Residency in Ocular Disease

Dell Laser Consultants

Dell Laser Consultants
Barton Oaks Plaza 4, Suite 350
901 S MoPac Expwy
Austin, TX 78746

Program Coordinator: Derek Cunningham, O.D.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Program Mission
The mission of the Residency Program in Ocular Disease / Refractive and Ocular Surgery at Dell Laser Consultants is to provide optometric residents an opportunity to become a "Leader in World Class Specialty Eyecare". Residents will obtain advanced clinical competencies in the areas of optometric comanagement of ocular surgery while mastering skills necessary to assess and be competent in treating ocular disease through education and patient care.

Program Goals
The Council on Optometric Education defines a residency program as "an academic postgraduate program of prescribed length and content, usually in an area of patient care, which is available to fully qualified clinical practitioners. A residency program is clinical in content, and has the goals including development of unique skills and competence in one or more areas of optometric practice. It includes a body of knowledge beyond that effectively covered in the undergraduate program. In any postgraduate education program it is important to clearly delineate program goals that are both desirable and attainable within the general parameters of the program."

The following goals of the Dell Laser Consultants Optometric Residency Program are designed to not only provide a framework within which the resident will develop significant expertise in the diagnosis and management of disorders of the eye and visual system, but to provide a level of personal and professional support that produces a caring and competent health care professional.

Goal 1: Help the resident develop advanced diagnostic and management clinical skills in ocular disease.

- Objective 1: Expose the resident to a wide variety of challenging ocular disease that includes medical and surgical management.
  - Outcome: The resident will examine and co-manage patients presenting to the practice for medical and surgical eye care rotating through Dry Eye, Cornea, and refractive subspecialties.
• Measure: The resident will maintain a patient care log with diagnostic categories for quarterly review. The residency program supervisor will review the patient care experiences and determine if they are meeting the expected goal.

**Objective 2:** Ensure that the resident evaluates a minimum number of patients.
  - Outcome: The resident will gain experience by examining at least 2000 patients.
  - Measure: Utilizing the patient care log, the resident will document total patient encounters. The patient care log will be reviewed quarterly.

**Objective 3:** Provide the resident the opportunity to become proficient in advanced diagnostic and treatment procedures.
  - Outcome: The resident will meet performance criteria for various eye care diagnostic and treatment procedures as outlined in the resident supervision policy (attachment).
  - Measure: The resident supervision log will be reviewed quarterly and the supervisor will ensure that the resident is experienced and proficient in the specified procedures within the first nine months of the residency.

**Objective 4:** The resident will gain experience and proficiency in managing pre- and post-operative ophthalmic surgery patients.
  - Outcome: The resident will provide a minimum number of perioperative evaluations (500 refractive cataract surgery and 100 other ocular surgical patient encounters)
  - Measure: The resident will record these visits in the patient care log which will be reviewed quarterly.

**Goal 2:** Provide the resident with a practical understanding of a referral based ophthalmic practice.

• **Objective 1:** Ensure that the resident learns proper interaction with referring providers.
  - Outcome: The resident will be responsible to review information provided by the referral source and for correspondence back to the referring doctor following evaluation.
  - Measure: Using the resident’s activity log, the resident will document the amount of doctor correspondence.

• **Objective 2:** Help the resident to learn appropriate use of other clinical support services.
  - Outcome: The resident will refer patients and consult with other providers such as: radiology, vascular, clinical laboratory etc.
  - Measure: Residents will report quarterly on the patient care log any referrals and consultations requested.

**Goal 3:** Expand the resident’s health care knowledge base.

• **Objective 1:** Encourage the resident to review the current literature and utilize evidence based medicine.
  - Outcome: The resident will participate in the clinical journal club.
  - Measure: Documentation will be provided in the resident’s activity log.

• **Objective 2:** Encourage the resident to strive toward academic and clinical excellence.
  - Outcome: Faculty will present lectures on various topics of eye care to students and the eye care community in addition to participation in monthly grand rounds lectures.
Goal 4: Instill in the resident an appreciation for the importance of research and other scholarly activity.

- Objective: Educate the resident as to the process of optometric research and manuscript preparation.
  - Outcome: The resident will prepare a manuscript of publishable quality.
  - Measure: The supervisor will monitor the progress of manuscript preparation as outlined.

Goal 5: Assist the resident in becoming an effective educator.

- Objective 1: Educate the resident on how to prepare and present a clinical lecture.
  - Outcome: The resident will prepare and present at least two lectures for community eye doctors.
  - Measure: The resident will document this presentation in the resident activity log.

Goal 6: Help the resident to gain an appreciation for service to patients and to the optometric profession.

- Objective 1: The resident will gain experience and an appreciation for service to the profession of optometry.
  - Outcome: The resident will participate in local optometric society and state association activities working with the Central Texas Optometric Society.
  - Measure: The resident will document service and activity with organized optometry in the resident activity log.

Goal 7: Prepare the resident with a strong understanding of clinical integration and communication between health care providers including referral letters, progress notes, and proper billing and coding.

- Objective 1: The resident will learn proper CPT and ICD coding and billing procedures.
  - Outcome: The resident will be responsible for filling out the routing sheet properly on all patients.
  - Measure: The attending reviews the coding prior to discharging the patient and the practice’s certified billing/coding compliance coordinator regularly reviews charts for proper coding.

- Objective 2: The resident will gain vast experience working in an optometry/ophthalmology co-management setting.
  - Outcome: Residents completing the program will be qualified to obtain employment in a multidisciplinary setting.
  - Measure: The residency director will monitor resident program evaluations, completion rates, and career placement.
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**Program Description**

Dell Laser Consultants (DLC) and the Rosenberg School of Optometry (RSO) have jointly developed a one year residency program to assist in the advancement of clinical optometric education. DLC is a tertiary, referral eyecare practice whose mission is to provide "World Class Specialty Eyecare". DLC's office is located in Austin, TX. The resident will spend the majority of their time at our main clinic working under the guidance of Derek N. Cunningham, OD, FAAO, Affiliated Residency Supervisor, and our ophthalmology corneal subspecialists.

**Educational Opportunities**

The program is designed to enhance the clinical skills necessary to diagnose and manage a wide variety of ocular disease. The residency program will provide vast experience in medical and surgical management of ocular disease with an emphasis on the co-management of ocular and refractive surgery and dry eye treatment. In addition to the advance clinical experience, the program will provide numerous opportunities for teaching the optometric community, scholarly activity including lecturing, writing, and clinical research, and service to both the profession and the community.

**Eligibility Criteria**

1. Candidates must earn the degree of Doctor of Optometry from a school or college of optometry accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education prior to the starting date of the residency.
2. Candidates must have passed the NBEO Part I and have taken Part II by the application deadline. The selected candidate must have passed Part II and be scheduled to sit for Part III.
3. Candidates must be eligible to be licensed as a therapeutic optometrist in the State of Texas.

**Certificate of Completion**

The Residency Program Supervisor tracks the resident and ensures he/she attains all criteria. At the end of the year, the Residency Supervisor is required to send a letter in writing to the Director of Affiliated Residency Programs attesting to the fact that the Resident has completed all criteria to the Residency Supervisor's satisfaction and may be awarded the residency certificate. A certificate of completion will be awarded to the resident upon satisfactory completion of residency requirements. The completion requirements of the program are:
A. The resident is required to deliver clinical services at a level that is satisfactory to the Residency Supervisor of DLC, the Director of the Affiliated Residency Programs at RSO and the administration of RSO.

B. The resident will be required to keep a record of patient contacts. The Residency Supervisor and the Director of the Affiliated Residency Programs at RSO, will periodically review patient contacts.

C. The resident will be required to write a paper based on original research, literature review or a clinical case for publication in an acceptable professional journal.

D. The resident will be expected to assist in the continuing education programs provided at DLC.

E. The resident will be expected to perform in a professional manner in the delivery of professional care services and to observe the proprieties of conduct and courtesies that are consistent with the rules and regulations governing DLC.

F. The resident will be required to participate in and complete the requirements set forth in the curriculum.

G. The Residency Supervisor and the Director of the Affiliated Residency Program will recommend the granting of certification to the resident through the office at The University of Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry upon successful completion of the Residency Program at DLC.

H. Any resident accepted for training can be dismissed by DLC, without receiving a certificate of completion, for infraction of the rules and regulations of DLC, or those set forth by Rosenberg School of Optometry, or for any action that jeopardizes the safety of patients, personnel or physical facilities.

I. The resident must prepare and present a Grand Round type presentation on campus at RSO at the time and date chosen by RSO.

RESIDENCY EXPERIENCE

Scholarly Activities
The resident is also required to write at least one paper of publishable quality by the end of the residency. Residents participate in journal club, grand rounds, and seminar programs. Opportunities to participate in research studies exist for those residents with an interest in clinical research.

Lecturing and Teaching
The resident is required to make one presentation on an optometric topic. This may take any of several possible forms, including a faculty seminar, continuing education lecture, guest lecture in an optometry course, or a paper or poster presentation at an academic meeting.

Clinical Privileges
Residents are required to be supervised as per the Rosenberg School of Optometry Resident Supervision Policy. The Residency Program Supervisor must evaluate and monitor the resident’s level of training, which determines the resident’s privileges.
**Continuing Education**
Residents are able to attend continuing education sponsored by the Rosenberg School of Optometry at no charge for credit hours. The resident is encouraged to attend at least one major national educational meeting during the year. A $500 travel stipend is available to the resident to help defray the cost of attending a national educational conference.

**WORKSITE**

The resident will typically work at Dell Laser Consultants and its affiliated clinics in the Austin area. The resident shall also rotate through various external specialty clinics over the course of the residency program, including both retina specialty and plastics specialty group practices.

**Employment Benefits**
The resident receives employment benefits through Dell Laser Consultants. These include health insurance, professional liability insurance, paid vacation, paid holidays and paid sick leave. Residents receive 80 hours paid vacation leave and 40 hours paid sick leave per year. In addition, residents receive 5 days of professional leave and a $500 travel stipend to assist with attending a national optometric conference.

**CALL OR EMAIL TODAY**

For additional information about this residency opportunity, please contact:

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