

Faculty

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Center and Institute Affiliations

Center for Human Nutrition, Center for Clinical Trials, Dana Center for Preventive Ophthalmology

Education:

Academic Degrees Princeton University, 1982; ScD, Johns Hopkins University, 1993

Research Interests

Joanne Katz, ScD, is a Professor and Associate Chair of the Department of International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, with joint appointments in the Departments of Biostatistics, Ophthalmology and Epidemiology. She has been a member of the Dana Center for Preventive Ophthalmology since 1982 and is also a member of the Center for Clinical Trials, and the Center for Human Nutrition. She received her Bachelor of Science in Statistics and Economics from the University of Cape Town, South Africa in 1978, a Masters of Science in Statistics from Princeton University in 1981, and a Doctor of Science in International Health from Johns Hopkins University in 1992. From 1982 through 1994, her primary appointment was at the Wilmer Eye Institute and the Dana Center for Preventive Ophthalmology.

Dr. Katz's research is oriented towards the reduction of mortality and morbidity in underserved populations in the United States and abroad, with a discipline base in epidemiology and biostatistics. Broad substantive areas include ophthalmic epidemiology and blindness prevention, and the impact of micronutrient deficiencies on health and survival. Current ophthalmic research projects include a population-based survey of pediatric eye disease in Baltimore, statistical collaboration on the Multi-center Uveitis Steroid Treatment (MUST) trial, and a study of presbyopia and refractive errors in Nepal. Other current research includes a 67,000 person randomized community trial of antenatal micronutrient supplements to reduce maternal and infant mortality in Bangladesh, a trial of daily iron and zinc supplements to improve survival among preschool children in Nepal, testing of an antiseptic wash and improved cord care for newborns to reduce neonatal mortality and morbidity in Nepal, and a long-term evaluation of the impact of micronutrient supplements on health, growth and cognition of Nepali children. Past ophthalmic research includes the Baltimore Eye Surveys, blindness surveys in Malawi, Zambia, Bulgaria, and South India, analysis of visual field progression in glaucoma, an evaluation of pre-operative medical testing for cataract surgery, myopia in school age children in Singapore, ocular trauma epidemiology and a treatment trial for corneal ulcers in Nepal.

She is the author of 160 peer reviewed scientific publications and several book chapters. She has served as an Associate Editor of the American Journal of Epidemiology and the American Journal of Ophthalmology, and as the Methodologist for the Academy of Ophthalmology's Preferred Practice

Pattern Guidelines on treatment of refractive errors. She is the principal investigator of a T32 training grant from the NIH in International Maternal and Child Health.

Selected Representative Publications:

Katz J, West KP Jr., Pradhan EK, LeClerq SC, Khattry SK, Shrestha SR. *The impact of a small steady stream of income for women on family health and economic well-being*. Global Public Health (accepted for publication).

Katz J. *The rust on the magic bullet: antioxidants for cataract prevention bite the dust*. Br J Ophthalmol (accepted for publication).

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- Nirmalan PK, Robin AL, Katz J, Tielsch JM, Thulasiraj RD, Krishnadas R, Ramakrishnan R. *Risk factors for age-related cataract in a rural population of southern India: The Aravind Comprehensive Eye Study*. Br J Ophthalmol 2004;88:989-94.
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