

Nancy M. Mackowsky, OD, FCOVD, FNORA

Dr. Nancy Mackowsky completed her undergraduate studies in physiology/neurobiology and graduated *magna cum laude* from the *University of Connecticut*. She obtained her Doctorate in Optometry from the *Pennsylvania College of Optometry*, graduating in the top 10% of her class. She completed an internship at the Pediatric Unit at *The Eye Institute* in Philadelphia and her residency at *Capital Eye Consultants* in Fairfax, Virginia. Training with top experts in the country, Dr. Mackowsky developed a special interest in visual efficiency/perceptual disorders and became dedicated to the advancements in improving these visual skills abilities through integrative training. In November 1995, she was one of the developers of *The Center for Visual Learning at Doctors* Vision Center and established a sterling reputation with both the medical and educational communities. In 1997, her article concerning retinal disorders was published in the *Southern Journal of Optometry*. In October, 1998, she completed her written and oral examinations and became a fellow in the prestigious national organization, *The College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD)*, one of only 14 optometrists in NC to have earned this national certification (as of September, 2018). On April 1, 2010, Dr. Mackowsky purchased the center and renamed the practice to **The Mackowsky Visual Learning & Rehabilitation Clinic**. In October of 2013, Dr. Mackowsky was elected to serve as secretary of the COVD International Certification and Examination Board after serving 3 years as a board member. In March 2014, Dr. Mackowsky completed her training with Dr. William Padula in order to provide the latest rehabilitation techniques, known as Neuro-Visual Postural Therapy, to her patients. In November 2014, she was asked by the NC State Optometric Congress to lecture about the field of Neuro-Optometry to over 400 optometrists at the Grove Park Inn, Asheville. The lecture was a success in educating primary eye care physicians about acquired brain injuries and the common visual deficits associated with these patients. On September 16, 2017, she completed the process of becoming a fellow in another highly recognized national organization, *The Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association (NORA)*, and received her FNORA award at the 26th annual meeting in Buffalo, New York. At this meeting, Dr. Mackowsky presented her research paper, “The Role of Gait Analysis, Egocenter and Yoked Prism in Parkinson's Disease”. Her article has been published in the April 2018 edition of the *Optometry & Visual Performance* journal. In January 2022, she completed her training with Dr. Orlando Da Silva from Lisbon, Portugal in order to treat patients with Proprioceptive Dysfunction Syndrome. Most recently, she has been invited by NORA to lecture at the 2022 annual conference in Columbus, Ohio. She will be educating members about a systematic method she has developed for prescribing lens/prism corrections for patients with acquired brain injuries. Other professional activities include being the COVD Membership Keyperson and Practice Enhancement Chairperson. She has received the Doctor Vision Center President’s and Optometric Professional Integrity and Excellence awards. Dr. Mackowsky’s plans are to advance her research and development of her clinic’s vision rehabilitation program in order to provide her patients with the newest advancements in vision care. Dr. Mackowsky continues to lecture and educate many area groups/hospitals about the specialty of neuro-optometric vision rehabilitation. She resides in Cary with her husband, Dr. Rich Mackowsky, her two lovely children, Emma, 21, and Evan, 16, and their beagle, Wilbur. Dr. Mackowsky enjoys playing golf, snow skiing and scuba diving.

Curriculum Vitae

Nancy M. Mackowsky, OD, FCOVD, FNORA

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PROFESSIONAL GOAL

To practice the specialty of neuro-optometry providing extensive evaluations and rehabilitation to the visually-challenged population including patients with visually-related learning disabilities and traumatic brain injuries. To maintain training/education through affiliations with the College of Optometrists in Vision Development, the Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association and the College of Syntonics. To lecture locally to community groups.

PROFILE

Solid background in developmental/neuro-optometric rehabilitation and primary vision care. Consistently strive to gain further education and experience in the field of developmental/neuro-optometry and exceed patient care expectations. Experienced in handling learning-related, sports-related, brain injured/stroke-related and low vision-related problems. Experienced in the treatment of eye injury, eye disease, surgery co-management, refractive surgery. Experienced in prescribing cutting edge lens technology for difficult prescriptions.

EDUCATION

- Postural Deficiency Syndrome Course.** Continuous education over the internet, 6 Part Clinical Series of 42 hours. Presented by Orlando Alves Da Silva, MD, and colleagues. *January 2022*
- Fellowship in Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation:** Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association *Sept 2017*
- Neuro Visual Processing Rehabilitation: Neuro Visual Postural Therapy.** Padula Institute of Vision/Shepherd Rehab Hospital/Western Univ. of Health Science College of Optometry 50 certificate course. Presented by W. Padula, OD and R. Munitz COVT, MS 2013 *Sept 2013-Mar 2014*
- Fellowship in Developmental Optometry:** College of Optometrists in Vision Development *Oct 1997-Oct 1998*
- Residency in Retina/Glaucoma/Refractive Surgery:** Capital Eye Consultants
Fairfax, Virginia *Jul 1994-Jul 1995*
- Doctor of Optometry:** Pennsylvania College of Optometry
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania *May 1994*
- Bachelor of Science, Physiology/Neurobiology:** University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut *May 1990*

OPTOMETRIC

EXPERIENCE

The Mackowsky Visual Learning & Rehabilitation Clinic

Owner Apr 2010-present

Raleigh, North Carolina

Neuro-Developmental Optometrist

- Specialty neuro-optometric evaluations
- Neuro-optometric rehabilitation
- Low vision rehabilitation

Dr. Richard H. Mackowsky

Apr 2011- present

Durham, North Carolina

Saturdays Only as part-time help

Neuro-Developmental Optometrist

- Primary care
- Pre/post-op LASIK management
- Surgery co-management
- Glaucoma management
- Contact Lens management

Doctors Vision Center

Nov 1995-Apr 2011

Raleigh, North Carolina

(50% of time spent in specialty neuro-optometric clinic)

Optometrist

- Neuro-optometric rehabilitation (primary developer of specialty clinic The Center for Vision Learning & Rehabilitative Therapy 1995-2010, April 2010 purchased clinic and renamed)
- Specialty neuro-optometric evaluations
- Low vision rehabilitation Primary care
- Pre/post-op LASIK management
- Surgery co-management
- Glaucoma management

Eye Care Associates

Aug 1995-Sept 1995

Raleigh, North Carolina

Optometrist

- Primary care
- Vision rehabilitation
- Pre/post-op LASIK management
- Surgery co-management

Fox Eye Care

Sept 1995-Oct 1995

Raleigh, North Carolina

Optometrist

- Primary care

**OPTOMETRIC
EXPERIENCE**

(continued)

Capital Eye Consultants

Jul 1994-Jul 1995

Fairfax, Virginia

Resident

- Vitreo-retinal disease management
- Glaucoma management
- Refractive surgery management
- Pre-/post-op cataract management
- Performance of fluorescein angiography
- Externship program management with weekly lecturing to students

The Eye Institute

Spring 1994

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Externship

- Primary care
- Pediatric specialties
- Orthoptic therapy

Newington VA Medical Center

Winter 1993

Newington, Connecticut

Externship

- Hospital-based primary care
- Ocular disease management

Hahnemann University

Fall 1993

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Externship

- Hospital-based specialty care with OR exposure
- Retinal/Glaucoma/Corneal disease management

Middlesex Eye Physicians

Summer 1991

Middletown, Connecticut

Externship

- In-office based specialty care with OR exposure
- Retinal/Glaucoma/Corneal/ disease management

Dr. Jeffrey Palmer

Summer 1991

Middletown, Connecticut

Externship

- Optometric primary care training
- Business management

Spectacle Den

Summer 1990

Middletown, Connecticut

- Ophthalmic optical training

HONORS AND AWARDS

Neuro-Optometric Association

- FNORA Award

Doctors Vision Center

- Optometric Professional Integrity and Excellence Award
- President's Award

Pennsylvania College of Optometry

- Beta Sigma Kappa International Optometric Honor Society
- Dean's List
- Dr. Dorothy Weitzner Kornblut Scholarship
- Alma Boden Scholarship

LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

- **Neuro-Optometric Vision Rehabilitation: What One Needs To Know**
Presented at the Andrews Center, WakeMed
Raleigh, NC
Jun 22, 2019
- **The Role of Gait Analysis, Egocenter and Yoked Prisms in Parkinson's Disease**
Presented at the 27th NORA general conference
St. Louis, MI
Sept 22, 2018
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation of the Acquired Brain Injury Patient**
Presented as continuing education course for the Shine Program
WakeMed Hospital
Mar 23, 2018
- **What to know about Neuro-Optometric Vision Rehabilitation**
Presented at WakeMed PT Department
Raleigh, NC
Nov 3, 2017
- **The Role of Gait Analysis, Egocenter and Yoked Prisms in Parkinson's Disease**
Presented at the 26th NORA Level 3 Skills
Buffalo, NY
Sept 14, 2017
- **Review of Vision Dysfunctions**
Presented at Lenox Baker's Children Hospital/Duke
Durham, NC
Feb 6, 2017
- **Evaluating Vision Dysfunctions**
Presented to Abilitations Therapy Group
Raleigh, NC
Jan 20, 2017
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation of the Acquired Brain Injury Patient**
Presented to the Neuro-Rehab/Sticht Center
Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center
Jan 16, 2015
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehab of the Stroke/TBI Patient**
Presented as a continuing education course for the
NCSOS Fall Congress, Asheville, NC
Nov 15, 2014

LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

(continued)

- **Neuro-Optometric Rehab Workshop** *Nov 16, 2014*
Presented as a continuing education course for the NCSOS Fall Congress, Asheville, NC
- **Paraoptometric Technician Workshop** *Nov 17, 2014*
Presented as a continuing education course for the NCSOS Fall Congress, Asheville, NC
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation of the Acquired Brain Injury Patient** *Feb 13, 2014*
Presented as a continuing education course for the Shine Program, WakeMed Hospital
- **Guillain-Barré Syndrome** *Apr 18, 2013*
Presented for the NORA Level 1 Fellowship Process, NORA Conference, San Diego, CA
- **Visual Disturbances in Parkinson's Disease & Neuro-Optometric Intervention** *Apr 29, 2013*
Presented to the Hillsborough Parkinson's Support group, Hillsborough, NC
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation** *Jan 8 & Feb 12, 2013*
presented as continuing education course for the BIRS Program WakeMed Hospital, Raleigh, NC
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation** *May 13, 2011*
presented to the Neuro-Rehab/Sticht Center Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center Winston-Salem, NC
- **Vision Rehabilitation: An Answer to Visual Learning and Rehabilitative Needs** *Mar 24, 2010*
Presented to area physical/occupational therapists through Meds PDN, Raleigh, NC
- **Vision, Learning and Rehabilitation** *Dec 2006 & Apr 2009*
Presented at Dorothea Dix Hospital, psychiatry department Raleigh, NC

LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

(continued)

- **Protect your Kids Promotion Training** *Jul 2006*
Presented by E-blvd for staff of Doctors Vision Center
- **What is an Optometrist** *Feb 2006*
Presented at Highcroft Elementary school, Cary, NC
- **Abducens Nerve Palsy, A Case Review** *May 2005*
Presented at the Doctors Vision Center corporate meeting
- **The Relationship between Vision and Learning** *1995 to present*
Presented in-office at The Center for Visual Learning and various school workshops
- **Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy** *Jul 1995*
Presented at Capital Eye Consultants, local optometric continuing education

PUBLICATIONS

- **The Role of Gait Analysis, Egocenter and Yoked Prisms in Parkinson's Disease** *Jun 2018*
Optometry & Visual Performance Journal, Vol. 6, Issue 2, Apr 2018
- **How to Build a Successful Vision Therapy Practice** *Fall 2005*
COVD Practice Enhancement Manual *Spring 1996*
- **Histopathology, clinical course and treatment of choroidal neovascular membranes in presumed ocular histoplasmosis**
Southern Journal of Optometry, Vol. XIV, No. 2.

BOARD CERTIFICATION

- **College of Optometrists in Vision Development Board Certification** *Oct 1998*

LICENSURES

- **North Carolina** *Feb 1995 to present*

ASSOCIATIONS

- **American Optometric Association** *1995 to present*
- **North Carolina Optometric Society** *1995 to present*
- **College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD)** *1996 to present*
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association** *1996 to present*
- **College of Syntonics** *2017 to present*

PROFESSIONAL ACITIVITIES

- NORA Fellowship Committee, member *Jan 2018 to Present*
- Reviewer for Vision Development & Rehabilitation Journal *July 2019*
- COVD International Examination and Certification Board, Secretary *Oct 2013-2014*
- COVD International Examination and Certification Board Member *Jan 2011-2014*
- COVD Membership Keyperson *2002-2003*
- COVD Practice Enhancement Chairperson *2004-2005*

COMMUNITY ACITIVITIES

- National Charity League, Carolina Lily Chapter Member
- Highcroft Elementary School PTA, Chair of Spirit night *Apr 2011-May 2018*
Aug 2010-2014
- Mills Park Middle School PTA, Committee Member for Mills Park Madness Event *Nov 2012-Mar 2013*
- Subdivision Swim Team Concession Stand Manager *May 2011- Jul 2014*

REFERENCES

Peter Hollis, OD
Doctors Vision Center
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