OPHTHALMOLOGY

Ophthalmology offers a challenging career with a fascinating and fast-developing combination of surgical, laser and medical treatments to help patients. It is a specialty in which advances in knowledge and technique move rapidly. Successful management of ophthalmic problems depends on a combination of diagnostic and therapeutic abilities, technical skills of microsurgery, and a holistic understanding of the patient. Ophthalmology involves the management of a wide range of eye conditions. Hence, the scope for subspecialization in this field is very wide.

TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

The NHG-AHPL Ophthalmology Residency Program aims to train a well-rounded resident who is exposed to a wide variety of eye diseases. Spanning five years, the program ensures that you are firmly grounded in comprehensive ophthalmology. You will become a competent cataract surgeon, in addition to being well-versed in managing a wide variety of subspecialty diseases including cornea, vitreo-retina, paediatric ophthalmology and strabismus, glaucoma, oculoplastics, uveitis and neuro-ophthalmology.

The first year of residency will include various preparatory courses such as patient communication and microsurgical courses, as well as protected time for training and education. This takes the form of didactic lectures, wet laboratory sessions, and patient encounters. Clinic emphasis will be on the more emergent eye conditions.

Years 2 to 5 of the Residency will entail rotating among the different sub-specialties to increase exposure to a wide variety of ophthalmological diseases. This is done in a step-wise approach, so that residents have progressively more time in sub-specialty clinics and operating theatres as they get more senior. The final 2 years of residency should see you being able to perform most run-of-the-mill procedures and surgeries independently, while also supervising the junior residents through simple ones.

NHG-AHPL Ophthalmology has built up a strong reputation for training and education over the years - all in a conducive environment. Training plays a big role in our daily schedules, involving everyone from top down. Feedback has also been very positive, as evident from multiple winners of the Best Teacher Awards that have come from our department.

FACULTY MEMBERS

**Program Director**
Dr Llewellyn Lee  
Consultant, TTSH

**Associate Program Director**
Dr Benjamin Chang  
Consultant, KTPH

**Core Faculty**
Dr Leonard Yip  
Consultant, TTSH

Dr Yong Shao Onn  
Consultant, TTSH
**Frequently-Asked Questions**

**Why should I choose the NHG-AHPL Ophthalmology Residency Program?**

Here at NHG-AHPL Ophthalmology Program, we understand how difficult it can be for a new ophthalmology resident, due to lack of familiarity with newly-encountered terms, medical conditions, and equipment. Hence, we will make this steep learning curve as smooth as possible, by having the first year residents concentrate on basic ophthalmology. You are accorded protected time to attend teaching sessions and courses, and regular feedback sessions are done to ensure that you are coping well.

With a large number of consultants, all areas of subspecialty are covered in our department. This gives you excellent exposure, making you a well-rounded ophthalmologist upon exiting the program. Our rich patient load also ensures adequacy in terms of training numbers.

Our annual clinic attendances number about 120,000, while surgeries number about 10 per cent of that figure. We undertake projects that are unique to our department - such as the Cytomegalovirus Retinitis Clinic at the Communicable Diseases Centre and the Mobile Diabetic Retinopathy Photography Unit. These, together with participation in the many local and regional humanitarian projects in which we partake, form part of the enriching training during your time with us.

**What career paths are available after my residency?**

There is a need for more consultant ophthalmologists here in Singapore. Upon successful completion of the residency program, suitable candidates will be offered an associate consultant position within the department. Numerous subspecialties exist under the umbrella of Ophthalmology, and you will be able to do a fellowship in one of these stated below:

- Cornea
- Glaucoma
- Anterior segment
- Vitreo-retina
- Neuro-ophthalmology
- Uveitis
- Oculoplastics
- Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus

**What are the opportunities for research?**

With an ever-growing research culture here at NHG-AHPL Ophthalmology, you will find ample opportunity to perform clinically significant research. Many of our trainees have been to reputable overseas conferences to present their research papers. You will be mentored and guided by senior staff who will share their wealth of experience.
CONTACT DETAILS

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