

Optometric Residency in Primary Eye Care/Ocular Disease

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Residency in Primary Care is to recruit qualified graduating or graduate optometrists; to train the entry level graduate optometrist in advanced patient care through clinical management and co-management experiences in a broad range of ophthalmic diseases and disorders; to provide an orientation and an ongoing didactic program throughout the year; to promote development of skills as an educator and self-learner; and to provide a suitable environment in which the resident can flourish.

The nature of the patient population at The Eye Institute provides the foundation for the resident to hone their entry level skills to an advanced level and to cultivate new skills and knowledge as well. The resident is able to achieve the objectives of the program through an appropriate level of supervision and support of a highly-trained clinical faculty of optometrists and general and subspecialty ophthalmologists leading to clinical autonomy.

PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Goal 1. To recruit qualified graduating or graduate optometrists to fill the residency class.

Objectives:

- a. A commitment for funding will be made by the Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University through its annual budgeting process such that resident salaries are commensurate with the current market each year and that an appropriate budget is in place to support the program.
- b. The residency mission statement along with program information will be published online that includes a description of the program, employment benefits, sample schedules and application procedures. The written catalog will be sent electronically when requested by interested candidates.
- c. Advertisement of the position in AOA Foresight and electronic brochures are sent to all accredited optometry schools and Residency Programs. Brochures are provided, and a program representative as available, to meet candidates at the AOA and AAO meetings for recruitment purposes.

- d. A committee will be convened to interview all qualified candidates, either in person or on the phone. All interviews will be completed by the end of February. Ranking of candidates will be completed by the end of February.
- e. Candidates will be offered positions in rank order until all positions are filled in accordance with the Optometry Residency Match (ORMatch) system.

Outcomes Assessment:

Achievement of this goal through the stated objectives will be determined by filling the class.

Goal 2. To enhance the resident's skills in the examination, diagnosis, treatment, and management of diseases and disorders of the eyes and associated structures, as well as in the diagnosis of related systemic conditions.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will be assigned to Primary Care Services an average of two days per week, both as a direct provider and as a supervisor of optometry interns, to see patients presenting for comprehensive primary care eye examination and follow-up care. These visits would include, but would not be limited to, patients with refractive disorders, binocular disorders, and/or ocular disease, and contact lens patients.
- b. The resident will be assigned to Emergency Services, during hours of normal operation, one half day per week, both as a direct provider and as a supervisor of optometry interns, to triage and examine patients presenting with urgent eye care needs. The resident will also be on-call 4-5 weeks during the year to provide direct care to patients presenting with urgent eye care needs when The Eye Institute is closed.
- c. The resident will be assigned to the following Services a minimum of 24 hours over the course of the year to provide direct care in the co-management of patients along with subspecialty optometrists and/or ophthalmologists. The resident will directly participate in the pre-/post-surgical care of these patients.
 - 1) Cornea and Anterior Segment Disease Service
 - 2) Vitreo-Retinal Disease Service
 - 3) Specialty Glaucoma Service
 - 4) Neuro-Eye Service
 - 5) Other Ophthalmic Co-Management Service(s)

Outcomes Assessment:

Achievement of this goal through the stated objectives will be determined by regular discussions between the residents and their supervisor in each service to which the resident is assigned, as well as with the residency Program Director. Additionally, the Chiefs or assigned resident support staff will conduct chart reviews of patients seen by

the residents during the program with greater emphasis being placed on the first 6 months.

Goal 3. To enhance skills necessary for the diagnosis and management of complex clinical cases through the performance and/or interpretation of various procedures.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will perform procedures on all patients for whom they are indicated including:
 - 1) Binocular indirect ophthalmoscopy
 - 2) Slit lamp ophthalmoscopy(78D, 90D fundus examination)
 - 3) Scleral indentation
 - 4) Gonioscopy
 - 5) Ocular photography / imaging
 - 6) Dilation and irrigation of the lacrimal system
 - 7) Punctual plug management
- b. The resident will be familiar with the rationale and technique for performance of diagnostic studies, as well as be able to assess and interpret findings, in such procedures as:
 - 1) Automated visual fields
 - 2) Scanning laser fundus imagery
 - 3) Corneal topography
 - 4) Fluorescein angiography
 - 5) Ultrasonography of the globe and orbit

Outcomes Assessment:

Achievement of this goal through the stated objectives will be determined by regular discussions between the residents and their immediate supervisor in each service to which the resident is assigned, as well as with the Director of On-Campus Residency Programs. Additionally, the Chiefs of Service will review specific clinical procedures with the resident. This is done informally both directly and indirectly during the year. Heavy emphasis is placed on procedural and clinical case review especially during the first few weeks of the program.

Goal 4. To enhance the resident's ability to co-manage secondary and tertiary care patients through inter-disciplinary consultation and referral.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will have the responsibility of making appropriate referrals for patients to Specialty Services within The Eye Institute and to outside practitioners for consultation and/or management.
- b. The resident will prepare summary reports for patients under their care.

Outcomes Assessment:

Achievement of this goal through the stated objectives will be determined by review of the documents by the resident's supervisor, as well as by support personnel in The Eye Institute who review referrals and reports.

Goal 5. To provide a substantive orientation program that will prepare the resident to assume their patient care responsibilities in The Eye Institute.

Objectives:

- a. Participation in an orientation program during the first 1-2 weeks of the Residency Program. The Resident attends presentations by key faculty and administrators and is provided with a Residency Handbook that includes comprehensive information on:
 - i. Organizational structure at PCO and Salus University
 - ii. Schedules and calendars for the residents and academic programs at the University
 - iii. Complete residency program descriptions, including mission, goals, objectives, and outcomes assessment, for their particular program
 - iv. A list of important program dates (start and end dates, dates of academic meetings, due dates for publishable papers, etc.)
 - v. Sample resident evaluation forms
 - vi. Attendance Policy for residents
 - vii. Supervision Policy for residency programs
 - viii. Grievance and Complaine Policy
 - ix. Termination and Dismissal Policy
 - x. Protocols for patient care services in The Eye Institute
 - xi. A Policies and Procedures Manual for students in The Eye Institute
 - xii. Sample Professional Practice course syllabi (the College's clinical education courses), including evaluation instruments

- b. Participate in patient care alongside the faculty during orientation in order to familiarize the Resident with the personnel and systems in the services to which they will be assigned.

Outcome Assessment:

Achievement of this goal through the stated objectives is evidenced by production of the Resident Handbook and the residency orientation schedule.

Goal 6. To provide a didactic program throughout the year that will increase the resident's fund of knowledge regarding diagnosis and management of ophthalmic dysfunction and ocular disease.

Objectives:

- a. Seminars will be held specifically for the residents in which clinical faculty and guest speakers will present various topics related to ocular and systemic disease, advanced

prescribing and contact lens considerations, low vision, and pediatrics. Approximately thirty 90 minute presentations will be scheduled during the year.

- b. A minimum of 12 hours of lecture will be presented by optometric and ophthalmologic sub-specialists on the following topics:
 - 1) Cornea and anterior segment disease
 - 2) Retinal disease and fluorescein angiography
 - 3) Glaucoma
 - 4) Emergency patient care

- c. The resident will be given the opportunity and funding to attend a major academic conference, such as the American Academy of Optometry Annual Meeting. Additionally, the resident will be given the opportunity to attend at least one conference dedicated to their specialty area, such as the American Optometric Association Meeting.

Outcomes Assessment:

Achievement of this goal through the stated objectives will be determined by review of the topics with the Director of On-Campus Residency Programs and the sub-specialists.

Goal 7. To promote development of the resident's skills as an educator and self-learner.

Objectives:

- a. As part of the orientation, the resident will receive instruction on being a teacher, both in the clinical setting and in the laboratory to which the resident will be assigned. The resident will then supervise patient care by first, second, third, and fourth year optometry students under the guidance of clinical faculty. The resident will may also teach in didactic clinical skills laboratories along with more experienced clinical and didactic educators at Salus University.

- b. The resident will have the opportunity to hone public speaking skills through participation in the Grand Rounds program during the year by preparing and presenting a case to faculty, residents, students, and local optometrists attending for continuing education credit.

- c. The resident will prepare a paper of publishable quality before the end of the program.

Outcomes Assessment:

Achievement of this goal through the stated objectives will be determined by supervisors observing the residents teaching in patient care and in laboratories, by the program director observing the resident's presentation, and by supervisors reading and approving the paper.

Goal 8. To enhance the resident's professional behavior and interpersonal skills.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will be assigned to various patient care services in which they will demonstrate responsibility, sensitivity, maturity, sound judgement, and ethical behavior toward all people involved in the patient care experience.
- b. In all personal and professional interactions with members of the University community, the resident will demonstrate collegiality and respect.

Outcomes Assessment:

Achievement of this goal through the stated objectives will be determined by supervisors, the program director, and other personnel observing and interacting with the residents.

Goal 9. To provide a suitable environment in which the resident can flourish.

Objectives:

- a. The resident will be supplied with an office that will include a desk, a chair, a telephone, and storage space. The resident will also have access to a computer, including internet access.
- b. The University and The Eye Institute will provide sufficient financial and personnel resources to support the educational objectives of this program.
- c. The University will publish and enforce non-discrimination policies, employee guidelines, and patient rights.

Outcomes Assessment:

Achievement of this goal through the stated objectives will be evidenced by providing an appropriate work environment and sufficient funding.