



Washington University in St. Louis Forum for India

Mumbai | February 22, 2019



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Dr. Rajendra S. Apte is the Paul A. Cibis Distinguished Professor at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri, where he serves as the Director of Translational Research in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, and is a Professor in the Department of Developmental Biology and Medicine. Dr. Apte received his medical degree from the University of Bombay and joined Washington University School of Medicine after obtaining a Ph.D. in Immunology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas, completing a residency at Parkland Hospital, and a retinal vascular and vitreo-retinal surgery fellowship at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Apte was recruited to Washington University in 2003 and became a tenured professor at the School of Medicine in less than ten years. Dr. Apte is a vitreoretinal surgeon and clinician scientist. His basic research is focused on inflammation, aging, neurodegeneration and angiogenesis. His clinical research spans the translational spectrum from drug discovery and development to clinical trials. Dr. Apte has published extensively in basic and clinical peer reviewed journals and has participated as a principal investigator in numerous clinical trials.

Dr. Apte has won numerous awards, honors, and educational scholarships, and some recent highlights are as follows: 2018 European Vision and Eye Research Certificate of Honour and Keynote Lecture, 2017 J. Wayne Streilein Distinguished Alumnus Award Lecture in Immunology, 2017 Macula Society W. Richard Green Award, 2017 Glenn Award for Research in Biological Mechanisms of Aging, 2016 Research to Prevent Blindness Nelson Trust Award, 2014 Research to Prevent Blindness Sybil B. Harrington Physician-Scientist Award for Age-Related Macular Degeneration, 2014 ASRS Presidents' Award, 2013/2014 Carl Camras Translational Research Award, the Macula Society Young Investigator Award in 2013, Julie Martin Mid-Career Award in Aging Research from AFAR in 2012, the Macula Society Retina Research Foundation Cox Research Award in 2010, the American Retina Foundation Research Award in 2008, the Washington University Nominee for the Ellison Foundation New Scholars Award in Aging in 2005, and the Research to Prevent Blindness Career Development Award in 2004. These awards accompany his 115+ peer-reviewed publications. His entrepreneurial activities include starting four life sciences companies.

His research has been published in several high impact journals including Nature, Cell, Cell Metabolism, the JCI, Nature Communications, PLoS Medicine, PNAS, among others.

Additionally, Dr. Apte has professional associations with the American Society for Clinical Investigation, American Academy of Ophthalmology, the American Society of Retina Specialists, the Association for Research in Visual Ophthalmology, Club Jules Gonin, the Macula Society, and the Retina Society.