

# DUTY TO BE SUCCESSFUL

Dr Leo Seo Wei is not one to succeed for the sake of success — she believes a thriving practice allows her to more easily give back to society

Dr Leo Seo Wei graduated from medical school at the National University of Singapore in 1996, winning a Gold Medal and Book Prize in Ophthalmology along the way. After completing basic and advanced specialist training in various medical institutions in Singapore, she went to the USA for two intensive clinical fellowships.

The multilingual Dr Leo (she speaks English, Mandarin, Chinese dialects, Japanese and basic Bahasa Indonesian!) believes that she has a duty to run a successful clinic in order to be able to give back to society. This was a mindset she took back from her days in the US. "A mentor there reminded me that if you don't build up your practice, you don't have the bargaining power to get help for patients who need support," she discloses.

She also lets on that her caring nature and strong work ethic is due to the influence of her parents, both hardworking tailors who "only took one week off during Chinese New Year".

*I love working with people and patients. I worry because — in our tech-saturated world, there is less and less human contact.*

## ABOUT ME

- 1 Your favourite thing about your speciality**  
I love the range in ophthalmology. I can see patients, give medication, do surgery, use lasers and enjoy a lot of high-tech stuff!
- 2 Three words your patients have used to describe you**  
Super-energetic, unbelievable, meticulous.
- 3 One factor that sets your practice apart**  
By keeping up-to-date on the latest technological advancements, my practice aims to deliver individualised world-class eye care.
- 4 The next big thing in your field**  
Sustained-release ophthalmic drugs (in various forms) to deliver medication in the eye for weeks, months or even years. I believe they will be ready for mass clinical use soon.
- 5 Strangest old wives' tale about health you've heard from patients**  
If you develop a stye on your eyelid, you must have been a Peeping Tom!
- 6 A modern way of life you wish did not exist because it is detrimental to the eyes**  
The early and excessive use of smartphones and hand-held devices has resulted in increased amount of nearwork in children, which will increase the risk of myopia.
- 7 Procedures you have undergone**  
None at all. I wear glasses and conventional contact lenses.
- 8 One surprising item you can't work without**  
Human interaction. I love working with people and patients. I worry because — in our tech-saturated world, there is less and less human contact.



**Dr Leo Seo Wei**  
*Ophthalmologist*

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**Credentials**

MBBS (Singapore)  
MRCSEd (Ophth, UK)  
MMed (Ophth, Singapore)  
FRCSEd (Ophth, UK)  
FAMS (Ophth, Singapore)

Scholarships:

- Health Manpower Development Plan, Ministry of Health
  - Ministry of Education Scholarship
  - Prime Minister's Book Prize
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**Connect**

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**Areas of Expertise**

- Complete eye screening
- Cataract surgery, including femtosecond laser-assisted procedures
- Atropine treatment
- Screening, diagnosis, treatment and management of myopia, strabismus, lazy eye, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy and age-related macular degeneration
- Retinal screening and disease management
- Presbyopia correction
- Treatment of eyelid and eye problems, external eye diseases, including infection and allergies