

Lans Distinguished Award

Dr. Kazuo Tsubota



The Lans Distinguished Award recognizes an individual who is an innovative researcher in the field of refractive surgery.

Professor Kazuo Tsubota is chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology at Keio University School of Medicine, his alma mater, in Tokyo, Japan. An internationally recognized dry eye specialist, Prof. Tsubota has been working on the pathogenesis and treatment of dry eye. One focus of his research is improving the ocular surface and proper function of vision through assessment of functional visual acuity. Other research projects include ocular surface reconstruction, regeneration of the cornea, lacrimal gland, the immunology of Sjögren syndrome, dry eye, and wound healing of refractive surgery.

He heads an active dry eye research group as well as an active refractive group in Japan, resulting in the publication of more than 450 peer-reviewed articles in journals including the New England Journal of Medicine, Lancet, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Journal of Clinical Investigation, Journal of Immunology, FASEB Journal, Ophthalmology, and the American Journal of Ophthalmology.

Prof. Tsubota is the first Japanese recipient of the American Academy of Ophthalmology Honor Award, which he received in 1994. Beyond his duties as associate editor for the *Journal of Refractive Surgery*, Prof. Tsubota holds editorial positions on other major ophthalmic journals, as well as being a regular reviewer for several international ophthalmic journals.