

Alex Eye Hospital

Observership Program for AAST College of Medicine Students

Preliminary Schedule:

- **Saturday:** 8 am-9 am: All students are expected to attend the orientation in order to understand the patient circulation, meet some of the staff, and know the locations of different departments.
- **Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday:** 9 am-3 pm- there will be 3 shifts:
 - 9 am-11 am, 11 am-1 pm, and 1 pm-3 pm. Students will be appointed a timetable beforehand, which they will be expected to follow. Each student is expected to attend during their week of training: 5 shifts clinic, 3 shifts operating theater, 1 shift reception, 1 shift inpatient department, 1 shift booking department, 1 shift nursing station, 1 shift Lasik, and 1 shift investigations.
- **Thursday:** exact time will be specified: All students will observe the process of sterilizing the operation theatre and will learn how to scrub for a surgical procedure.

Objectives:

- **In the Clinics:**
 - Observe the physician's daily activities and interactions with patients: this will help the student to become familiar with the role the ophthalmologist plays in patient care. (No hands-on patient care, just observe and ask questions).
 - Observe how the physician deals with children and old patients.
 - Get a sense of what working with patients and their families is like.
 - Observe the physicians' interactions with other team members (nurses) to understand collaboration and teamwork.
 - How all the data is recorded on the database.
 - See how the physician communicates with other health professionals (understand that there are different subspecialties)
 - Observe strategies used by the professional to describe their findings and recommendations to patients and family members.
 - Observe how to deal with challenging situations (problem-solving skills).
 - Observe the process of booking a patient for surgery and the investigations ordered.

- How the hospital can help a patient who cannot pay the fee for surgery.
- **Investigations department:**
 - Observation of diagnostic procedures and use of medical equipment.
 - Understand that for certain procedures blood tests are required, also using of dilating eye drops.
 - Consent signing
 - The process of report writing and report revision.
- **In- Patient department:**
 - Observe patient preparation before surgery.
 - Paper work required for patients before surgery.
 - Observe the nursing teams' checklist.
 - Consent signing
 - Room preparation.
- **Booking department:**
 - Observing their role in how they book patients for clinics, investigations, surgeries.
 - Checking the reports before giving them to patients.
- **Reception:**
 - How patients are met and distributed to the clinics (Data entry in the database).
 - Checking if a patient has insurance.
 - Writing reports for the insurance companies.
 - Stamping prescriptions.
- **Operating Theatre:**
 - Observing the role of the nursing staff in meeting the patients (check list).
 - Observe the anaesthesiologist asking the patient or their family questions.
 - Observe different forms of anaesthesia.
 - Observe sterilization of the drapes, gowns and surgical instruments.
 - Observe the sterilization of the eye and draping prior to surgery.
 - Observe surgical procedures.

- Observe the nursing staff recording what was used during surgery.
- Learning how to scrub and dress for a surgical procedure (hands-on).
- Observing how the operation theater is sterilized on Thursdays.
- Get an idea about hospital waste disposal.

➤ **Nursing station:**

Observe the role of the nurses in the clinic.

➤ **Lasik department:**

Observe a Lasik procedure

Expectations:

1. Ensure that you are punctual
2. Be sure to wear a white coat
3. At the OR scrub are available in the hospital (the student can bring his or her own)
4. The student will develop an understanding of and adhere to professional ethics, etiquette, communication, and patient confidentiality.
5. Do not use your cell phone for any reason while shadowing at your clinical site (can be used during breaks).
6. Make note of any questions you may have and ask them during a break or at the end of the day.