MEDICAL EDUCATION

Ophthalmic Training Programme

By Hassan Al-Arrayed :

The department of Ophthalmology has initiated training programmes for many years. The programme aim is to improve the efficiency of the personnel and to improve the service given to the patient. The staff at the department are involved in a short and long term academic teaching programme for under and post graduate students.

Groups of Trainee

Period of training	No. per year	Programme initiated
minimum 4 years	10 residents	1978
one month each	15 +	1980
3 months	6 +	1981
18 months	20	1986
2 weeks	14	1987
	minimum 4 years one month each 3 months	minimum 10 residents 4 years one month each 3 months 6 + 18 months 20

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Beside the lectures, and seminars the residents involved in the continuous education programme set by the American Academy of Ophthalmology which includes the following:

- Fundamentals and Principles of Ophthalmology.
- 2. Optics, Refraction, and Contact Lenses.
- 3. Intraocular Inflammation, Uveitis, and Ocular Tumors.
- 4. Retina and Vitreous.
- 5. Neuro- Ophthalmology.
- 6. Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus.
- 7. External Disease and Cornea.
- 8. Glaucoma, Lens, and Anterior Segment Trauma.
- 9. Orbit, Eyelids, and Lacrimal System.
- 10. Update on General Medicine.
- 11. Ophthalmic Pathology.

Each week the residents are expected to participate in the journal club, grand round, case presentation and Tuesday clinic meetings.

At the end of each course the residents are asked to take the multiple choice examination to evaluate their standard and how much they gained. Family practice Resident programme are trained in Ophthalmic emergencies, diagnosis and treatment of strabismus, glaucoma, cataract, infection of the external eye in both paediatric and adult age group. At the end of their training they are rated by evaluating their ability to rapport with patients, taking medical histories, physical examination,

proper documentation of progress notes, comprehensive assessment of patients' problems, appropriateness of therapy or treatment programmes.

Rotating residents: These residents are instructed to join all department academic activities and asked to join general and specialty clinics, perform simple diagnostic procedures, and minor operations.

Nursing training: Twenty-two lectures given to this group covering the practical application of diagnostic procedures, early symptomatic presentation of eye disease, various ophthalmic drugs. At the end of sixteen months course a certificate of completing the course is presented.

Medical students: At their 5th and 6th year, they join the department for 3 weeks, the programme for these groups is directed to give them clinical orientation, basic knowledge and experience in systematic examination of ophthalmic cases.

The trainee is asked to attend general clinics, subspeciality clinics such as Lazer Photocoagulation, fluorescein angiography, squint clinic, corneal graft clinic, and radial Keratotomy clinic, electrophysiological studies sessions, ultrasound studies, Yag Laser procedures and ophthalmic bacteriology facilities.

The trainee is exposed to the most recent advances in surgical techniques in cataract extractions with intraocular lens replacement, corneal full thickness grafting and radial Keratotomy surgery. The audio visual facilities at the department provide the students with an easy access for learning ophthalmology using the best and most recent education materials available in the world. The student can spend his time in the seminar room watching ophthalmic video films as the seminar room is well equipped with T.V. monitor, video recorder, slide projector, overhead projector and audiotape recorder set.