

Description of Resident Rotation: Ophthalmology Elective Rotation

I. General Information

- A. Rotation Length: 1-4 weeks as determined by resident in consultation with residency program office and ophthalmology faculty.
- B. Faculty: Neil Silbermann, M.D.
EyeHealth Physicians, P.C.
7025 Hickman Rd., Suite 1
Urbandale, IA 50322
Phone: 270-2486 (Debbie = usual office contact)

II. First Day Orientation

- A. The resident should report to Dr. Silbermann's office by 9:00 a.m. the first day of the rotation.
- B. Office staff will provide some orientation to the office and patient examination areas. Dr. Silbermann will then review with each resident, how patients will be seen and evaluated during the rotation.

III. Objectives and Description

- A. The primary educational purpose of this rotation is to assure competency in the office examination of vision and the eye. The resident should become familiar with those aspects of care in ophthalmology that are diagnosed and managed by general internists and those that should be referred to, or managed jointly with, ophthalmology specialists.
- B. The principal teaching method will be assessment of patients who present to Dr. Silbermann's office for evaluation. The resident will have an opportunity to independently evaluate patients' eye complaints and perform an ophthalmology examination, usually after appropriate dilatation using a hand-held ophthalmoscope. Dr. Silbermann will then review the eye examination findings with the resident.
- C. Specific review of the following clinical conditions, including principles of management and indications for referral will be addressed:
 - 1. Injuries to the eye
 - 2. The red eye
 - 3. Eyelid and lacrimal disorders

4. Acute visual disturbance
 5. Gradual visual loss, partial sight, and "blindness"
 6. Cataracts
 7. The glaucomas
 8. Refractive disorders
 9. General medical disorders and the eye (hypertension, diabetes mellitus, systemic infections, etc.)
 10. The eye and the nervous system
- D. Procedures the resident may observe and assist in include eye irrigation, fluorescein staining of the cornea, removal of superficial foreign bodies, tonometry, slit lamp examination, formal visual field testing, angiography.

IV. Ancillary Education Materials

Each resident should review readings from the basic text ABC of Eyes, second edition by P. T. Kahw and A. R. Elkington, BMJ Publishing Group, 1994. The full text may be checked out from the internal medicine residency office library to review the excellent color photographs from the text. Additional papers and ophthalmology textbooks will be available through Dr. Silbermann's office.

V. Patient Care

A. The resident will see a variable number of patients depending on the volume of patients presenting for evaluation and the complexity of patients encountered. The resident will see patients from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday with the following exceptions: the resident will be excused to attend their VA Continuity of Care Clinic one afternoon per week. The resident will also be free on Wednesday mornings when Dr. Silbermann is in surgery. This time should be used for reading from the recommended text and additional reference textbooks and teaching cases made available for review.

B. Medical Record Documentation:

The resident will be responsible for documenting patient visits in the medical record only as requested and approved by Dr. Silbermann.

VI. Mechanics

The resident will see patients from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday except on Wednesday mornings and on VA afternoon clinic days as indicated above. The resident will attend noon conferences and their continuity clinics on the appropriate days.

VII. Evaluation

At the end of the rotation, the resident will be evaluated by the supervising faculty. Personal feedback will be provided and an evaluation form will be completed and returned to the residency office. The evaluation form will be reviewed and signed by the resident.

The resident will be evaluated by faculty in each of the required six general competency areas as follows:

1. **Patient Care:** Demonstrate ability to effectively interview and examine patients with common ophthalmology concerns, including performance of a more detailed eye examination.
2. **Medical Knowledge:** Demonstrate understanding of common ophthalmology problems encountered in patients.
3. **Practice-Based Learning:** Demonstrate ability to identify gaps in knowledge and skills in the care of patients with common ophthalmology concerns and demonstrate real-time strategies to address these gaps.
4. **Interpersonal and Communication Skills:** Demonstrate adequate communication abilities in dealings with patients seen during the rotation. Demonstrate timely and complete medical records.
5. **Professionalism:** Demonstrate respectful behavior towards patients and families, colleagues, nurses and other allied health personnel. Always protect patient confidentiality and provide informed consent.
6. **Systems-Based Practice:** Collaborate with nursing and other allied health care providers to assure timely, comprehensive care provided and assure proper follow-up is arranged.

