# European Society of Ophthalmology



	Teodora Atanasova Cholakova - Neykova
Name:	
European	Leadership Development Program Class of 2023-2025
	Project Abstract

Title: Launching a Branch of Saint Petka Eye Clinic in Dobrich City

## **Purpose:**

The initiative aims to enhance access to advanced ophthalmological care in Dobrich City, conveniently situated just 50 kilometers from Varna, Bulgaria's third-largest city. Our goal is to expedite medical services and integrate technological advancements in eye care.

### Methods:

Our medical facility boasts three consultation rooms, all outfitted with state-of-the-art diagnostic and treatment equipment for eye conditions. This includes Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) and retinal lasers for precise laser therapy. Additionally, the center features a specialized optics department, offering an extensive range of eyewear and accessories.

A team of four skilled ophthalmologists is available on varying days throughout the week. For particularly complex or unique cases, we offer the option of video consultations with leading specialists from the Varna clinic. Should surgical intervention be required, patients are referred to the Saint Petka Eye Clinic in Varna, with all subsequent post-operative follow-ups conducted in Dobrich, thereby simplifying logistics and transportation for our patients. We emphasize the importance of regular preventive screenings for preventing a variety of eye diseases.

#### **Results:**

Since its establishment in 2018, we have conducted examinations on over 32 000 (out of which 28 000 adults and 3 500 children) patients. The adult - predominant conditions diagnosed include refractive anomalies, cataracts, ocular surface diseases and glaucoma. The predominant conditions in children include myopia, hyperopia, conjunctivitis. Furthermore, a total of 1200 patients have successfully undergone cataract surgery.

### **Conclusion:**

The establishment of a highly specialized ophthalmological branch in Dobrich has significantly contributed to providing local residents, who might not have the means to seek treatment in larger cities, with accessible, top-quality, and comprehensive eye care services.