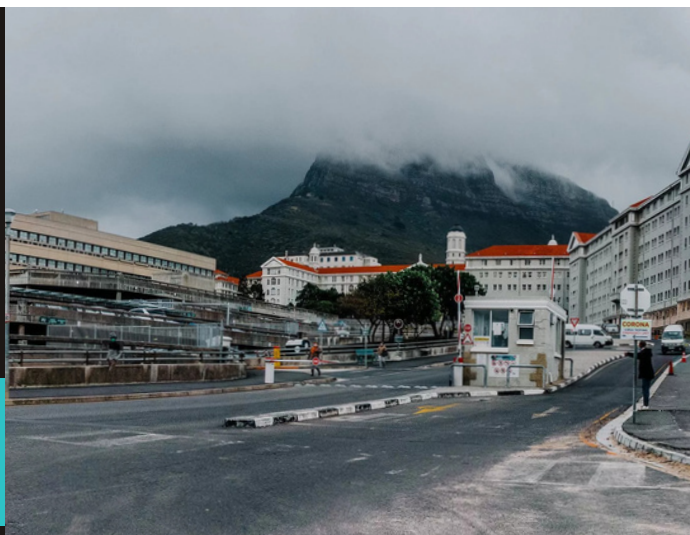


MSIC SURGICAL COURSE CAPE TOWN



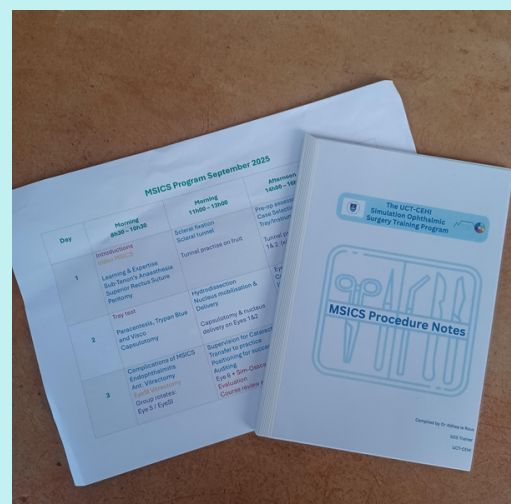
Key Learning Aspects from the Course

- Detailed anatomy of the eye and the importance in surgical planning
- Step-by-step MSIC surgical techniques with guided simulation practice
- Patient examination, selection and informed consent
- Identification and management of complications and safety protocols
- Instrument tray layout and handling, suture techniques and wound construction.

From the 16th – 18th September 2025 I was fortunate to be invited to attend the Manual Small Incision Cataract (MSIC) surgical course presented by The Community Eye Health Institute at their simulation training centre at Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town. It was an incredibly valuable and formative experience.

The immersive 3-day course was presented Dr Althea Le Roux and Dr Jill De Villiers, the former a previous trainee of Dr Pons herself, both very experienced MSIC surgeons and passionate teachers. They provided hands-on training guiding us through each step of the procedure, after which we were able to practice using different simulation modalities and given the opportunity to train on a high-fidelity virtual reality simulator (EyeSi). This allowed me to build confidence and competence in a safe and supportive environment.

The course has provided me invaluable experience and knowledge and is my first step in being able to safely perform cataract surgery under the guidance and mentorship of Dr Pons. I hope to one day be capable of using what I have learnt to restore vision to those in need and give back to our incredible community.



Thank you for your on-going support and belief in my capabilities as I continue on this journey. I look forward to informing you of my first successful cataract surgery, hopefully in the near future.