competitive grant.

