

Supplementary data

Ophthalmology Residency Survey in the COVID-19 pandemic era

Dear Colleagues,

The COVID-19 pandemic is having a huge impact in our personal and professional lives. All over the world, medical units are dealing with this new reality and adapting the way of work. For Ophthalmology residents, concerns regarding training programs are emerging. Most likely training requirements are not being accomplished at this time, as almost all elective activities and procedures were interrupted in our units. Some may even be exclusively working at COVID-19 units.

We decided to apply this survey to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in Ophthalmology Training. We would like to evaluate the training activity of the Ophthalmology residents during these challenging times. The possible consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic in current Ophthalmology training should be a focus of discussion, so that future strategies could be planned to balance the negative impact. The data collected with this questionnaire will serve as a basis to understand what measures need to be taken and with which priority.

The survey takes about 5 minutes to complete. By proceeding you agree that your data will be processed. All responses are anonymous.

This questionnaire is meant for residents only.

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1. Gender

Male

Female

2. Age:

3. City of practice:

4. Residency year:

1

2

3

4

5. Are you an ophthalmology resident in a hospital with COVID-19 patients?

Yes

No

6. Where are you currently performing your work activities? (more than one option can be selected)

- Ophthalmology department
- COVID-19 unit in my hospital
- COVID-19 unit out of my hospital
- Home

7. Has the clinical practice in your ophthalmology department changed since the beginning of the pandemic?

- Yes
- No

8. Which in-person activities are being performed in your ophthalmology department during the pandemic? (more than one option can be selected)

- Emergency room/inpatient visits
- Elective general outpatient visits
- Prioritary general outpatient visits
- Elective subspecialty outpatient visits
- Elective surgeries
- Prioritary surgeries (not emergency-related)
- Other:

9. Does your ophthalmology department follow guidelines to decide which patients to attend and operate on during the pandemic?

- Yes, internal guidelines
- Yes, guidelines from National Ophthalmology Society
- Yes, guidelines from International Ophthalmology Society
- No

10. Has your activity as an ophthalmology resident changed since the beginning of the pandemic?

- Yes
- No

11. How was the number of your work hours affected by the pandemic?

- Increased
- Decreased
- Not changed

12. Which activities are you performing in your ophthalmology department during the pandemic? (more than one option can be selected)

- Emergency room/inpatient visits
- Outpatient visits
- Telemedicine
- Surgery
- Laser procedures
- Clinical research
- Administrative duties
- None
- Other:

13. Do you have remote access to electronic medical records from your ophthalmology department to be able to access them at home?

Yes

No

14. Which type of ophthalmology outpatient clinic are you performing during the pandemic? (more than one option can be selected)

Face-to-face general visits

Telemedicine general visits

Face-to-face subspecialty visits

Telemedicine subspecialty visits

None

15. How many ophthalmology outpatient telemedicine visits are you performing weekly during the pandemic?

0-10

11-20

21-30

>30

None

16. How many ophthalmology outpatient face-to-face visits are you performing weekly during the pandemic?

0-10

11-20

21-30

>30

None

17. Which ophthalmology surgical procedures are you participating in during the pandemic?

Cataract surgery

Refractive surgery

Corneal surgery

Retinal surgery

Strabismus surgery

Glaucoma surgery

Oculoplastic surgery

Intravitreal injection

Emergency-related surgery

None

Other

18. How many ophthalmology surgeries did you participate in weekly before the pandemic?

0-5

6-10

11-20

>20

None

19. How many ophthalmology surgeries are you participating in weekly during the pandemic?

0-5

6-10

11-20

>20

None

20. How many cataract surgeries did you participate in weekly before the pandemic?

0-5

6-10

11-20

>20

None

21. How many cataract surgeries are you participating in weekly during the pandemic?

0-5

6-10

11-20

>20

None

22. How was the number of submitted scientific papers affected by the pandemic in your personal experience?

Increased

Decreased

Not changed

23. How was the number of submitted abstracts for conferences affected by the pandemic in your personal experience?

Increased

Decreased

Not changed

24. Do you feel like you have more time to write scientific papers and prepare research studies during the pandemic?

Yes

No

25. Are you participating in virtual conferences and meeting during the pandemic?

Yes

No

26. Please rate the negative impact you think the COVID-19 pandemic will have on your ophthalmology training (1 no impact; 5 maximum impact)

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

27. What measures do you think could minimize the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on your ophthalmology training? (more than one option can be selected)

Extension of the training period

Creation of virtual educational courses

Creation of virtual webinars and conferences

Creation of virtual journal clubs

Creation of virtual platforms of surgical didactic videos

Future extra goal-directed surgical procedures curriculum

Future simulation training programs

28. Which additional measures do you think can be adopted? (optional)