

Compiled by: Bryan Kim, MD

A POCKET GUIDE FOR RESIDENTS

Commonly Used
OPHTHALMOLOGY
ABBREVIATIONS
Alphabetical



Commonly Used
OPHTHALMOLOGY
ABBREVIATIONS *by Category*

A POCKET GUIDE FOR RESIDENTS

Compiled by: Bryan Kim, MD

Listed as one of America's
Best Hospitals for Ophthalmology
by U.S. News & World Report

Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary
UIC Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences

COMMON OPTHALMOLOGY ABBREVIATIONS



EDUCATION The Department of Ophthalmology accepts six residents to its program each year, making it one of nation's largest programs. We are also one of the most competitive with well over 600 applicants annually, of whom 84 are granted interviews. Our selection standards are among the highest. Our incoming residents graduated from prestigious medical schools including Brown, Northwestern, MIT, Cornell, University of Michigan, and University of Southern California. GPA's are typically 4.0 and board scores are rarely lower than the 95th percentile. Most applicants have research experience. In recent years our residents have gone on to prestigious fellowships at UC Davis, University of Chicago, Northwestern, University of Iowa, Oregon Health Sciences University, Bascom Palmer, Duke, UCSF, Emory, Wilmer Eye Institute, and UCLA. Our tradition of excellence in ophthalmologic education is reflected in the leadership positions held by our alumni, who serve as chairs of ophthalmology departments, the dean of a leading medical school, and the director of the National Eye Institute. We continue to train the best and the brightest to become leaders in ophthalmology.

Our fellowship programs in six subspecialties are also highly sought after. Our fellows recently have accepted positions at Duke, Northwestern, University of Texas at San Antonio, and Boston Medical Center, along with other prestigious academic and private practice groups.

Our annual schedule of continuing medical education courses for practicing ophthalmologists focuses on the treatment of difficult and complex cases. Our annual Illinois Eye Review is a week-long, learner-centered program providing participants with factual, conceptual and applied courses taught by faculty selected for their outstanding contributions to the teaching and practice of ophthalmology. The Illinois Eye Review stands apart from other comprehensive ophthalmology reviews by offering a menu of courses that allows participants to build a program around their individual needs and learning styles.

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EDUCATION The Department of Ophthalmology accepts six residents to its program each year, making it one of nation's largest programs. We are also one of the most competitive with well over 600 applicants annually, of whom 84 are granted interviews. Our selection standards are among the highest. Our incoming residents graduated from prestigious medical schools including Brown, Northwestern, MIT, Cornell, University of Michigan, and University of Southern California. GPA's are typically 4.0 and board scores are rarely lower than the 95th percentile. Most applicants have research experience. In recent years our residents have gone on to prestigious fellowships at UC Davis, University of Chicago, Northwestern, University of Iowa, Oregon Health Sciences University, Bascom Palmer, Duke, UCSF, Emory, Wilmer Eye Institute, and UCLA. Our tradition of excellence in ophthalmologic education is reflected in the leadership positions held by our alumni, who serve as chairs of ophthalmology departments, the dean of a leading medical school, and the director of the National Eye Institute. We continue to train the best and the brightest to become leaders in ophthalmology.

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Exam	BCVA	best corrected visual acuity
Refraction	Ax	axis [+/- number sphere] + [number cylinder] x [0-180 axis]
Glaucoma: Procedures/ Lasers etc.	AVx	anterior vitrectomy
	AV	anterior vitreous
Drops/Meds	AT, PFAT	artificial tears, preservative-free artificial tears
Refraction	ARx	autorefractometer
External	APD, RAPD	amblyopia amblyopia (I prefer APD because I am not sure if the "relative" is really needed) APD by reverse testing/con-sensual response
Retina: Diagnoses/findings	ARM/AMD	age-related macular degeneration
Glaucoma: Procedures/ Lasers etc.	ALT	argon laser trabeculoplasty
Nerve/Neuro: Diagnoses/findings	AION	anterior ischemic optic neuropathy
Refraction	Add	amount of plus reading power (for bifocal/progressives)
Lens	ACIOL	anterior chamber intraocular lens
Glaucoma: Diagnoses/findings	ACG	angle closure glaucoma
Lens: Diagnoses/findings	ACC	anterior cortical changes/cataract
Drops/Meds	A1%	atropine 1%
Dilators (red top); Drops/Meds	A/C or AC	anterior chamber

ANATOMY

- OU both eyes
- OD right eye
- OS left eye
- IO inferior oblique
- SO superior oblique
- MR medial rectus
- SR superior rectus
- LR lateral rectus
- IR inferior
- CB ciliary body

EXAM

- Va visual acuity
- cc with refractive correction
- sc without refractive correction
- PH pinhole visual acuity
- PHNI pinhole no improvement
- NI no improvement
- CF @ XX ft counts fingers (specify distance)
- HM @ XX ft hand motion (specify distance)
- LP light perception
- LP c projection light perception with projection
- LP s projection light perception without projection
- NLP no light perception
- CSM central, steady, maintained
- F+F fixes and follows
- BCVA best corrected visual acuity

REFRACTION

- WRx wearing Rx (currently worn eyeglass/contact lens prescription)
- ARx autorefractometer
- MRx manifest refraction
- CRx cycloplegic refraction
- NRx near refraction
- Add amount of plus reading power (for bifocal/progressives)
- R retinoscopy
- Rc cycloplegic retinoscopy
- Sph sphere
- Cyl cylinder
- Ax axis
- [+/- number sphere] + [number cylinder] x [0-180 axis]
- PD Pupillary distance or prism diopter
- Δ prism diopter

GONIOSCOPY

CBB	ciliary body band
SS	scleral spur
TM	trabecular meshwork
SL	Schwalbe's line
PAS	peripheral anterior synechiae
NVA	neovascularization of the angle
EOM	extraocular muscles/movement

ALIGNMENT

E	esophoria
ET	esotropia
E(T)	intermittent esotropia
X	exophoria
XT	exotropia
X(T)	intermittent exotropia
HT	hypertropia
HoT	hypotropia
	(add an apostrophe to indicate at near – eg. ET' means esotropia at near)

EXTERNAL

MRD1	margin to reflex distance 1
MRD2	margin to reflex distance 2
LF	levator function
PF	palpebral fissure
Lag	lid lag
APD, RAPD	afferent papillary defect, relative afferent papillary defect APD by reverse testing/consensual response
CVF	confrontation visual fields
IOP	intraocular pressure
T	tonometry
Ta	applanation (Goldmann) tonometry
Tp	pneumotonometer
CCT/Pachy	central corneal thickness/pachymetry
SLE	slit lamp exam
L/L	lids/lashes
C/S	conjunctiva/sclera
K	cornea
A/C or AC	anterior chamber
D&Q	deep and quiet
C/F	cell/flare (graded 1+ to 4+)

CRVO	central retinal vein occlusion	Retina: Diagnoses/findings
CRAO	central retinal artery occlusion	Retina: Diagnoses/findings
CPC	cyclophotocoagulation	Glaucoma: Procedures/ Lasers etc.
COAG	chronic open angle glaucoma	Glaucoma: Diagnoses/ findings
CNVN	choroidal neovascular membrane	Retina: Diagnoses/findings
CNV	choroidal neovascularization	Retina: Diagnoses/findings
CME	cystoid macular edema	Retina: Diagnoses/findings
CM	Cyclomydri (for peds patients)	Dilators (red top); Drops/Meds
HCL	contact lens/soft .../Hard ...	Other
CL/SCL/	contact lens/soft .../Hard ...	Other
CF @ XX ft	counts fingers (specify distance)	Exam
CE	cataract extraction	
CCT/Pachy	central corneal thickness/ pachymetry	
cc	with refractive correction	Exam
CBB	ciliary body band	Gonioscopy
CB	ciliary body	Anatomy
C1	Cyclogyl (cyclopentolate) 1%	Dilators (red top); Drops/Meds
C/S	conjunctiva/sclera	Slit lamp exam
C/F	cell/flare (graded 1+ to 4+)	Anterior chamber
C/D	cup/disc ratio	Fundus exam
BRVO	branch retinal vein occlusion	Retina: Diagnoses/findings
BRAO	branch retinal artery occlusion	Retina: Diagnoses/findings
BK	band keratopathy	Cornea: Diagnoses/ findings
BDR	background diabetic retinopathy	Retina: Diagnoses/findings

CRX	cycloplegic refraction	Refraction
Cryo	cryotherapy	Glaucoma: Procedures/ Lasers etc.
CSCR	central serous chorioretinopathy	Retina: Diagnoses/findings
CSM	central, steady, maintained	Exam
CSME	clinically significant macular edema (for diabetes)	Retina: Diagnoses/findings
CVF	confrontation visual fields	External
CWS	cotton wool spot	Retina: Diagnoses/findings
Cyl	cylinder	Refraction
D&Q	deep and quiet	Anterior chamber
D/M/V/P	disc/macula/vessels/periphery	Fundus exam
DALK	deep anterior lamellar keratoplasty	Cornea : Procedures/ Lasers etc.
DBH	dot blot heme (hemorrhage)	Retina: Diagnoses/findings
DF	Descemet's fold	Cornea: Diagnoses/findings
DFE	dilated fundus exam	Fundus exam
Dilators (red top)		Drops/Meds
DLK	diffuse lamellar keratitis	Cornea : Procedures/ Lasers etc.
(E(T)	intermittent esotropia	Alignment
E	esophoria	Alignment
ECCE	extracapsular cataract extraction	Procedures/Lasers etc.
ED	epithelial defect	Cornea: Diagnoses/findings
EKC	epidemic keratoconjunctivitis	Cornea: Diagnoses/findings
EOG	electrooculogram	Tests
EOM	extraocular muscles/movement	
ERG	electroretinogram	Tests

- I iris
- R/R round/reactive
- PS posterior synechiae (designate location/clock hours)
- NVI neovascularization of the iris
- L lens
- ACIOL anterior chamber intraocular lens
- PCIOL posterior chamber
- AV anterior vitreous
- DFE dilated fundus exam
- UDFE undilated fundus exam
- C/D cup/disc ratio
- D/M/V/P disc/macula/vessels/periphery
- RPE retinal pigment epithelium

DIAGNOSES/FINDINGS

LIDS

- MGD meibomian gland dysfunction
- MGP meibomian gland plugging

CORNEA

- PEE punctate epithelial erosion
- PEK punctate epithelial keratopathy/keratitis
- SPK superficial punctate keratopathy/keratitis
- SLK superior limbic keratoconjunctivitis
- BK band keratopathy
- ED epithelial defect
- DF Descemet's fold
- KP keratic precipitate
- PK penetrating keratoplasty
- EKC epidemic keratoconjunctivitis
- KCS keratoconjunctivitis sicca
- PBK pseudophakic bullous keratopathy
- IK interstitial keratitis
- KC or KCN keratoconus

- POAG/OAG primary open angle glaucoma/open angle glaucoma
- COAG chronic open angle glaucoma
- JOAG juvenile open angle glaucoma
- SOAG secondary open angle glaucoma
- NVG neovascular glaucoma
- ACG angle closure glaucoma
- NTG/LTG normal/low tension glaucoma
- OHT ocular hypertension
- UGH uveitis glaucoma hyphema syndrome
- PXF pseudoexfoliation

LENS

ACC	anterior cortical changes/cataract
NS	nuclear sclerosis
PCC	posterior cortical changes
PSC	posterior subcapsular cataract
PCO	posterior capsular opacity (post-cataract patients)

RETINA

CWS	cotton wool spot
DBH	dot blot heme (hemorrhage)
BRVO	branch retinal vein occlusion
CRVO	central retinal vein occlusion
BRAO	branch retinal artery occlusion
CRAO	central retinal artery occlusion
BDR	background diabetic retinopathy
NPDR	non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy
PDR	proliferative diabetic retinopathy
PVD	posterior vitreous detachment
NVD	neovascularization of the disc
NVE	neovascularization elsewhere
CSME	clinically significant macular edema (for diabetes)
CME	cystoid macular edema
IRMA	intraretinal microvascular anomalies
ERM	epiretinal membrane
RD	retinal detachment
TRD	tractional detachment
VMT	vitreomacular traction
VH	vitreous hemorrhage
AMD/ARMD	age-related macular degeneration
CNV	choroidal neovascularization
SRNV	subretinal neovascularization
CNVM	choroidal neovascular membrane
SRNVM	subretinal neovascular membrane
POHS	presumed ocular histoplasmosis
CSCR	central serous chorioretinopathy
RP	retinitis pigmentosa

NERVE/NEURO

PPA	peripapillary atrophy
ION	ischemic optic neuropathy
AION	anterior ischemic optic neuropathy
PION	posterior ischemic optic neuropathy
NAION	nonarteritic ischemic optic neuropathy
TON	traumatic optic neuropathy
MG	myasthenia gravis
MS	multiple sclerosis
LHON	Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy

K	cornea	slit lamp exam
JOAG	juvenile open angle glaucoma	Glaucoma: Diagnoses/findings
IRMA	intraretinal microvascular anomalies	Retina: Diagnoses/findings
IR	inferior	Anatomy
IOP	intraocular pressure	External
ION	ischemic optic neuropathy	Nerve/Neuro: Diagnoses/findings
IO	inferior oblique	Anatomy
IK	interstitial keratitis	Cornea: Diagnoses/findings
ICCE	intracapsular cataract extraction	Procedures/Lasers etc.
I	iris	Iris
HVF	Humphrey visual field (usually 30-2; need to specify if 10-2 or red target, etc)	Tests
HT	hyperopia	Alignment
HoT	hypotropia (add an apostrophe to indicate at near – eg, ET' means esotropia at near)	Alignment
HM @ XX	hand motion (specify distance)	Exam
HA	homatropine	Dilators (red top); Drops/Meds
GVF	Goldmann visual field	Tests
GCA	Giant cell arteritis	Nerve/Neuro: Diagnoses/findings
Focal	focal laser photocoagulation	Retina: Procedures/Lasers etc.
FANG	fluorescein angiography	Tests
F+F	fixes and follows	Exam
ET	esotropia	Alignment
ERM	epiretinal membrane	Retina: Diagnoses/findings

MP/Mx	membrane peel/membranectomy	Retina: Procedures/ Lasers etc.
MGP	meibomian gland plugging	Lids: Diagnoses/findings
MGD	meibomian gland dysfunction	Lids: Diagnoses/findings
MG	myasthenia gravis	Nerve/Neuro: Diagnoses/findings
M1	Mydracyl (tropicamide) 1%	Dilators (red top); Drops/Meds
LR	lateral rectus	Anatomy
LP	light perception	Exam
projection	projection	Exam
LPs	light perception without projection	Exam
LPc	light perception with projection	Exam
LI/LPI	laser iridotomy/laser peripheral iridotomy	Glaucoma: Procedures/ Lasers etc.
LHON	Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy	Diagnoses/findings Nerve/Neuro:
LF	levator function	External
LCA	Leber's congenital amaurosis	Nerve/Neuro: Diagnoses/findings
LASIK	laser in situ keratomileusis, also laser-assisted in situ keratomileusis (Hofstetter)	Cornea : Procedures/ Lasers etc.
LASEK	laser epithelial keratomileusis	Cornea : Procedures/ Lasers etc.
Lag	lid lag	External
L/L	lids/lashes	Sit lamp exam
L	lens	Lens
KP	keratic precipitate	Cornea: Diagnoses/ findings
KCS	keratoconjunctivitis sicca	Cornea: Diagnoses/ findings
KC or KCN	keratoconus	Cornea: Diagnoses/ findings

LCA Leber's congenital amaurosis
 GCA Giant cell arteritis
 PXE pseudoxanthoma elasticum

TESTS

VF Visual field
 HVF Humphrey visual field (usually 30-2; need to specify if 10-2 or red target, etc)
 GVF Goldmann visual field
 FANG fluorescein angiography
 OCT optical coherence tomography
 OCT NFL OCT of nerve fiber layer (optic nerve evaluation)
 ERG electroretinogram
 EOG electrooculogram

PROCEDURES/LASERS ETC.

CE cataract extraction
 ECCE extracapsular cataract extraction
 ICCE intracapsular cataract extraction
 Phaco phacoemulsification
 Phaco/ACIOL or Phaco/PCIOL phaco with anterior chamber intraocular lens or posterior chamber intraocular lens

CORNEA

PKP penetrating keratoplasty
 LASIK laser in situ keratomileusis, also laser-assisted in situ keratomileusis (Hofstetter)
 LASEK laser epithelial keratomileusis
 PRK photorefractive keratectomy
 DALK deep anterior lamellar keratoplasty
 DLK diffuse lamellar keratitis
 ALT argon laser trabeculoplasty
 SLT selective laser trabeculoplasty
 LI/LPI laser iridotomy/laser peripheral iridotomy
 CPC cyclophotocoagulation
 Trab trabeculectomy
 Cryo cryotherapy
 AVX anterior vitrectomy

RETINA

- PRP pan-retinal photocoagulation
- Focal focal laser photocoagulation
- PDT photodynamic therapy
- PPV/Vx pars plana vitrectomy/vitrectomy
- MP/Mx membrane peel/membranectomy
- SB scleral buckle

DROPS/MEDS

Dilators (red top)

- M1 Mydracyl (tropicamide) 1%
- N2.5/N10 Neo-Synephrine (phenylephrine) 2.5% or 10%
- CM Cyclomydril (for peds patients)
- C1 Cyclogyl (cyclopentolate) 1%
- HA homatropine
- A1% atropine 1%
- AT, PFAT artificial tears, preservative-free artificial tears
- WC/LS warm compresses/lid scrubs

OTHER

- CL/SCL/HCL contact lens/ soft contact lens/ Hard contact lens

PAS	peripheral anterior synechiae	Gonioscopy
OU	both eyes	Anatomy
OS	left eye	Anatomy
OHT	ocular hypertension	Glaucoma: Diagnoses/ findings
OD	right eye	Anatomy
OCT	optical coherence tomography	Tests
OCT NFL	OCT of nerve fiber layer (optic nerve evaluation)	Tests
NVI	neovascularization of the iris	Iris
NVG	neovascular glaucoma	Glaucoma: Diagnoses/ findings
NVE	neovascularization elsewhere	Retina: Diagnoses/ findings
NVD	neovascularization of the disc	Retina: Diagnoses/ findings
NVA	neovascularization of the angle	Gonioscopy
NTG/LTG	normal/low tension glaucoma	Glaucoma: Diagnoses/ findings
NS	nuclear sclerosis	Lens: Diagnoses/ findings
NRx	near refraction	Refraction
NPDR	non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy	Retina: Diagnoses/ findings
NLP	no light perception	Exam
NI	no improvement	Exam
NAION	nonarteritic ischemic optic neuropathy	Nerve/Neuro: Diagnoses/ findings
N2.5/N10	Neo-Synephrine (phenylephrine) 2.5% or 10%	Dilators (red top); Drops/Meds
MS	multiple sclerosis	Nerve/Neuro: Diagnoses/ findings
MRx	manifest refraction	Refraction
MRD2	margin to reflex distance 2	External
MRD1	margin to reflex distance 1	External
MR	medial rectus	Anatomy

PBK	pseudophakic bullous keratopathy	Cornea: Diagnoses/ findings
PCC	posterior cortical changes	Lens: Diagnoses/ findings
PCIOL	posterior chamber	Lens
PCO	posterior capsular opacity (post-cataract patients)	Lens: Diagnoses/ findings
PD	pupillary distance or prism diopter	Refraction
PDR	proliferative diabetic retinopathy	Retina: Diagnoses/ findings
PDT	photodynamic therapy	Retina: Procedures/ Lasers etc.
PEE	punctate epithelial erosion	Cornea: Diagnoses/ findings
PEK	punctate epithelial keratopathy/keratitis OR photo-electronic keratoscope (Hofstetter)	Cornea: Diagnoses/ findings
PF	palpebral fissure	External
PH	pinhole visual acuity	Exam
Phaco/ ACIOL or Phaco/ PCIOL	phaco with anterior chamber intraocular lens or posterior chamber intraocular lens	Procedures/ Lasers etc.
Phaco	phacoemulsification	Procedures/ Lasers etc.
PHNI	pinhole no improvement	Exam
PION	posterior ischemic optic neuropathy	Nerve/Neuro: Diagnoses/ findings
PK	penetrating keratoplasty	Cornea: Diagnoses/ findings
PKP	penetrating keratoplasty	Cornea: Procedures/ Lasers etc.
POAG/ POAG	primary open angle glaucoma	Glaucoma: Diagnoses/ findings
POHS	presumed ocular histoplasmosis	Retina: Diagnoses/ findings

Sph	sphere	Refraction
SPK	superficial punctate keratopathy/keratitis	Cornea: Diagnoses/Findings
SR	superior rectus	Anatomy
SRNV	subretinal neovascularization	Retina: Diagnoses/Findings
SRNVM	subretinal neovascular membrane	Retina: Diagnoses/Findings
SS	scleral spur	Gonioscopy
T	tonometry	Tonometry
Ta	applanation (Goldmann)	Tonometry
TM	trabecular meshwork	Gonioscopy
TON	traumatic optic neuropathy	Nerve/Neuro: Diagnoses/Findings
TP	pneumotonometer	tonometry
Trab	trabeculectomy	Glaucoma: Procedures/Lasers etc.
TRD	tractional detachment	Retina: Diagnoses/Findings
UDFE	undilated fundus exam	fundus exam
UGH	uveitis glaucoma hyphema syndrome	Glaucoma: Diagnoses/Findings
Va	visual acuity	Exam
VF	visual field	Tests
VH	vitreous hemorrhage	Retina: Diagnoses/Findings
VMT	vitreomacular traction	Retina: Diagnoses/Findings
WC/LS	warm compresses/lid scrubs	Drops/Meds
WRx	wearing Rx (currently worn eyeglass/contact lens prescription)	Refraction
X(T)	intermittent exotropia	Alignment
X	exophoria	Alignment
XT	exotropia	Alignment
Δ	prism diopter	Refraction

PPA	peripapillary atrophy	Nerve/Neuro: Diagnoses/Findings
PPV/Vx	pars plana vitrectomy/vitrectomy	Retina: Procedures/Lasers etc.
PRK	photorefractive keratectomy	Cornea : Procedures/Lasers etc.
PRP	pan-retinal photocoagulation	Retina: Procedures/Lasers etc.
PS	posterior synechiae (designate location/clock hours)	Iris
PSC	posterior subcapsular cataract	Lens: Diagnoses/Findings
PVD	posterior vitreous detachment	Retina: Diagnoses/Findings
PXE	pseudoxanthoma elasticum	Nerve/Neuro: Diagnoses/Findings
PXF	pseudoexfoliation	Glaucoma: Diagnoses/Findings
R/R	round/reactive	Iris
R	retinoscopy	Refraction
Rc	cycloplegic retinoscopy	Refraction
RD	retinal detachment	Retina: Diagnoses/Findings
RP	retinitis pigmentosa	Retina: Diagnoses/Findings
RPE	retinal pigment epithelium	fundus exam
SB	scleral buckle	Retina: Procedures/Lasers etc.
sc	without refractive correction	Exam
SL	Schwalbe's line	Gonioscopy
SLE	slit lamp exam	Slit lamp exam
SLK	superior limbic keratoconjunctivitis	Cornea: Diagnoses/Findings
SLT	selective laser trabeculoplasty	Glaucoma: Procedures/Lasers etc.
SO	superior oblique	Anatomy
SOAG	secondary open angle glaucoma	Glaucoma: Diagnoses/Findings