

# RESIDENCY IN PRIMARY EYE CARE

William Chappell Jr. VA Outpatient Clinic  
Daytona Beach, Florida

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## **Mission of the Residency Program**

The William Chappell Daytona Beach Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic, in conjunction with Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry and the ophthalmologic practices of the Florida Retinal Institute, the Filutowski Cataract and LASIK Institute, and the corneal practice of Miguel Lugo, M.D., offers a one-year residency program in primary eye care. The mission of the program is to provide qualified post-doctoral practitioners with an advanced educational experience that will enhance their clinical skills in both primary eye care and ocular disease.

### **Goal 1**

**To attract a large, diversified and well-qualified pool of applicants.**

#### **Objectives:**

1. To inform each School and College of Optometry in the United States of the program's development and to request their assistance on a yearly basis during the recruitment process.
2. To advertise the program in a national optometric publication (AOSA Foresight) that is readily available to qualified optometry students.
3. To personally contact all interested applicants and provide them with detailed information on the program and its application requirements.
4. To advertise the program on the VA Internet Website and the Nova Southeastern University School of Optometry Internet website.

### **Goal 2**

**To strengthen the resident's primary care management skills.**

#### **Objectives:**

1. To provide the resident with a large number of patient encounters.
2. To provide the resident with a broad range of clinical disease encounters to include retina, glaucoma, cornea, and external disease abnormalities.

3. To provide the resident with the opportunity to perform a significant number of primary care procedures including suture removal, foreign body removal, and punctal occlusion.

### **Goal 3**

**To provide an extensive post-graduate level didactic and seminar program on topics related to both optometry and ophthalmology.**

#### **Objectives:**

1. The resident will attend 2 hour rotations throughout the outpatient specialties and services including but not limited to endocrinology, general medicine, radiology, rheumatology, etc.
2. The resident will attend Grand Rounds at Halifax Hospital on a weekly basis.
3. The resident will attend lectures sponsored by the University of Florida Department of Ophthalmology and the Gainesville VA Medical Center.
4. The resident will attend one national optometric continuing education conference.
5. The resident will attend VISN 8 VA sponsored optometric conferences.
6. The resident will participate in Journal Club meetings on a regular basis.
7. The resident will attend locally sponsored lectures by Dr. Filutowski or Dr. Dunn.
8. The resident will obtain and keep current certification in CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation)

### **Goal 4**

**To enhance the resident's knowledge of advanced eye care procedures, low vision examinations, and the care of post-op surgical patients.**

#### **Objectives:**

1. The resident will observe a number of ocular surgical cases and participate in the post-op care of these patients.
2. The resident will develop a working knowledge of ocular photography, ultrasound, and OCT.
3. The resident will observe a variety of outpatient procedures to include phacoemulsification, panretinal and focal photocoagulation, IVK and Avastin injections, LASIK, laser trabeculoplasty, and YAG capsulotomy. The resident will be involved in the post-op care of these patients.
4. The resident will be instructed in the low vision examination of visually impaired patients and participate in their evaluation.

### **Goal 5**

**To engage the resident in scholarly activities.**

#### **Objectives:**

1. The resident will become familiar with the process involved in writing a paper of such quality that it can be submitted for publication to a recognized

- professional journal.
2. The resident will become familiar with preparing and submitting a poster to be displayed at an optometric conference.
  3. The resident will observe FDA clinical trials (when available) for which Dr. Dunn is an investigator.

## **Goal 6**

**To enhance the communication, teaching, and supervisory skills of the resident.**

### **Objectives:**

1. The resident will assist in the supervising and teaching of optometry students, ophthalmic technicians, work-study students and volunteer staff.
2. The resident will interact daily with the faculty and staff of the Daytona Outpatient Clinic and weekly with the ophthalmologists and staff of the Florida Retinal Institute and the Filutowski Cataract and LASIK Institute. The resident will interact daily by one or more of the following methods with the Orlando VA optometry and ophthalmology staff: telephone, the computerized networked record system, digital photos and telemedicine.
3. The resident will learn how to initiate consultations, provide written and verbal communication concerning the patient's ocular and medical status, and coordinate follow-up of consultative services both within and external to the VA system.

## **Curriculum**

The residents will be required to participate in a structured educational program whose emphasis is on direct patient care. The resident will attend Halifax Grand Rounds, Pearls for Practices lectures at GVAMC/Shands, local ophthalmology lectures, and VA Optometry Residency Grand Rounds. The residents will participate in the NOVA Resident's day program.

Grand Rounds are held Friday mornings from 7:30-8:30AM at Halifax Hospital and are approved for continuing education medical credits by the state of Florida. Friday afternoons from 3:00-4:30 are reserved for educational activities at the VA. The residents assign journal articles to the externs and lead journal club. Periodically, the residents present their grand round lectures to the externs and available staff. The residents present a board review to the externs and coach externs on board exam study techniques.

During the first month of the residency, the residents will rotate to other departments in the DBOPC eye clinic to gain a better understanding of other disciplines.

The resident will attend CME meetings sponsored by the Filutowski Cataract and LASIK Institute or Florida Retinal Institute which are offered periodically. Other dinner CME opportunities are available through Halifax hospital and the local optometric association if the resident is interested in attending.

On the first Tuesday of each month, all day (8 hour) DBOPC lectures, training, and clinic-wide meetings are held. During this time the entire outpatient clinic is closed to patient care. The

resident will attend Specialty Team meetings which are composed of physicians, nurses and other professional and administrative staff. The resident will represent the interests and concerns of the eye clinic and educate the consulting physicians on eye clinic policies. General medical lectures and safety and training courses will also be offered during the day. The resident will be required to obtain current CPR certification.

Although not a low vision residency program, the resident will be instructed in low vision techniques with demonstrations and educational programs presented by low vision vendors.

The resident will be required to attend one major educational conference per year.

The resident will present powerpoint presentations at VISN 8 Grand Rounds, Nova Residents Day, and will submit a case history poster to either the AOA, AAO, or SECO conferences. The resident will be responsible for leading Journal club. The resident will write a manuscript of publishable quality and will observe FDA clinical trials (when occurring) at Florida Retinal Institute.

### **Resident Weekly Schedule**

A typical weekly schedule is as follows:

Monday – 8-12 AM Observation and patient care with Dr. Dunn at the Florida Retinal Institute (residents alternate weekly). The resident examines both new and return patients at the VA Clinic from 1:00-4:00 PM. Urgent consults may be seen as well. The time from 4:00-4:30 PM is reserved for scholarly activities.

Tuesday – 8-12 AM Observation and patient care at the Filutowski Cataract and LASIK Institute and outpatient surgical center (residents alternate weekly). The resident examines both new and return patients at the VA Clinic from 1:00-4:00 PM. Urgent consults may be seen as well. The time from 4:00-4:30 PM is reserved for scholarly activities.

Wednesday –The resident examines both new and return patients at the VA clinic from 8:00-12:00 AM and from 1-4:00 PM. Urgent consults may be seen as well. The time from 4:00-4:30 PM is reserved for scholarly activities.

Thursday –8:00-12:00 AM. Observation and patient care at Dr. Lugo's corneal practice (residents alternate). The resident examines VA clinic new and return patients from 1-4:00 PM. A one hour extended low vision exam is scheduled from 2:00-3:00. Basic low vision exams may be done on any day when time allows. The time from 4:00-4:30 PM is reserved for scholarly activities.

Friday -Grand Rounds @ Halifax hospital from 7:30-8:30 AM. New and return patient care is scheduled at the VA clinic from 9:00-12:00 AM and 1:00-3:00 PM. From 3:00-4:30 PM, the residents conduct Journal club with the externs and periodically lecture.

## **Program Sponsor and Affiliates**

**Sponsor:** William Chappell Jr. Daytona Beach Outpatient VA Clinic

**Academic Affiliate:** Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry

**Clinical Affiliates:** The Florida Retinal Institute; William Dunn, M.D.

The Filutowski Cataract and LASIK Institute; Konrad Filutowski, M.D., Corneal Practice of Miguel Lugo, M.D.

## **Resident Eligibility Criteria**

**The following qualifications are required to apply for the resident program:**

1. Candidates must possess an OD degree from a COE-accredited institution or be in their final year of training at such an institution.
2. Candidates must have passed Part I of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) examination and either have passed part II or be scheduled to sit for Part II of the examination at the time of application.
3. Candidates should have a grade point average greater than 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
4. By law, candidates must be citizens of the United States.
5. Candidates must be eligible for licensure as an optometrist in the State of Florida and must obtain licensure in Florida or another state.

## **Non-discrimination Policy**

In Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title II of the Older Americans Amendments of 1975, no candidate will be discriminated against based upon race, sex, religion, creed, national origin, age, or non-disqualifying physical impairment.

## **Salary and Benefits**

Resident's compensation is determined by the VA Office of Academic Affiliations and increases each year. In 2009, the stipend was \$30,099. In addition, the resident receives \$2,303 in employer share FICA and \$4,603 in employer share benefits for a total of \$37,005 total allocation to trainee. The resident has the opportunity to acquire partially subsidized health insurance at the VA. Residents earn four hours per 2 week pay period of annual (vacation) leave and four hours per 2 week pay period of sick leave. In addition, residents get authorized leave to attend a national optometry meeting and to attend several of UF Department of Ophthalmology's "Pearls" education programs. They receive a day of authorized absence for travel for boards.

## **Professional Liability Insurance**

The VA does not require liability insurance. The resident is covered under the Federal Tort Claims Act as long as they are acting within the scope of their assignment. This means that any resident in an established assignment has the same protection and rights as a VA

employee. The residents get liability protection for their work at the VA and associated VA clinics only. This insurance does not cover moonlighting activities on the weekends.

### **Requirements for Completion**

1. The resident is required to attend all clinical assignments with the exception of approved annual, sick, and administrative leave.
2. The resident is required to complete the twelve month training program in its entirety.
3. The resident is required to complete (and submit on time where applicable) all didactic and scholarly assignments including:
  - a. Research paper of publishable quality; as edited and deemed submissible to a journal by assigned faculty mentor(s).
  - b. All grand rounds presentations (power point)
  - c. Clinical poster to be submitted to AAO, AOA, or SECO conferences.
  - d. Attendance at all Halifax Hospital multidisciplinary grand rounds lecture
  - e. Attendance at all assigned lectures (GVAMC, OVAMC, DBOPC).
  - f. Journal club assignments/participation.
  - g. Presentation at Nova Resident's Day
4. The resident is required to keep an accurate log of all patients seen, and to submit logs to the Residency Coordinator upon request.
5. The resident must receive satisfactory evaluations from the residency preceptors.
6. The resident is required to complete faculty and program evaluations as assigned by the Residency Coordinator.
7. The resident is required to treat all patients, faculty, staff, and students in a respectful fashion, and to demonstrate good judgment to safeguard patient well-being and safety. The resident must display exemplary professional and ethical conduct at all times for the length of the residency.
8. The resident is required to do everything possible to ensure patient privacy, including protecting personally identifiable patient data and maintenance of a secure and protected work space.

