

**Residency in Vision Rehabilitation (Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation)  
At Womack Army Medical Center, Fort Bragg, NC**

**Program Curriculum**

The mission of the Womack Army Medical Center (WAMC) Vision Rehabilitation (Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation) Residency Program is to provide advanced clinical training for military Optometrists in the diagnosis, treatment and vision rehabilitation of patients with acquired brain injury (ABI) in a multidisciplinary hospital-based setting while enhancing traditional primary eye care. The focus of the program is threefold: clinical care, didactic education and scholarly/clinical teaching activities.

**Clinical Activities**

I. Resident will devote at least:

- 60% of clinical time providing assessment and vision rehabilitation to patients with acquired brain injury (ABI) in a multidisciplinary setting (e.g., ophthalmology neurology, physical therapy, vestibular therapy, speech & language pathologist, neuropsychologist) at WAMC Department of Brain Injury Medicine (Intrepid Spirit).
- 30% of clinical time providing acute and comprehensive eye care at WAMC, Department of Optometry (DOPT). The resident will gain triaging skills, critical thinking skills, hands-on clinical skills in the areas of acute, trauma and emergency eye care through the on-call service (inpatient and outpatient setting).
- 10% of the resident's time will be devoted to scholarly activities and/or clinical research.

II. The resident will have a minimum of 1,200 diverse patient encounters by the end of the residency year. These encounters will be comprised of patients with a variety of ABI-related visual and vestibular disorders as well as refractive conditions, medically-indicated contact lenses, refractive surgery co-management, ocular trauma, ocular pathology and secondary eye disease.

III. Each resident must have the following minimum number of ABI/Primary Eye Care patient encounters with each of the following primary vision diagnoses:

- Version deficits (pursuit, saccades, fixation).....150
- Vergence dysfunction.....150
- Accommodative dysfunction .....100
- Visual field defect.....40
- Anterior segment disease (blepharitis, dry eyes, corneal dystrophies, conjunctivitis, corneal ulcers, uveitis, etc.) .....80
- Ocular trauma.....20
- Glaucoma/Glaucoma suspects workup .....30
- Retinopathy (diabetic, hypertensive, optic nerve disorders, vascular occlusions, systemic medications side-effects, retinal holes, lattice degeneration, etc.).....30

**Didactic Activities**

I. SUNY Friday Program (required attendance when visiting SUNY)

- Workshop on Public Speaking
- Writing Workshop
- Grand Rounds
- Minor Presentations
- Major Presentations
- Attend 3 seminars on topics relating to ABI, presented by SUNY Faculty

## II. WAMC

- To develop professional communication and enhance the Optometry's role in a multidisciplinary setting the resident will participate on elective rotations (observational) at WAMC including, but not limited to: Clinical Pharmacy (e.g., Coumadin clinic, ICU ward, Internal Medicine and Family Medicine Rounds); Neurology; Radiology; Laboratory; Dermatology; Oral-maxillofacial; Warfighter Refractive Eye Surgery Center; Pediatric ophthalmology; Ophthalmic surgical procedures.
- Graduate Medical Education lectures
- Lectures/workshops on topics relating to ABI provided at WAMC
- Annual WAMC Research Symposium.
- Monthly DOPT Performance Improvement/Clinic Meeting.

## III. Other:

- Maxillofacial Anatomy Lab (Methodist University)
- Thursday Case Reports (Teleconference) from W.G. Heffner VAMC, Salisbury, NC
- Attend at least one national conference (e.g., AAO, AOA, NORA, COVD or SECO).
- The resident will have the opportunity to attend one military training (e.g., Combat Casualty Care Course, Military Refractive Surgery Conference, Military Ophthalmology Review Course, Tri-Service Vision Conservation Course).

## Scholarly Activities

- I. Minor Presentation (20 minutes presentation) (Fall)
- II. Major Presentation (one hour COPE *quality* lecture) (March)
- III. Publishable Quality Paper for a peer-reviewed optometric journal (June)
- IV. WAMC DOPT Journal Club (monthly)
- V. Present at least one poster or lecture at a major optometric meeting (e.g., AAO, AOA, NORA, COVD or SECO)
- VI. The resident will have the opportunity, based on interest, to participate in clinical research.

## Clinical Teaching

- I. The resident will develop his/her clinical teaching skills by participating in the education and supervision of third and fourth year externs rotating through WAMC DOPT.
- II. The resident will provide instruction and training on the diagnosis and treatment of ocular conditions to Family Medicine residents and Physician Assistant students rotating through DOPT.
- III. The resident will present lectures within DOPT as well as to other WAMC staff.