



**Olan Suwan-apichon, MD**

Professor Olan Suwan-apichon, MD is currently a Director of Cornea and Refractive Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Thailand also known as KKKU Eye Center. KKKU Eye Center is the center for academic, clinical and research in ophthalmology in Northeast Thailand, Lao PDR, Cambodia and Vietnam. Although KKKU Eye Center is a super tertiary eye hospital, we take responsible all levels of eye care with an emphasis on complicated eye problems. KKKU Eye Center is also the only one residency and fellowship training school in ophthalmology in the Northeast Thailand.

Dr. Suwan-apichon graduated from Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Thailand in 1993. He completed his residency program at the same institution in 1999. He went on to complete his Research Fellowship Training in Cornea, External Disease and Refractive Surgery at Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute, Johns Hopkins University, USA in 2004. Dr. Olan Suwan-apichon currently serves as a Director of Cornea and Refractive Surgery unit as well.

Dr. Suwan-apichon is a cornea specialist with expertise in laser techniques for refractive eye conditions. He has deep research experience and his two main areas of research are corneal transplant surgery and dry eye. Dr. Suwan-apichon developed a unique mouse model of dry eye that allows animal testing of therapies. The model employs the use of botulinum toxin to block neurotransmitters in the tear-producing lacrimal gland. The resulting dry eye closely mimics that found in humans. He also the forefront in developing the concept of preparing pre-cut cornea with microkeratome and femtosecond laser in the level of eye banking before further distribution which become a practice in the US.

Dr. Suwan-apichon was awarded for several international and national awards such as "Young Investigator Award" from Tear Film and Ocular Surface Society in 2005 and "Best Research Award" from The Royal College of Ophthalmologist of Thailand in 2005. He also received a Distinguished Service Award from APAO 2015.

Dr. Suwan-apichon is an active member of many committees and societies in Thailand such as a committee of The Royal College of Ophthalmologist of Thailand, a committee of Cornea and Refractive Surgery Societies of Thailand as well as a frequent speaker and lecturer throughout the whole country.

At KKU Eye Center, Dr. Suwan-apichon is developing a research center focusing on ophthalmologic disorders including cataracts, ocular surface disease/dry eye, glaucoma, macular degeneration, and eye conditions associated with diabetes.