

Ophthalmology Electives

Student Class Level: MS3, MS4, MS5

Each week consists of 10 half-day sessions

Teaching Settings include: Yale Eye Center, Yale Health Center, West Haven VA Eye Clinic, Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center, Stratford, Madison and Guilford Clinics.

Surgical Centers: YNHH Operating rooms, Guilford Surgical Center, Bridgeport Hospital.

2 weeks

All students participating in the 2-week elective are expected to participate in weekly cases conferences and attend all scheduled clinic sessions. At the end of the 2-week rotation, students will be expected to be proficient in the skills outlined below.

Exam skills

Check distance and near vision

Identify an afferent pupillary defect – swinging flashlight test

Check intraocular pressure using the tonopen or the i-care

Check extraocular movements

Check color vision

Identify the optic nerve using the direct ophthalmoscope

Use the slit lamp to examine the eyelids/lashes, conjunctiva/sclera, cornea, anterior chamber, lens

Clinical Skills

Take a focused ophthalmic history for:

- the red eye
- acute painless loss of vision

Formulate a differential diagnosis for

- the red eye
- acute painless loss of vision

4 weeks

All students participating in the 4-week elective are expected to take a minimum of 2 call sessions, participate in weekly cases conferences, prepare a 10-minute presentation on a topic of their choosing, and attend scheduled clinic sessions. At the end of the 4-week rotation, students will be expected to become proficient in the skills outlined below.

Exam skills

Check distance and near vision

Identify an afferent pupillary defect – swinging flashlight test

Check intraocular pressure using the tonopen or the i-care

Check extraocular movements

Check color vision

Identify the optic nerve using the direct ophthalmoscope

Use the slit lamp to examine the eyelids/lashes, conjunctiva/sclera, cornea, anterior chamber, lens

Use the 90-D lens to examine the optic nerve and the macula

Clinical Skills

Take a focused ophthalmic history for:

- the red eye
- acute painless loss of vision

Formulate a differential diagnosis for

- the red eye
- acute painless loss of vision

Surgery

Describe all the steps of cataract surgery.

Medical knowledge

Identify the 3 most common causes of blindness in the United States:

- macular degeneration
- glaucoma
- diabetic retinopathy

Learn the ocular manifestations of common systemic diseases:

- hypertension
- diabetes

Presentation Skills

Take a history, examine a patient, come up with a differential diagnosis and present the patient to a resident or attending by the 4th week of the rotation.

Identify a topic, conduct research, and give a 10-minute presentation during the last week of the rotation.