



Optometry OD Clinical Internship in Refractive Surgery

Format and Learning Objectives

April 15, 2022

Goal

To provide graduating optometry students with a broad overview of the clinical aspects of refractive surgery.

Scope

Clinical management of corneal and lens-based refractive surgery procedures (LASIK, PRK, SMILE, ICLs, RLE, Refractive Cataract Surgery).

Duration

4-weeks in a busy refractive surgery practice with adequate resources to provide educational support.

- Start Date: Wednesday, June 1, 2022
- End Date: Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Learning Objectives

- Be able to clinically diagnose refractive errors in all age groups
- Understand the indications, contraindications, and alternatives to refractive corrections for each refractive condition, including both surgical and non-surgical options
- Be able to describe how the following diagnostic instruments work: topography, tomography, OCT, wide-field fundus cameras, aberrometry, HD Analyzer, iTrace
- Be proficient at capturing exams with each of the above devices, understand validation criteria for the exams
- Observe at least one of each the following surgical procedures in the operating room:
 - Corneal refractive surgery
 - Lens based refractive surgery
- Observe and participate in the evaluation of at least 10 preoperative and 10 postoperative patient examinations
- Follow at least 3 patients through the preoperative, operative, and early postoperative surgical course



Deliverables

- Each student will submit a 3 to 5-page paper on one of the following topics:
 - For one of the following procedures (LASIK, PRK, SMILE, ICLs, RLE, Refractive Cataract Surgery):
 - Indications, contraindications, summary of current refractive and visual outcomes, expected postoperative course, description of the most common complications and their incidence
 - Comparative analysis of surgery vs. non-surgical treatment of one of the following refractive conditions, including costs, risks, impact on occupational fitness, impact on lifestyle and personal safety
 - Myopia in a 25-year-old
 - Hyperopia in a 30-year-old
 - Presbyopia
 - Refractive error after cataract surgery
 - Describe one of the following devices, with information about how it works, limits on accuracy, limits on reproducibility, sources of error, and clinical applications. Limit the discussion to a specific model within each category:
 - Topography
 - Tomography (Scheimpflug imaging)
 - Corneal OCT with epithelial imaging
 - Submit an economic analysis of collaborative care from the optometrist's perspective

Evaluation

- Participation in the clinical aspects of the rotation
- Pass a written exam with a score of 80% or better
- Submit a paper meeting the criteria defined above

Activities

- Present in the clinic during office and surgical hours throughout the rotation
- Participate in online webinars with the internship director on a weekly basis

Compensation

Host site agrees to contract the OD Intern as an independent contractor (1099) for entire 4-weeks of this internship and to compensate the intern at a minimum rate of \$400 USD per week, paid to intern each week, for the duration of the internship.