

Ocular Disease/Low Vision Rehabilitation Residency

Offering extensive exposure to the management of ocular disease ranging from medical/surgical through and including low vision rehabilitation.

- **Program Site:** Jesse Brown VA Medical Center & Hines Hospital, Chicago
- **Program Coordinator:** Charles Kinnaird, OD (charles.kinnaird@va.gov)
- **Residency Director:** Janice Jurkus, OD, MBA
- **Number of Positions:** 3
- **Program Dates:** July 1-June 30
- **ORMatch:** 15521

Program Description

JBVAMC is affiliated with the Illinois College of Optometry and the University of Illinois Medical School. The ocular disease program at Jesse Brown is located in a joint optometry/ophthalmology eye clinic with shared facilities and equipment. The clinic has twelve general examining rooms, two visual field rooms with threshold and kinetic instruments, a minor suite for surgery, laser (argon & krypton, YAG, SLT) rooms, photography room, electrodiagnosis/ultrasonography & retinal topography suite, eye library, offices, and a conference room. Full scope optometric and ophthalmologic services are provided by seven O.D.'s, three VA optometry residents, four optometry students, seven attending ophthalmologists, two ophthalmology fellows, three ophthalmology residents, and consulting ophthalmology professors from the University of Illinois, Dept. of Ophthalmology.

Program Design

The **Low Vision** part of the program at Hines Hospital is located in the Central Blind Rehabilitation Center.

- The optometry residents function to direct the clinical low vision services that are offered to veterans.
- It is based on a multidisciplinary team approach to rehabilitation, where veterans are provided training with the intent of allowing adjustment to disability and reentry into community life.
- In addition to the inpatient services an Outpatient Clinic provides low vision rehabilitation services for both partially sighted and legally blind veterans located in the Chicago area.

With the **Ocular Disease** portion of the program at Jesse Brown VAMC the resident will:

- Provide routine eye examinations, visual field interpretation, and ultrasonography.
- Complete digital imaging including OCT, digital fluorescein angiography, and fundus photography.

- Work with ocular prostheses and ultrasonography (both posterior segment as well as UBM).
- Gain contact lenses experience with keratoconus, pellucid marginal degeneration, aphakia, corneal trauma, s/p PKP, s/p PRK or LASIK and anisometropia.
- Have access to a variety of gas permeable, hybrid and soft lens diagnostic fitting sets including: Synergeyes KC, A and Clearkone, Dynaintralimbal standard and post-graft, Rose K and Rose K 2, Soper, Cooper Prosthetic and Aphakic lenses, and standard RGP, bitoric and reverse geo lens kits with extensive parameters and power availability.

The joint program consists of roughly 2/3 of the year devoted to ocular disease and 1/3 primarily devoted to Low Vision.

Educational Conferences

Clinical conferences, seminars, and rounds take place at JBVAMC, University of Illinois Dept. of Ophthalmology, and the Illinois Eye Institute at the Illinois College of Optometry. The resident is expected to attend weekly optometric conferences at JBVAMC, and participates in bi-monthly glaucoma & neuro-ophthalmology rounds, monthly retinal rounds and weekly Grand Rounds at UIC Dept. of Ophthalmology.

Salary

\$35,028 per year.

Benefits

- **Health:** Health insurance is available.
- **Holidays:** All federal holidays are observed. (Martin Luther King, Jr's birthday, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day)
- **Educational Travel:** "Authorized absence" is granted for attendance at the American Academy of Optometry meeting or equivalent national professional meeting.
- **Vacation:** Residents accrue four hours of "annual leave" (vacation) and four hours of sick leave per two-week pay period. Annual leave must be taken at times that it would not interfere with patient care or educational activities. No vacation leave is granted during the last two weeks of the program in June.
- **Liability:** Liability coverage is provided for care of veterans and nonveteran employees referred by Administrative Medicine for eye care. Liability coverage does not include care provided through "moonlighting."
- **Information Resources:** The VA has numerous ophthalmic, primary care, and healthcare specialty online journal and textbook subscriptions as well as a medical library that can obtain print copies of articles by request. Full ICO library access is also granted to residents.

Criteria for Completion

- Successful completion of all clinical assignments.
- Development of a publishable quality research project.

Completion of Acknowledgment

A certificate is presented upon successful completion of the program.

For more information

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