

CURRICULUM: OPHTHALMOLOGY

Ophthalmology is the branch of medicine that investigates and treats disorders of the eye. The ophthalmologist is concerned with visual function and with infectious, inflammatory, traumatic, degenerative, and neoplastic disorders.

The resident learns:

- to evaluate many ophthalmologic complaints, including pain, redness, itching, and visual changes
- to identify and treat frequently encountered problems, such as conjunctivitis
- competency in the office examination of vision and the eye
- an appreciation of the critical elements in a patient's history
- the indication for routine and emergency referral
- to recognize the fundusoscopic findings of systemic illness, including hypertension and diabetes mellitus,
- to realize that ocular complaints may herald other illness

Common Clinical Presentation with which residents should have familiarity:

Acute or chronic loss of vision
Cataracts
Common disorders of the eyelid
Elevated intraocular pressure
Exophthalmos
Floaters and visual phenomena
Fundusoscopic abnormalities (papilledema, hemorrhage, exudate)
Injuries
Pain
Red eye

Procedure Skill

Fluorescein stain of the cornea
Bandaging and patching
Eye irrigation
Removal of superficial foreign body

Ordering and Understanding Tests

Fluorescein angiography
Formal visual field testing
Intraocular pressure testing
Slit lamp examination

Teaching Methods

Conferences

- Please see attached table for topics
- Please see attached table for sites of teaching rounds: ophthalmology clinic, resident continuity clinic, emergency department, general internists' private offices and nursing homes.

Evaluations

Please see general introduction