

American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

“The Edward S. Harkness eye Institute “ / “New York Presbyterian Medical Center” – International Fellowship Training Program

The fellowship at the Edward S. Harkness Eye Institute is organized to provide exposure to a broad range of oculoplastic and orbital diseases. The service has had a unique, longstanding interest in the treatment of orbital and adnexal tumors and Graves’ orbitopathy. The large in-patient and outpatient services at New York Presbyterian Medical Center provides an opportunity for continued exposure to both routine and unusual pathologic entities encountered at international referral centers. The extensive subspecialty expertise within the departments and the close working relationships with affiliated departments within the medical center will broaden the fellow’s educational experience and enhance the understanding of the role of oculoplastic and orbital surgeon in multi-disciplinary teams. It is hoped that the fellowship will serve as a foundation in the field of oculoplastic and orbital surgery.

Enclosed is a description of the activities of the fellow and representative weekly schedule.

Departmental Activities:

The majority of the fellows’ time will be spent in the clinical activities of the preceptors of the fellowship evaluating patients, developing treatment plans, assisting in and performing surgery and managing patients in the postoperative period. In addition to working with Dr. Kazim the fellow is encouraged to observe oculoplastic surgery performed by other members of the department. The fellow will be directly involved with resident teaching. The fellow will also have the opportunity to observe the activities in the division of neuro-ophthalmology. The department has an orthoptist who provides invaluable consultation for monitoring disease progression and planning strabismus surgery. An ocularist is available for treatment of anophthalmic and microphthalmic patients. An electrophysiologist laboratory is also present in the Institute.

An ocular pathology conference is held on a weekly basis and provides an opportunity to review recent specimens and the collection of pathologic slides.

The fellow will participate in the annual resident orbital dissection course and assist in an additional medical student dissection of the region.

Interdisciplinary Activities:

A close working relationship exists with the departments of general plastic surgery, neurosurgery, dermatology, otolaryngology and oral maxillofacial surgery and interventional neuroradiology. Multidisciplinary conferences convene monthly in the fields of Skull-base surgery, Craniofacial surgery, Cutaneous tumors and Moh's surgery. Opportunities exist for the fellow to participate in surgery by the fellow should the interest exist.

Research Activities:

The Fellow is expected to complete a research project that will form the basis of a thesis submitted to ASOPRS. Both clinical and basic science projects are available. Facilities exist to support animal research and surgery. Current areas of research include clinical and cellular investigations into the etiology and treatment of Graves' orbitopathy, the evaluation of new laser systems for cutaneous and orbital surgery, the development of orbital endoscopic surgical techniques, and advances in orbital imaging including the evaluation of a new high field MRI.

Library:

The Harkness Eye Institute is fortunate to have a fully stocked collection devoted to ophthalmology including texts, journals, and video study dating to the 1800's. Extensive holdings are also available in the main medical center library and through interlibrary loan system.

Funding: Limited financial support is available.

ASOPRS Policies: Please note that the International fellowship sponsored by the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery requires that fellowship applicants adhere to the following policies:

1. ECFMG certification.
2. Written commitment from their department chairmen to return to their country of origin and establish a practice emphasizing oculoplastic surgery and teaching
3. Appropriate educational visa (usually a J1).
4. Medical license or permit and malpractice insurance.

The fellowship application should anticipate fulfillment of all the ASOPRS requirements for membership.

The applicant should forward the above documents and three letters of recommendation.