

Arthur Lim Award Lecture: Cataract Surgery in China—From Couching to FLACS

Speaker/Awardee: Prof. Ke YAO (China)



[Plenary Session 2] Celebrating Excellence in Ophthalmology - APO 2026 Award Lectures

Date: February 5, 2026 (Thursday)

Time: 15:30-15:50

Venue: Convention Hall A-C (L1), Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

Cataract surgery in China has experienced a profound transformation, evolving from traditional practices such as couching to the implementation of advanced techniques like Femtosecond Laser-Assisted Cataract Surgery (FLACS). This lecture provides an overview of the historical progression and technological milestones that have shaped cataract treatment in the country.

Beginning with an outline of early surgical approaches, it traces key developments through the introduction of extracapsular and phacoemulsification techniques, leading to the modern adoption of femtosecond laser technology. The integration of FLACS into clinical practice reflects a broader trend of innovation in ophthalmic surgery, emphasizing precision, safety, and improved visual outcomes.

Recent clinical research in China has focused on optimizing surgical workflows, refining patient selection criteria, and evaluating visual and refractive outcomes associated with FLACS. Data from these studies have contributed to evidence-based protocols that support the safe and effective implementation of laser-assisted cataract procedures across diverse clinical settings.