

Walter Reed National Military Hospital
Average Rating for 2021 – 2022 4.26

Response Scale: 1 = Poor; 2 = Marginal; 3 = Adequate; 4 = Good; 5 = Excellent; N = NA

Student Comments:

- Techs need some work. Orientation and getting AHLTaA access needs to be readdressed so we can start seeing patients earlier. Short staffed for attendings early on but by the end we were seeing a full patient load. Overall a good site and I'm happy I chose it.
- I thought that site was great in that it provided you with days in urgent care where you would see a variety of things. I also thought it was great to give exposure to management of TBIs. Additionally, they were great in giving exposure to specialty contact lenses, which is something I'm passionate about. I thought it was great variety, but I was usually one of nine or ten externs, which caused some days to have low patient loads.
- I love Walter Reed. It was a good opportunity for a variety of exam types. Attendings were all fantastic but one.

Walter Reed National Military Hospital
Average Rating for 2019 – 2020 3.89

Response Scale: 1 = Poor; 2 = Marginal; 3 = Adequate; 4 = Good; 5 = Excellent; N = NA

Student Comments:

- Strengths: -accessible OCT, HVF, Optomap, fundus camera -high amount of specialty contact lens exposure. I estimate I saw between 25-30 scleral lens fits throughout the summer as well as several GP lenses, hybrid lenses, and specialty soft lenses. Most were keratoconic fits, but did have several central corneal scarring cases as well as post PKP. - high amount of TBI/Binocular Vision evaluations. I estimate I saw between 20-25 TBI patients or other binocular vision evaluations. -exposure to diverse ophthalmology surgical services. I got to observe general cataract surgery, glaucoma surgery, oculoplastic surgery, retina surgery, refractive surgery (LASIK & PRK), as well as prosthetic eye creation and fitting. -good exposure to emergency care. Spent a couple mornings a week in urgent care clinic, where patients could walk-in with urgent needs. Gained comfort with red eye differentials, saw a few retinal detachments, etc.
Weaknesses: -Schedule was sometimes inconsistent. Some days were very busy, others could be slow. This depended somewhat on urgent care, where some days tended to be busy and others slow. It had low predictability. However, there were days in primary care clinic where I felt the schedule could have been fuller or more consistent. This

would have been helpful especially for working on my efficiency. -Patient population was fairly healthy. I felt this was not a drawback because I worked on getting my efficiency down and was more interested in specialty contact lens fitting, but there was not a high proportion of disease (i.e. AMD, diabetic retinopathy, hypertensive retinopathy). Not the rotation sites fault, just is a reality when seeing a lot of active duty personnel.

Externship Office Comments: