



Houri Esmailkhanian

Visiting Instructor, Ophthalmology Research/Clinical Trials

Bio

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Dr. Esmailkhanian is an accomplished medical doctor who graduated from Iran University of Medical Sciences (IUMS) in 2018. Her passion for ophthalmology ignited during her medical studies, leading her to a focused research career in this field. After earning her degree, she dedicated her efforts to serving underprivileged communities while continuing her research at the Eye and Ear Research Institute of IUMS. In 2021, she advanced to the Doheny Eye Institute at UCLA, working in Prof. Vas Sadda's lab, where she made significant contributions to research on diabetic retinopathy and age-related macular degeneration (AMD), further honing her clinical expertise. In March 2023, Dr. Esmailkhanian joined Byers Eye Institute, pioneering treatments for corneal injuries using innovative stem cell therapies and hydrogels. Additionally, she plays a crucial role in collaborative clinical studies involving the first FDA-approved AI device for diagnosing diabetic retinopathy impacting patient care in both the Bay Area and underserved regions.