

# Vitreoretinal Fellowship

The Eye Institute at WVU offers a two-year combined medical and surgical vitreoretinal fellowship. The fellowship program begins on July 1st and will accept a new fellow yearly.

The vitreoretinal fellowship program was established in 1986 and has graduated over 25 fellows who are successfully practicing in both private and academic positions.

Our retina clinic treats over 17,000 patients each year from the entire state of West Virginia as well as the surrounding three states. The fellowship is structured to emphasize the surgical retinal experience and to optimize the fellow's exposure to medical retinal, ocular oncology, and uveitis pathology. In addition, the fellow will participate in the screening and treatment of infants with retinopathy of prematurity (ROP).

## Fellowship structure

- Surgical experience:
  - The fellow will spend two to three days a week in the operating room with two faculty surgeons.
  - The fellow can expect around 100 primary retinal surgeries (scleral buckling and pars plana vitrectomies) during the first year of training and over 350 primary cases during the second year of training.
  - Facilities:
    - We have two retina-ready operating suites: an ambulatory surgical center and an inpatient surgical unit, both housed at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown, WV. We enjoy state-of-the-art equipment and use small gauge vitrectomy using the most advanced systems in both locations. The operating rooms contain state-of-the-art microscopes with in-room screen visualization and digital recording capability. Both suites are equipped and ready for all aspects of advanced vitreoretinal surgery. In 2019, we opened an additional vitreoretinal surgical suite at a nearby affiliated hospital in Bridgeport WV with similar technical capabilities.
- Medical Experience:

- The fellow will spend approximately three days a week in clinic with four faculty members. The time will be structured to optimize the fellow's experience in the following areas:
  - Post-operative care and management of surgical complications.
  - Diagnosis and treatment of uveitic diseases.
  - Diagnosis and treatment of a broad spectrum of medical retinal diseases.
- Additional responsibility includes occasional staffing of resident clinics at our nearby Veterans Administration Medical Center. This responsibility is shared amongst all fellows and faculties alike.

- Facilities:

- The Eye Institute houses 40 examination rooms.
- Our Diagnostic capabilities include ophthalmic ultrasonography, digital ophthalmic photography, spectral domain optical coherence tomography (OCT), fundus auto-fluorescence (FAF), Fluorescein angiography (IVFA), Indocyanine Green angiography (ICG), and electrophysiological assessment.
- Our in-office interventional capabilities include a state-of-the-art minor procedure room, four lasers, including two Argon (one pattern with indirect headset attachment), one YAG, and one Excimer laser. In addition the clinic is fully equipped for intravitreal injections, photodynamic therapy and pneumatic retinopexy. Nursing staff is provided for logistical support and to assist with the preparation for in-office procedures.

- Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP):

- The fellow will spend approximately one half day a week assisting in the screening and treatment of newborns at risk for retinopathy of prematurity.

- Research:

- The fellow will participate as a sub-investigator on multiple ongoing clinical trials.
- The fellow will be required to be involved or initiate at least one clinical research project leading to presentation or publication per academic year.

- Teaching

- The fellow is required to supervise and teach WVU Ophthalmology residents and medical students in clinics; fellows have historically acted as a junior mentor for our residents in training.

- The fellow is expected to lead our monthly retina conferences with the assistance of the rotating resident, and under the supervision of a retina faculty.
- The fellow is expected to attend weekly Grand Rounds and other retinal conferences as well as monthly Journal Clubs.
- Additional teaching and mentoring of residents is expected when staffing the Veterans Administration Medical Center.

## Benefits

- [Stipends and Benefits](#)
- Paid BLS and ACLS course fees
- Paid Pathology course fees
- One academic meeting per year, additional meetings when presenting.
- 15 days of vacation per year
- Free parking
- Meal allowance card? Still applies?

## Call Schedule

- Retina call: the call is on average split one week at a time between both fellows with an average retina call of two weeks per month.
- General call: the fellows share general call with our departmental clinical faculty which averages approximately four weeks per year

For any additional questions contact the fellowship coordinator:

### **[Danielle Schneider](#), Resident and Fellowship Program Administrator**

Department of Ophthalmology

Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center of West Virginia University

PO Box 9193

Morgantown, WV 26506-9193

Phone: (304) 598-6963

Email: [schneiderda@wvumedicine.org](mailto:schneiderda@wvumedicine.org)

The WVU Department of Ophthalmology participates in the Central Application Service (CAS) through the San Francisco Match. All applications must be submitted through CAS. Our application deadline is October 31.