

The Dimock Center

Residency in Ocular Disease

Emphasis Areas: Community Health & Primary Care Optometry

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Nicole Pogue, OD, FAAO (poguen@neco.edu)

SITE LOCATION: The Dimock Center
Eye Care Services
Roxbury, MA 02119
(617) 442-8800 ext 1230

NUMBER OF POSITIONS: One

ESTABLISHED IN: 1994

A cooperative program between the New England College of Optometry (NECO) and The Dimock Center (DC).

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Residency in Community Health Optometry at The Dimock Center is to provide the resident with advanced clinical training and experience in the delivery of optometric care in an interdisciplinary, primary care setting. Emphasis is placed on community health and the development of the optometrist as a member of a multidisciplinary health and human service team.

PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: Goal 1:

The resident will gain intensive experience in all areas of primary care optometry with emphasis on the management of complex cases. Objectives:

- Perform comprehensive eye exams for patients of all ages
- Provide problem specific emergency care for patients with eye injuries, eye infections, etc.
- Apply standards of care and development management strategies for all areas of primary optometric care including:
 - Age appropriate minimum expected data base for comprehensive eye exams.
 - Optometric care of the patient with diabetes, hypertension, HIV, Hepatitis C, sickle cell, and hypercholesterolemia.
 - Evaluation and management of conjunctivitis, anterior uveitis and ocular injury.
 - Evaluation and management of non-strabismic binocular anomalies.
- Perform a range of contact lens fittings and follow up care to soft, rigid, and scleral contact lenses patients.
- Develop an understanding of optometric standards of care.
- Develop an understanding of the principles of managed care.



Goal 2:

The resident will enhance his/her skills and competency in all areas of primary optometric care.

Objectives:

- Work with residency supervisor and a team of preceptors to develop clinical skills including direct supervision in the following areas:
 - Dilated fundus evaluation with 20D/BIO and slit lamp exam with 90D, 78D, and fundus contact lens
 - Undilated fundus evaluation
 - Gonioscopy
 - OCT
 - Scleral indentation
 - Corneal topography
 - Pachymetry
- The resident will develop advanced, beyond entry level skills through practice and/or observations in the following areas:
 - Fitting and management of specialty contact lenses including aspheric, toric, and multifocal soft and RGP lenses.
 - Utilize and interpret age-appropriate procedures to determine the presence and differential diagnosis for amblyopia and strabismus.
 - Utilize and interpret advanced diagnostic techniques such as OCT analysis, visual fields, and pachymetry to develop strategies for the diagnosis, management and nonsurgical treatment of glaucoma.
 - Develop strategies for evaluation and treatment of urgent and emergent clinical calls including appropriate telephone triage and coordination of emergency service referrals.
- Enhance competency in low vision and vision therapy training.
- Participate in journal clubs, seminar series, and grand rounds.
- Conduct quality assurance record audits.

Goal 3:

The resident will learn to function effectively as part of a multidisciplinary health and human service team.

Objectives:

- Participate in interdepartmental seminars and in-service trainings.
- Develop appropriate co-management and referral strategies with ophthalmology, medical services, and other patient care services.
- Develop appropriate written and verbal communication skills for interdisciplinary referrals and consultations.
- Collaborate with non-ophthalmic providers on cases requiring patient co-management.



Goal 4:

The resident will develop advanced competency in community based care.

Objectives:

- Develop an understanding of community health issues that impact care.
- Develop a culturally sensitive approach to patient care.
- Develop an understanding of health disparities.
- Participate in and possibly organize vision screenings, community programs and annual health awareness events.
- Develop and implement patient education materials and programs that improve visual health and eliminate barriers to care.
- Complete a community health project.
- Involve the resident in the development and implementation of community health initiatives designed to improve health disparities (following guidelines from Healthy People 2020).
- Complete a publishable-quality manuscript involving clinical research and/or other topics pertaining to improving health disparities.
- Participate in community health initiatives to improve visual health and health disparities of members of the community.
- Participate in clinical research, health services research, public health research, community based research, or scholarship relevant to the needs of the community.

Goal 5:

The resident will develop clinical instructional and precepting skills to enhance and supplement clinical skills.

Objectives:

- Provide direct clinical supervision to optometric interns.
- Develop and present clinical in-service seminars.
- Give feedback for the evaluation of optometric interns.
- Conduct journal article reviews and case presentations.

Goal 6:

The resident will gain experience in conducting scholarly and research activities including writing, publication and oral presentations. Objectives:

- The resident will write a case report of publishable quality.
- The resident will develop an understanding of research and Institutional Review Board (IRB) protocols.
- The resident will complete a clinical research or public health project of publishable quality.
- The resident will attend all NECO Residency Conferences.



- The resident will give a formal presentation at the NECO Spring Residency Conference.
- The resident will attend the annual meeting of the American Academy of Optometry.

RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES: Clinical and Patient Care Activities:

1. Primary optometric care including diagnosis, management and treatment of ocular and visual conditions.
2. Provide appropriate follow up care for his/her patients including coordination of any referrals or consultations necessary for optimum care.
3. Participate in weekly ophthalmology co-management sessions working directly with the onsite ophthalmologist as well as coordinating 4th year interns for ophthalmology clinic.
4. Participate in contact lens clinic with our onsite contact lens specialist seeing and evaluating general and specialty contact lens fits.
5. Participate in pediatric optometry specialty clinic.
6. Participate in an offsite low vision rotation working with a low vision specialist to gain a basic understanding of a low vision exam and how to adequately fit patients with low vision devices.
7. Complete record audits for review by clinical faculty.
8. Actively represent eye care department when working with the IT department and Chief Medical Officer during grant season and throughout the year supplying metrics for existing grants and possible research opportunities for eye care.

Interdisciplinary Activities:

1. Familiarize him/herself with Joint Commission guidelines and Dimock Joint Commission related manuals.
2. Participate in multidisciplinary health care teams.
3. Attend Dimock grand rounds and in-service trainings.
4. Present at least one in-service training to another discipline.
5. Provide written reports or referrals to internists, pediatricians and other health care providers.

Community Health Activities:

1. Participate in vision screenings at Boston local schools precepting NECO first year students; participate in at least one vision screening program on Dimock's campus in conjunction with Head Start program.
2. Organize Dimock's participation in at least one annual event such as Glaucoma Awareness Month, Diabetes Awareness Month, or Save Your Vision Week.
3. Review and update current patient education file materials.
4. Create at least one new patient education document.
5. Participate in cultural competency training seminar.
6. Complete a community health project.



7. Complete a publishable-quality manuscript involving clinical research and/or other topics pertaining to improving health disparities.

Clinical Instruction Activities:

1. Provide direct clinical supervision to optometric interns.
2. Develop and present a quarterly in-service seminar for optometric interns.
3. Participate in biweekly journal article reviews and grand rounds case presentations with optometric interns.
4. Develop and coordinate at least one clinical workshop for optometric interns.

Scholarly Activities:

1. Write a case report of publishable quality.
2. Design and complete a clinical research or public health project of publishable quality.
3. Submit a poster for presentation at an optometric meeting.

Didactic Activities:

1. The resident will complete and summarize five literature searches.
2. The resident will attend quarterly NECO residency conferences and will present at the NECO John E. Asarkof Spring Residency Conference.
3. The resident will attend the annual American Academy of Optometry meeting.
4. The resident is encouraged to attend grand round presentations and other continuing education programs of interest to the resident.

RESIDENCY SCHEDULE:

The residency will be one year in length, beginning July 1 continuous through June 30. The resident is scheduled for 36 – 40 hours of clinical contact time per week.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The resident's annual stipend is \$50,000. The resident is entitled to paid leave as follows: two weeks of vacation, one week of professional development and conference time, up to eleven paid holidays and one week of sick time. Benefits include health and dental insurance, workers' compensation insurance, professional liability protection for residency related patient care, educational/travel stipend, NECO library privileges, and tuition waiver of NECO CE programs.

CRITERIA FOR COMPLETION OF RESIDENCY:

1. The resident should demonstrate clinical competency in all areas of the optometric examination, as evaluated by the residency supervisors and should consistently practice in accordance with established clinical standards of care.
2. The resident is required to keep a detailed electronic log of all program activities as well as an electronic patient care log.
3. The resident is required to complete a paper of publishable quality based on original research, literature review, or a clinical case.



4. The resident is required to complete all activities outlined in Section III above.
5. The resident is required to complete program evaluations and the NECO residency survey.
6. The resident is expected to conduct him/herself in a professional manner and to observe standards of behavior and conduct in accordance with guidelines established by The Dimock Center and NECO.

Periodic performance evaluations of the resident will be conducted by the clinical faculty and reviewed with the resident. Upon evidence of satisfactory completion of all requirements of the program, the resident will be awarded a certificate of completion by NECO and The Dimock Center.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Eligibility requirements:

1. The applicant must have earned an O.D. degree or will have earned such a degree prior to the start of the residency program, from an ACOE accredited school or college of optometry.
2. The applicant is expected to have taken and passed all three parts of the National Board Examination in Optometry. Failure to pass any portion of the National Board exams could result in rescinding of acceptance into the residency program or acceptance on a contingency basis.
3. The resident is expected to obtain licensure in Massachusetts at the examination's first offering and to obtain a Massachusetts controlled substance number. Failure to obtain licensure in Massachusetts could result in dismissal of the resident.
4. The applicant should have an interest in and commitment to primary care optometry, optometric education and to the mission of a community health center.
5. Spanish speaking candidates are encouraged to apply.

Application procedures:

Application instructions can be obtained from the ORMatch Service (ORMatch). www.natmatch.com/ormatch and from Dr. Nicole Pogue, Director of Eye Care Services. The application information will include the following:

1. Letter of intent/career objectives
2. Current Curriculum Vitae
3. Official optometry school transcripts
4. Official copies of NBEO results
5. Three letters of recommendation/evaluation including at least two from fourth year clinical instructors, at least one of which is in a primary care optometric setting.
6. A personal interview is strongly encouraged.
7. Application Deadline January 31, 2022.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Nicole Pogue, OD, FAAO
Director, Eye Care Services
The Dimock Center
55 Dimock Street
Roxbury, MA 02119
(617) 442-8800 x 1232
poguen@neco.edu

or

Nicole Quinn, OD, FAAO
Director of Residencies
New England College of Optometry
424 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02115
(617) 587-5752
QuinnN@neco.edu

