

Ocular Disease and Neuro-Optometry Residency

New category: Ocular Disease

Emphasis: Neuro-Optometry

Providing advanced competency training in ocular disease and neuro-ophthalmic disorders through education, patient care and academic scholarship.

- **Program Site:** Illinois College of Optometry/Illinois Eye Institute
- **Program Coordinators:** Wendy Stone, OD, FAAO (wstone@ico.edu), Leonard Messner, OD, FAAO
- **Residency Director:** Christine Allison, OD, FAAO
- **Number of Positions:** 1 per year
- **Program Dates:** The residency is a 2-year program beginning the first week in July.
- Seeking Accreditation (first year program)
- **ORMatch:** 44587

Program Description

Advanced competency in ocular disease and neuro-ophthalmic disorders is achieved through intensive clinical training in both patient care and educational activities in this two-year program. The first year of this program emphasizes the diagnosis and management of ocular disease, as well as the co-management of oculo-systemic disease, in an excellent multi-disciplinary setting.



Residents provide care in the Illinois Eye Institute's primary care, neuro-ophthalmic, vitreo-retinal, glaucoma, urgent care and after hours on-call services. Rotations through cornea and contact lens, pediatrics, low vision and comprehensive ophthalmology services may also be arranged. Residents are given the opportunity to expand leadership and communication skills through Grand Rounds case presentations, journal club, resident conferences, vision screenings, classroom instruction, and formal lectures.

To achieve the goal of providing superior post-doctoral clinical training, the resident's activities are supervised by residency trained clinical faculty as well as consulting ophthalmologists. Supervision of second-, third-, and fourth-year clinicians will further enhance the resident's diagnostic and therapeutic skills. This enables the resident to develop the complex skills necessary to practice optometry at its highest level.

The second year of the program, the resident will split their clinical time between the Illinois Eye Institute and the University of Chicago. At the Illinois Eye Institute the second-year resident will be precepting in the neuro-ophthalmic disorders clinics, urgent care clinic, and participating in the neuro-ophthalmic disorders courses and labs. During their time at University of Chicago, the resident will participate in multiple clinics and participate in neuro-ophthalmology and relevant neurology grand rounds. Clinical rotations at the University of Chicago will include neuro-ophthalmology, neurology, and radiology.

Residents of both years are highly encouraged to attend national education programs such as the American Academy of Optometry, North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society, and American Optometric Association meetings.

There are two ways to enter this residency program. A student may enter as a first-year resident and complete the two-year program. The second way, if year two is not filled for the subsequent year, is to complete the ocular disease and primary care residency at ICO and then transfer into the second year of the ocular disease/neuro-optometry residency.

Program Design

The 1st year resident participates in the following rotations:

- Primary Care Service (8-20 hours/week)
- Urgent Care Service (4 hours/week)**
- Neuro-ophthalmic disease/Retina/Advanced Glaucoma (8-16 hours/week, rotating quarterly); the resident will be in at least one Neuro session every quarter
- Residents' Conference (2-3 hours/week)
- Personal Development (4 hours/week)
- Rotations through the Cornea/Contact Lens, Binocular Vision/Pediatrics, Low Vision Services, or Comprehensive Ophthalmology Services may be arranged at the resident's request (4 hrs/week).

**Additional responsibility in the first year of the program includes the on-call urgent care service rotation. Call is a one-week period on a six to seven-week rotating basis with the ocular disease residents at the Illinois Eye Institute. The resident is responsible for urgent eye care delivered at the Illinois Eye Institute both during and after hours. There is no on-call responsibility the second year.

The 2nd year resident participates in the following rotations:

- University of Chicago neuro-ophthalmology, neurology, radiology (20- 24 hours/weekly)
- IEI Neuro-ophthalmic disease (4-8 hours/week)
- IEI Urgent Care Service (4 hours/week)
- IEI Rotations through other services (4-8 hours/week rotating quarterly)
- ICO Neuro labs/classes
- MRI Review, Resident Conference, and University of Chicago Grand Rounds/Conference (2-3 hours/week)
- Personal Development (4 hours/week)

Residents develop/enhance skills of an advanced diagnostic nature:

- MRI review
- A-scan and B-scan ultrasonography
- Nerve fiber layer analysis
- Optical coherence tomography
- Fluorescein angiography
- Automated perimetry
- Electrodiagnostic testing
- Anterior and posterior segment photography
- Corneal topography and endothelial cell studies



Educational Conferences

- Urgent Care Conference
- Resident Conference
- Journal Club
- Faculty Conference/Grand Round Series
- Teaching Skills Workshop
- University of Chicago Grand Rounds/Conferences

Salary

\$45,000 first year

\$80,000 second year

Benefits

Benefits include eligibility to participate in medical and dental insurance programs with a prescription card, and professional liability insurance for eye care provided at the Illinois Eye Institute and its affiliated clinics. Group term life and disability insurance is also provided. Additional benefits include: 11 days of personal vacation and five days academic leave.

Criteria for Completion

- Attendance at all clinical assignments
- Successful completion of clinical learning objectives
- Attendance and participation at Grand Rounds and regularly scheduled conferences
- Attendance and participation at course work related to clinical teaching and lecturing
- A written paper of publishable quality completed by the end of each residency year

Completion of Acknowledgment

A certificate is presented upon successful completion of the program.

For more information

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