Neuro-opthalmology

Resident Level: PGY-3 or PGY-4

Setting: Residents will be trained to evaluate patients with neuro-ophthalmic disease in the outpatient clinic setting.

Goals: The goal of the neuro-opthalmology rotation is to gain advanced knowledge of neuro-ophthalmic problems to complement basic knowledge obtained on other rotations.

Objectives

Upon Completion of the neuro-ophthalmology elective the resident should be able to:

Take an appropriate history from patients with neuro-ophthalmic complaints with particular attention to complaints of visual loss (both monocular and binocular) and diplopia (both monocular and binocular).

Correlate relevant neuro-anatomy with clinical symptoms of patients with neuro-ophthalmic disorders.

Perform the rudiments of a neuro-ophthalmic examination including assessment of visual acuity, color vision, contrast sensitivity, pupillary testing, slit lamp examination, evaluation of ocular motility, visual fields by confrontation and funduscopic evaluation.

Develop an appropriate differential diagnosis for neuro-ophthalmic complaints based upon the history and physical examination.

Order appropriate diagnostic studies to efficiently and cost effectively arrive at the appropriate diagnosis.

Have a sense of how to approach patients with visual complaints who are often frightened by the knowledge that they have been referred to a sub-specialist who deals with patients who may have brain tumors, MS, aneurysms or other life threatening disorders.

Recognize papilledema and differentiate it from the many other causes of optic disc swelling.

Evaluate patients with infra nuclear and supranuclear causes of disordered ocular motility.