

Clinical care in the field of Ophthalmology

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Overview

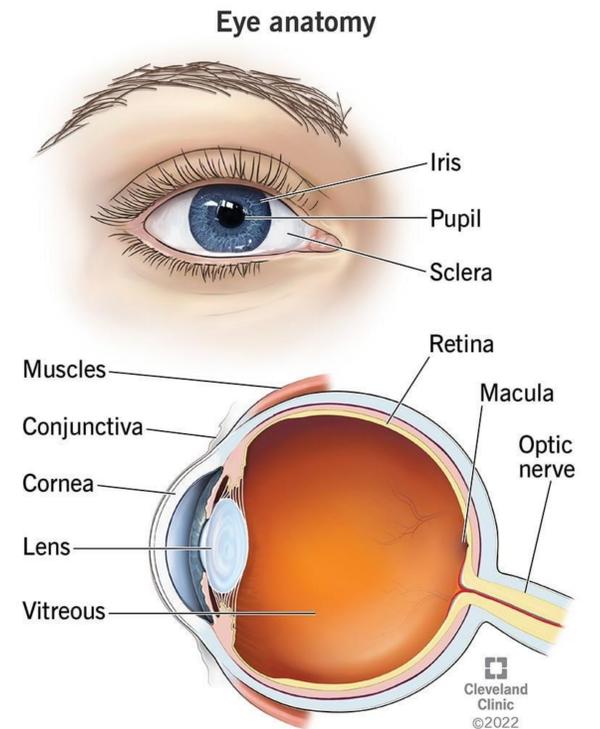
I have been participating in an internship at Northern Utah Eye Center as an Ophthalmic Technician. As part of this internship, and being an ophthalmic technician, I have had the opportunity to interact with patients in the medical field. I have had to learn how to effectively communicate their chief concern, measure their visual acuity, be able to correct their vision through a phoropter, monitor their ocular motility, determine their peripheral vision, verify pupil dilation, measure their intraocular pressure, instill any required eye drops, and take any additional scans of their eyes. Furthermore, I have had to learn to effectively communicate these stats to the ophthalmologists, while being able to scribe for them in a clear and concise manner. Outside of my basic internship responsibilities, I have had the opportunity to gain extensive knowledge in the fields of ophthalmology, medical terminology, and overall medical care.



A basic exam lane with Dr. Karren and I. Dr. Karren was actually giving me stitches at the time.

Enhanced learning

Much more than just basic job procedures. I have had the opportunity to be the one responsible to autoclave/sterilize all the medical supplies in the office. I have had to shadow the doctors in surgery (as shown below). I saw a handful of cataract surgeries and a blepharoplasty procedure. I have learned about many unique eye conditions and possible treatment options. I have even seen how the eyes connect with the rest of the body and can give signs of serious illness, being at risk for a stroke, and other signs of autoimmune disorders.



From right to left: a) The Snellen Eye Chart. The basic way to monitor a patients visual acuity. b) The iCare Tonometer. The tool which measures intraocular pressure in our office. c) Changed our iris color with colored contacts as we were training to put contact lenses in the eye of another person. d) Shadowing the doctors at the South Pointe Surgical Center.

Conclusions

Having an internship in the medical field has been an amazing opportunity to learn hands-on a large part of the anatomy and physiology of the human body. Not only have I grown in my knowledge of science, but I have enhanced my skills of being an effective communicator, typing, patient care, being an effective member of a team, and so much more. I would encourage everyone to get an internship in a field of interest.

