

Postgraduate Diploma / Masters in Cataract and Refractive Surgery (Theory) eLearning Course



faculty of
LIFE and HEALTH SCIENCES
school of biomedical sciences

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Teaching and learning e-evolved



Want to do a postgraduate diploma / masters course in refractive surgery from home in your owntime?

Ulster's, Campus One now offers a comprehensive range of distance learning post graduate / maters courses in Cataract and Refractive Surgery (Theory). The courses are suitable for ophthalmologists, optometrists, orthopists, nurse practitioners and ophthalmic technicians.

What is the course content?

The various modules cover the basics of refractive surgery from how excimer lasers work to ablation profiles and topography and aberrometry. It progresses through microkeratomes and femtosecond lasers to LASEK, LASIK, phakic IOLs and clear lens extractions and the complications and management of each. Pre-op assessment and post-op follow-up, prevention and management of complications, surgical variants of phaco, and modern IOLs for cataract surgery will also be covered. It is designed to be a complete introduction to the how, what and when of cataract and refractive surgery.

All course content is available online through Campus One's learning environment WebCT VISTA. Campus visits are not necessary for successful graduation.

How is this course different?

Students of refractive or cataract surgery are often in full-time employment and have difficulty attending didactic courses. Hence, a novel approach has been used where internationally renowned refractive specialists such as Jorge Alio, Dimitri Azar and Michael Mrochen to mention a few, have given talks which are presented in an e-learning format by Campus One. This enables students to study in their own time and location with the support of e-tutors and course discussion pages. Weekly discussion themes are based on different case scenarios.

Why do we need another course?

At present, cataract and refractive surgery is poorly taught in most countries. In Britain, there is no formal training in refractive surgery and most people who undertake refractive surgery teach themselves with some help from the short introductory courses available from different organisations around the world and specific instrumentation courses organised by the manufacturers. This is an excellent preparatory course for the Royal College of Ophthalmologists refractive oral examination and past students have stated that it was excellent resource for revising for the RCOphth exam.

Course Choice

University certification will follow successful completion of the following modules.

Modules 1- 9

Postgraduate Diploma in Cataract and Refractive Surgery (Theory)

Modules 1-10

Masters in Cataract and Refractive Surgery (Theory)

Although the PGDiploma and Masters in Cataract and Refractive Surgery (Theory) was originally designed and created for ophthalmologists, over the past number of years, an increasing number of other eye care professionals have also undertaken the course. These include optometrists, orthopists, nurse practitioners and laser technicians all of whom have reported this to be a beneficial undertaking for their continued professional development within their individual areas of employment.

Contributors include:

Alison Finlay, Anant Sharma, Antonio Leccisotti, Arthur Cummings, Bill Aylward, Catherine Chisholm, Darlene Dartt, David Gartry, Dimitri Azar, Ionnis Pallikaris, Jay Dermott, Johnny Moore, Jorge Alio, Michael Mrochen, Mukesh Jain, Omar Hakim, Paul Van Saarlos, Rebecca Petris, Stefan Pieger, Sudi Patel and Sunil Shah amongst others.

CET

CET CME and CPD points approval has been obtained for the majority of lectures and presently 2 CET points are available after successful completion of all individual weeks of study. The RCOphth has approved participants can award themselves 1 category C point for each hour of study.

Cost & Start Date

The module content is designed to be accessed at your own time over each academic year. The course will begin in September 2009. Now open for registration (closing date for applications 31 August 2009) and places are limited. Cost is a standard fee per credit point and full costing can be found at:

<http://prospectus.ulster.ac.uk>

Application forms can be obtained at:
www.ulster.ac.uk/applyonline

Contacts

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This e learning course endeavours to provide students with a thorough indepth knowledge of the theory around cataract and refractive surgery. It does not qualify a successful student to undertake the practical surgical activity itself.