



BronxCare Health System

Ocular Disease/Primary Care Optometry Residency

Residency Program Curriculum

The Ocular Disease/Primary Care Optometry Residency at BCHS is a full-time, 52-week residency program, beginning on July 1st and ending on June 30th of each residency year. The focus of the program is threefold: clinical care, didactic education and scholarly activity. The resident is involved in patient care approximately 80-85% of the time. The resident is expected to have approximately 1,200 direct patient encounters by the end of the residency year. The remainder of the resident's time is devoted to didactic activities that take place either on the BCHS campus or off-site. Clinical, didactic and scholarly activities specific to our program are listed below.

Typical Weekly Schedule of the Resident:

On some mornings, from 7:30 am to about 8:30 am, the resident attends lectures given by the faculty to the optometry and/or ophthalmology residents. After lecture ends, the resident is expected to attend clinic.

A typical weekly schedule for the residents includes clinic from 8:30am until approximately 4:30pm (including a lunch break) Monday through Thursday. On Friday the resident may have didactic/educational activities the whole day or they are in clinic from 8:30am to 1:00pm, with didactic/educational/administrative time from 1:00pm to 4:30pm. The educational programs on Fridays will be held either with the BCHS faculty and may consist of case study discussions, journal clubs, literature reviews or lectures, or be held off-campus as part of the SUNY Friday program.

Additionally, hours for the On Call service are 4:30pm to 7:30/8am on Monday through Friday nights, 8am on Saturdays to 8am on Sundays and 8am on Sundays to 8am on Mondays.

The location of the clinic that the resident is assigned to on a particular day is dependent on the resident's schedule which is provided to the resident at the start of the residency year. The residents will be providing primary eye-care examinations and managing acute and chronic ocular diseases under the supervision of either the Residency Program Supervisor(s) or another optometry attending while at the satellite clinics.

During the first month of the residency, the residents start to rotate through the ophthalmology sub-specialty clinics (such as retina, glaucoma, cornea, neuro-ophthalmology and oculoplastics) at the BCHS Eye Care Center to enhance the resident's skill in the diagnosis and management of advanced ocular disease. The resident will spend on average one day per week for approximately three months in each of the sub-specialty clinics seeing patients under the supervision of the sub-specialty Ophthalmology Attending.

The optometry resident will be on call on average 4 days per month on a rotating basis with the ophthalmology residents and other optometry residents.

The schedule for Fridays is variable throughout the year due to the SUNY Friday Program. When the resident is not attending a SUNY Friday program off-campus, they see patients in one of the BCHS clinics supervised by an Ophthalmology or Optometry attending. The afternoon session is generally spent attending BCHS Optometry Conferences with either the Residency Program Supervisor(s) or other Optometry Attendings.

List of Clinical Activities:

- The resident will provide primary eye care exams, acute care/emergency care exams, infant/pediatric exams, geriatric eye exams and follow-up care for chronic eye diseases in the optometry clinics on average 3 days per week at an outpatient satellite clinic.
- To enhance the resident's skill in the diagnosis and management of advanced ocular disease, the resident will rotate through, and participate in, some if not all of the following ophthalmology subspecialty clinics throughout the residency year. On average one day a week is spent at the BCHS Eye Care Center working in one of the following clinics:
 - Retina
 - Neuro-ophthalmology
 - Cornea
 - Oculoplastics
 - Glaucoma

- To enhance the resident's triaging skills, critical thinking skills and hands on clinical skills in the areas of acute, traumatic and emergency eye care, the resident will rotate through the On Call service on a rotating basis with the Ophthalmology residents.
- Under supervision of the clinical faculty, the resident will be trained in clinical skills such as:
 - Infant and pediatric exam techniques
 - Superficial ocular foreign body removal
 - Punctal plug insertion and removal
 - Three and four-mirror gonioscopy
 - Contact lens fundoscopy
 - Scleral indentation
 - Corneal culturing
- Under supervision of the clinical faculty, the resident will learn how to perform (see above) and/or interpret results from specialized diagnostic instrumentation used in primary eye care, such as:
 - Digital fundus photography
 - Automated perimetry
 - Corneal pachymetry
 - Ocular coherence tomography (OCT)
 - Corneal topography
 - Intravenous fluorescein angiography (IVFA)
 - B-scan ultrasound
 - Ocular coherence tomography angiography (OCT-A)
- Residents will also have the opportunity to observe ophthalmological surgical procedures as well as participate in inter-disciplinary rotations in other departments.

List of Didactic Activities:

- SUNY College of Optometry's Friday Program
 - Core Curriculum (required for all residents)

- Workshop on Public Speaking
- Writing Workshop (two sessions)
- Practice Management Workshop
- Grand Rounds/Lectures (minimum 35 hours)
- Major and Minor Presentations
- BCHS Ophthalmology Department morning lectures/literature reviews/journal clubs
- BCHS Optometry conferences which may include journal club discussions, lectures, case discussions and literature reviews.
- Attend the American Academy of Optometry's (AAO) Annual Meeting.
- Optional involvement in on-going research within the Ophthalmology Department at BronxCare

List of Scholarly Activities:

- Minor Presentation (20 minutes)
- Major Presentation (50 minutes)
- Submit an abstract for presentation at a major optometric meeting (i.e. AOA, AAO, SECO).
- Prepare a manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed optometric journal.
- Varies by year: Case report presentation for the BCHS annual Research Symposium (5 minutes)