Susanna Park, MD, PhD

Dr. Susanna Park is the Barbara A. and Alan M. Roth, MD Endowed Chair of Discovery, Education and Patient Care in Visual Science at the University of California Davis. Currently, she is a Professor of Ophthalmology and the Director for the Retina Service, Vitreo-Retinal Fellowship, Ocular Oncology and Clinical Trials at the University of California Davis Eye Center, Sacramento, CA.

Dr. Park completed her Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry from the University of Hawaii Manoa as Valedictorian with the highest honors. Then, she obtained a combined MD-PhD degree from Yale University as part of the Medical Scientist Training Program, supported by the National Science Foundation. She received the Louis H. Nahum Prize for excellence in research for her PhD research in pharmacology. She completed her ophthalmology residency and vitreo-retinal surgical fellowship at the Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary at the Harvard Medical School in Boston. She was awarded the Heed Foundation Fellowship and served as the Chief Fellow during her final year of training.

Dr. Park's research focuses on developing unique therapies for retinal disorders and exploring novel and state-of-the-art diagnostic tests. Her interest in translational research led her to explore the use of intravitreal injection of CD34+ cells to repair retinal disorders in preclinical and clinical studies. At present, she is the Primary Investigator of two recently completed phase I/II clinical trials that explore intravitreal injection of autologous CD34+ cells for central retinal vein occlusion and retinitis pigmentosa.

Her accolades include two faculty teaching awards from the University of California Davis Residents, RPB Career Development Award, ASRS Senior Honor Award, AAO Achievement Award, and UC Davis Joan Oettinger Memorial Award for Excellence in Cancer Research. She is a frequent grant reviewer for the National Eye Institute and Department of Defense, serving as panel chair several times. She also served as an ad hoc reviewer for many journals and have received exceptional reviewer recognition from the IOVS, Ophthalmology, and Arch Ophthalmology. She has served as an associate editor for the journal, Molecular Medicine. Currently, she serves in the editorial board of the journal, Annals of Translational Medicine. Her research has been supported by grants from NEI, Cures within Reach, Macula Society, and the Retina Society.