

Acuity Eye Group Fellowship Education in Glaucoma

Acuity Eye Group®

Our Vision is Your Vision®

Acuity Eye Group Company Overview

At Acuity Eye Group®, we are committed to helping ophthalmologists realize their full potential while providing best-in-class patient care to all those in need. We are experts in the business of ophthalmology with years of experience in the industry, a world-class surgeon as our founder, and an unwavering commitment to helping both established practice owners and young professionals further their ophthalmic and optometric careers.

Established in 2005 as the Retina Institute of California, we continue to grow our footprint and network of doctors to ensure patients in all communities have access to care. We treat nearly 300,000 patients each year and we have more than 60 doctors caring for patients across our practices.

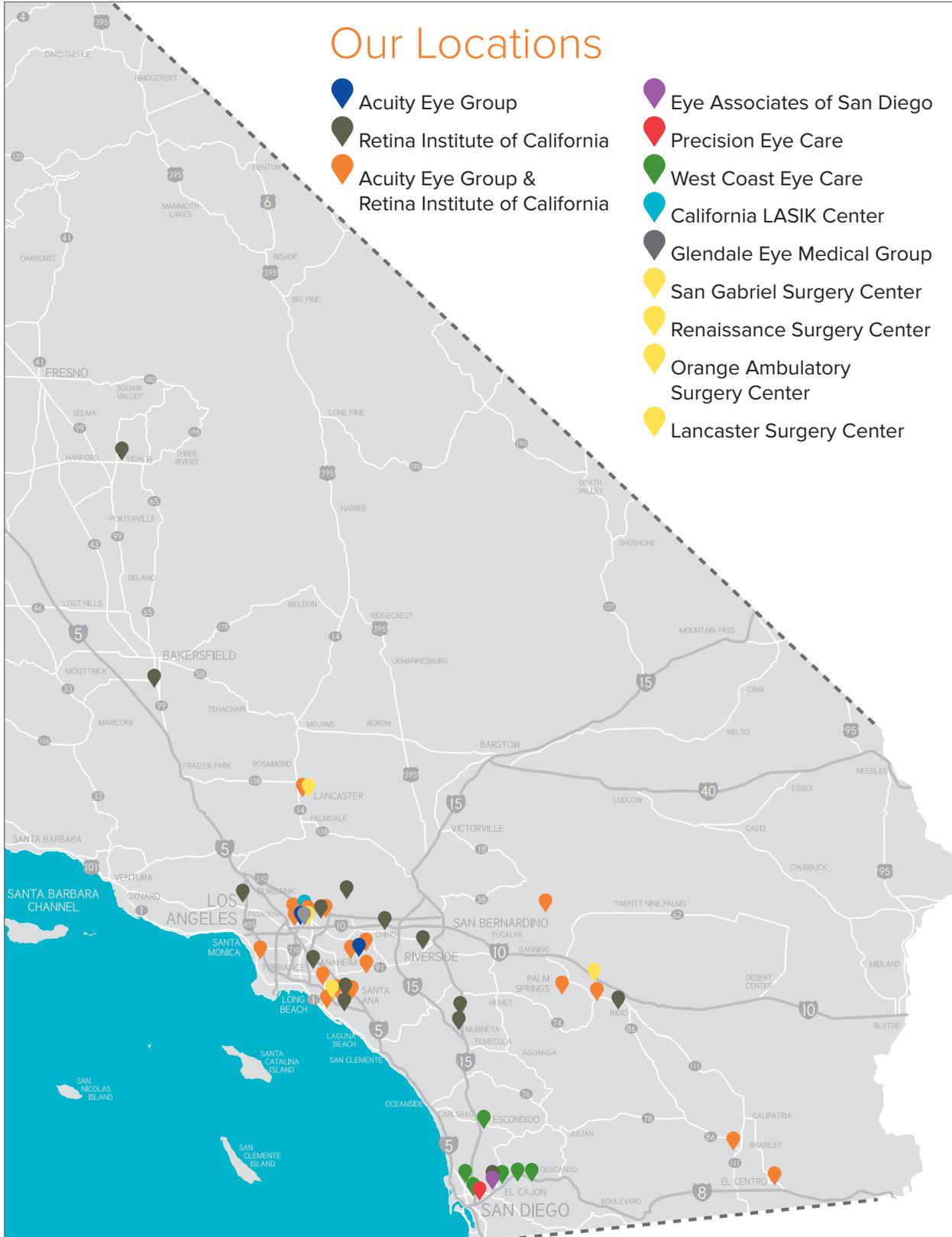
What Makes Us Different?

Acuity Eye Group® is home to some of the nation's top ophthalmologists who specialize not only in general ophthalmology but also in pediatric ophthalmology, cataracts, and glaucoma.

Additionally, our services expand beyond ophthalmology to assure we can offer our patients comprehensive care for all their eye care needs. That's why we also offer optometry and glasses. Through the acquisition of leading ophthalmology practices and the hiring of the best of the best when it comes to ophthalmologists and optometrists we will continue to be the leaders in patient care and clinician development.

To further our ability to care for our patients, Retina Institute of California™ is a member of Acuity Eye Group. This means that we have the unique ability to offer our patients access to an elite team of retina specialists who focus on retina diseases, surgery, ocular oncology and more. This rare partnership assures patients get the greatest comprehensive eye care with a single point of coordination.

Be it the needs of our patients or the goals of our clinicians, we exist to enhance the lives of those who need and provide eye care services. In one statement: Our Vision is Your Vision®.



Acuity Eye Group Fellowship Education in Glaucoma Overview

Goal: To offer one fellow a comprehensive experience and education in medically and surgically managing glaucoma.

Definition and Scope of Subspecialty:

Glaucoma is the subspecialty of ophthalmology that studies and treats disorders of the eye and optic nerve identified as a characteristic optic neuropathy with associated vision loss. Subspecialists in glaucoma manage patients with complex and/or severe glaucoma disorders and associated ocular conditions. Fellowship training in glaucoma requires more in-depth education about the pathophysiology and management of glaucoma and related ocular and systemic disorders than can be obtained in residency training in ophthalmology. This fellowship in glaucoma includes a continuous period of intense and focused training in developing and maintaining knowledge, skills, scholarship, and professionalism.

Duration and Scope of Education:

A minimum of 12 months of clinical training is required, including appropriate short periods for vacation or special assignments. Any fellow entering must be able to fully comply with the clinical requirements of the program and have completed an appropriate residency program for that sub-specialty fellowship.

Educational Program:

1. **Clinical examination skills** – Provide training that will equip the fellows to regularly perform evaluations and consultations, including history and examination, which involve the techniques of ophthalmology specific to glaucoma and related ocular and systemic conditions.
2. **Technical clinical examinations** – The fellow should become proficient in the use of specialized diagnostic testing appropriate to the subspecialty of glaucoma, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Tests of visual function
 - b. Tests of the optic nerve and retinal nerve fiber layer structure
 - c. Assessment of intraocular pressure and pachymetry
 - d. Gonioscopy
3. **Therapeutics** – All fellows in glaucoma must become familiar with the indications for and limitations of pharmacological, laser surgical, and incisional surgical therapies that may be recommended for patients with glaucoma and related conditions.

- 4. Clinical experiences** – The fellows will be exposed to as broad a variety as possible of conditions falling within the scope of glaucoma. The following minimum number of patients seen/procedures performed will be met:
- a. Subspecialty examinations (new and follow up) over 12 months: 1000
 - b. Subspecialty new patient examinations over 12 months: 150
 - c. Subspecialty diagnostic examinations performed: Computerized visual field examinations, optic nerve and retinal nerve fiber layer imaging, optic disc photography, and other adjunctive studies should be performed on a sufficient number of patients to allow the fellow to gain expertise in the indications, interpretation, and limitations of these diagnostic modalities.

5. Minimum Operative Numbers by Fellows for Glaucoma Surgery

Operative Procedures	Primary Surgeon	Primary or First Assistant Surgeon
Angle surgery and/or canal surgery ¹	0	3
Cataract surgery ²	5	20
Cyclophotocoagulation – Endocyclophotocoagulation – Transscleral cyclophotocoagulation	0	5
Ab Externo outflow surgery ³ – Trabeculectomy (including Express USF) – Aqueous shunts – Other ab externo procedures	25	50
Laser iridotomy ⁴	≥1	≥1
Laser trabeculoplasty ⁵	≥1	≥1
Pediatric examinations under anesthesia	0	~3

¹ such as goniotomy, trabeculotomy, trabectome, and canaloplasty

² components of combined procedures may each be counted (e.g. a combined phacoemulsification/IOL and trabeculectomy can be counted as a case in both the cataract surgery and filtering surgery categories)

³ programs are expected to confirm that fellows are competent in both trabeculectomy and aqueous shunt procedures. Additional ab externo procedures may include viscocanalostomy and canaloplasty

⁴ programs are expected to confirm that fellows are competent to perform laser iridotomy

⁵ programs are expected to confirm that fellows are competent to perform laser trabeculoplasty

- 6. Didactic Components** – Fellows should participate in clinical conferences and didactic lectures in glaucoma that are separate from patient care activities and related topics within the parent institution, including presenting cases and lectures, and should include grand rounds, and other departmental conferences.
- 7. Continuing Education** – Fellows will be expected to produce and present to optometrists a minimum of two one-hour Continuing Education topics on glaucoma or related conditions.
- 8. Call Duties** – Fellows will share in primary after hours call duties with attending back-up.

Evaluation:

- 1. Program and Faculty Evaluation** – The educational effectiveness of a program must be evaluated in a systematic manner. In particular, the quality of the curriculum and the extent to which the educational goals have been met by fellows must be assessed. Teaching faculty must be evaluated on a regular basis.
- 2. Fellow Evaluation** – There must be regular evaluation of the fellow's knowledge, skills, and overall performance, including the development of professional attitudes consistent with being a physician. The program director, with the participation of members of the faculty, shall:
 - a. At least semiannually evaluate the knowledge, skills, and professional growth of each fellow, using appropriate criteria and procedures; this quarterly evaluation should include a review of each fellow's surgical log to ensure progress toward an appropriate surgical portfolio over the course of the fellowship.
 - b. Communicate each evaluation to the fellow in a timely manner
 - c. Maintain a permanent record of evaluation for each fellow and have it accessible to the fellow and other authorized personnel
 - d. The program director must provide a written, final evaluation for each fellow who completes the program. The evaluation must include a review of the fellow's performance during the period of training and should verify