

DMEK Courses

For more course
information contact:

Corrina@visiongift.org or
Chris@visiongift.org

Descemet's Membrane Endothelial Keratoplasty ("DMEK") is the latest iteration of endothelial keratoplasty. It replaces only Descemet's membrane and endothelium, and leaves the patient's cornea closer to its original condition than any other transplant technique. One reason why surgeons have yet to widely adopt the DMEK procedure is the difficulty inherent in preparing this delicate membrane for surgery (Terry, 2012).

After extensive internal research and development, Lions VisionGift began offering eye bank prepared DMEK grafts in October of 2011. We are pleased to share the knowledge we have gained with other eye bankers as training consultants. We offer hands-on wet lab training in groups no larger than three at our state of the art facilities in Portland, Oregon. We offer flexible scheduling as well as tiered consulting at a level you feel fits your eye bank's needs.

This course is designed to accelerate the implementation of a like program at your eye bank. We'll cover:

- Tissue selection
- Training on the tissue preparation in a wet lab setting with our processing manager
- Circulating
- Tissue evaluation
- Equipment
- Supplies

Additional items may be provided as needed.

- Forms (procedure, evaluation, surgeon tissue report)
- SOPs
- Training materials (forms and presentations)
- Our validation protocol
- Environmental control SOPs
- Environmental control validation
- Overview of LVG database architecture for tracking and reporting
- On-site training with our Processing Manager after you take the skills back to your program and use them for a while

You can submit proof of attendance along with a description of the training and contact time to the EBAA for CEUs. At this time, we do not know how many CEUs the EBAA will approve for the training course.

<http://restoresight.org.s123902.gridserver.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/CEU-Request-Form.pdf>

Where do I stay?

Lions VisionGift is located in SE Portland about a mile across the river from downtown Portland. We are fairly centrally located, but there is no hotel within walking distance. We recommend that you either stay downtown at the hotel of your choice or at the Red Lion, which is a more budget friendly hotel on the MAX line.

www.redlion.com/conventioncenter

On the MAX line, inner NE Portland. Pretty close to downtown but more budget conscious.

www.thenines.com/

Downtown, on the MAX line, corporate rate of 210-240 (corporate rate code: 380242).

A Starwood hotel.

www.hotelroseportland.com/portland

A trendy downtown boutique hotel.

Do I need to rent a car?

You do not have to have a car depending on where you stay and how you wish to spend your time while you are not at the eye bank. We can pick you up and drop you off at the beginning and end of the day as long as you stay downtown or at the Red Lion Inn. Some hotels are located directly on the MAX light rail line and there is a street car and bus system that can take you most places you would wish to go. PDX airport is accessible by light rail (MAX).

What about food?

You are on your own for breakfast and dinner. We will have lunch provided for the days you are here in order to make the most use of our time. Please let us know in advance if you have any dietary restrictions. This is Portland, so vegan, gluten-free, soy-free, raw food requests will make you "one of us".

What do I need to bring?

We will provide instruments to use but you are free to bring your own if you wish to practice with your actual instrument set. We will provide all PPE. If you wish to do the wet lab in scrubs, you will need to bring your own. We have lockers and changing rooms for your use. We are a business extra casual office. No jeans, but please don't wear a tie.

This all sounds great! How do I arrange this?

We have all participants sign a training agreement with Lions VisionGift. Corrina Patzer, Director of Business Development, coordinates this process. If you have specific questions about the course, feel free to contact Joshua Galloway, Processing Manager or Chris Stoeger, Director of Operations.

Corrina Patzer, Director of Business Development | 503.808.7004 | corrina@visiongift.org

Joshua Galloway, Processing Manager | 503.808.7013 | josh@visiongift.org

Chris Stoeger, Director of Operations | 503.808.7002 | chris@visiongift.org

Program	Cost	Tissues Included	Wet Lab Demonstration	Duration	Pre-Arrival Teleconference	Didactic Training	Validation	SOP	Forms	Tissue Evaluation	Follow-up Verbal Consult	F/U Day Face to Face
Tier 1	\$5,000	10	Up to 2 attendees	2 days	1 hr by phone w/ screen sharing	Tele-conference only	None	None	None	Lab only	None	None
Tier 2	\$12,000	20	Up to 2 attendees + extra observer	2 days lab, 1 day other	1 hr by phone w/ screen sharing	Additional person	Yes	Yes	Yes	Lab w/ training PowerPoint	3 hrs	None
Tier 3	\$15,000	20	Up to 2 attendees + extra observer	2 days lab, 1 day other	1 hr by phone w/ screen sharing	Additional person	Yes	Yes	Yes	Lab w/ training PowerPoint	5 hrs	Yes

Additional tissue may be provided by the contracting bank. 3 full days is not required for Tier 1 & 2 training due to the fact that validation information can be reviewed concurrent with wet lab training if so desired. If more than ten tissues will be required, please send them to:

Lions VisionGift

Attention: DMEK Training
 2201 SE 11th Avenue
 Portland, OR 97214

We request that training tissue that has been tested be non-reactive for HIV, HCV, and HBV antigens as well as free from high risk for CJD. HBC+ tissue is acceptable for training.

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