
Clinical Overview: Oculofacial Plastic Surgery Fellowship

Purpose & Scope

The USask oculofacial plastic surgery fellowship provides subspecialty training in the medical and surgical management of disorders involving the eyelids, orbit, lacrimal system, and facial structures. It combines functional, reconstructive, oncologic, trauma, and aesthetic surgery within the ophthalmology and plastic surgery interface in both pediatric and adult patients.

Duration: One or Two Years

Start Date: July 1 or October 1

Site(s): Saskatoon City Hospital, Royal University Hospital, Jim Pattison Children's Hospital, Saskatoon Eye Surgeons

Program Director: Dr. Carson Schell

Associate Preceptors: Dr. Ronan Conlon, Dr. Neil Arnstead, Dr. Luke Hnenny, Dr. Rick Jaggi

Core Clinical Domains

1. Eyelid & Periocular Surgery

- Ptosis repair (levator advancement, Müllerectomy, frontalis muscle flap advancement)
- Ectropion/entropion repair
- Blepharoplasty (functional and cosmetic)
- Eyelid reconstruction after trauma or tumor excision
- Eyelid malposition correction

2. Orbital Surgery

- Orbital decompression (thyroid eye disease, trauma, oncology)
- Transorbital Neuroendoscopic Surgery (T.O.N.E.S)
- Orbital tumor biopsy and excision
- Repair of orbital fractures
- Management of orbital inflammatory disease
- Anophthalmic socket management: evisceration, enucleation, exenteration

3. Lacrimal System Surgery

- Pediatric and adult nasolacrimal duct obstruction management
- External and endoscopic dacryocystorhinostomy (DCR)

- Canalicular and lacrimal sac reconstruction
 - 4. **Facial Trauma & Reconstruction**
 - Repair of periocular and facial lacerations
 - Management of midface fractures (in collaboration with ENT/ plastics/ maxillofacial teams)
 - Soft tissue grafts, flaps, and complex reconstructions
 - 5. **Aesthetic & Rejuvenation Procedures**
 - Cosmetic upper and lower blepharoplasty
 - Brow lift (direct, endoscopic, internal)
 - Midface lift
 - Injectable neuromodulators (Botox) and fillers
 - Skin resurfacing (laser, chemical peels)
 - 6. **Oncologic Surgery**
 - Biopsy and excision of eyelid and periocular tumors
 - Mohs reconstruction collaboration
 - Eyelid and periocular flap/graft techniques
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Clinical Training Structure

- **Duration:** 1–2 years
 - **Clinical Exposure:**
 - High-volume surgical experience in both functional and cosmetic cases
 - Dedicated orbital and lacrimal surgical cases
 - Trauma and reconstructive cases from ER/consult services
 - **Multidisciplinary Collaboration:** ENT, neurosurgery, dermatology, plastic surgery, oncology, and radiation oncology
 - **Cosmetic Training:** May include aesthetic facial plastic rotations, private practice exposure, and industry-sponsored workshops
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Didactic & Academic Components

- Weekly academic conferences (case reviews, journal clubs, morbidity & mortality rounds)
 - Teaching responsibilities for residents and medical students
 - Research requirement, completion of a publishable project by the end of fellowship as well as expected presentation at the Canadian Ophthalmology Society annual meeting
 - National/international meeting participation (ASOPRS, AAO, CSOPRS, ESOPRS)
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Career Outcomes

Graduates will be well suited to pursue:

- **Academic positions** (university centers with clinical, teaching, and research responsibilities)
 - **Private or group practice** (often combining reconstructive and cosmetic surgery)
 - **Hybrid models** (academic-affiliated private practices or hospital-based practices)
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Eligibility Requirements

Must have completed, or be completing, a Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada (or equivalent) accredited residency program in Ophthalmology.

Must be eligible for an Educational or Independent license to practice medicine by the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Saskatchewan.

Remaining requirements regarding funding as guided by USask program policy, fellows can expect to be compensated the equivalent salary as their training year.

Please submit the following for review:

1. Current Curriculum Vitae
2. Letter of Intent outlining specific areas of interest within the field, suitability towards this subspecialty, and future career aspirations
3. Three Letters of Reference received directly from the referee to the Fellowship Program Director. One of the letters should be from the applicant's residency program director.
4. Surgical logs for all procedures done prior to applying for this program.

Please return the above documents directly to fellowship@skeyesurgeons.com