

Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences Fellowship Programs Supervision and Duty Hour Policy

July 1, 2008

Policy for Fellow Supervision and Duty Hours

The following call and rotation schedules are general outlines, and changes may occur due to vacations, illnesses and other unforeseen factors. For further details, see the "Handbook for Residents and Fellows" which is available in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences. The Ophthalmology Fellowship Programs are not accredited by the ACGME. Thus, most of the fellow physicians in the department have permanent Iowa Medical License, which legally allows them to see patients independently. However, it is our departmental policy that there is a responsible faculty always available, to provide supervision and guidance to the fellow. The fellows are supervised both in the clinic and operating room. This policy applies from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, and the policy may change in subsequent years.

Policy on Supervision and Assignment

Vitreoretinal Diseases and Surgery Fellowship

The first year of this fellowship is spent in medical retina, laser photocoagulation, and clinical or laboratory research. The second year is spent in the Vitreoretinal Service in the clinic and operating room.

Other Fellowships

In the Oculoplastics, Glaucoma, Cornea, Pediatric, Medical Retina and Molecular Ophthalmology, and Neuro-ophthalmology fellowships, there are no defined rotations. Training is on one service in the Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences Department, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, and VA Medical Center, Iowa City.

Fellows are given appropriate guidelines for supervision. They are encouraged to discuss the policy with the Service director(s) if there is a need to deviate from the stated policy. The program director oversees the overall fellow supervision and assignment for the Department, and discusses potential issues or problems with the fellows and responsible faculty, if needed.

Policy on Duty Hours

The fellows are responsible for call only if required for their particular Service, e.g., in oculoplastics, retina, pediatric ophthalmology and neuro-ophthalmology. The fellow call duty is in compliance with the UIHC work hour policy.