

ATLANTA VA MEDICAL CENTER



PGY-1 PHARMACY RESIDENCY



2012 – 2013



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Medical Center (Atlanta)
1670 Clairmont Rd. (119)
Decatur, GA 30033**

Dear Prospective Residency Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency at the Atlanta Veterans' Affairs Medical Center. Our program offers a wide variety of opportunities for residents to become exceptional clinicians. Clinical pharmacists at the Atlanta VAMC provide pharmaceutical care in both ambulatory and acute care settings, as well as in a variety of specialty clinics.

The city of Atlanta has become the cultural melting pot of the South and has much to offer in terms of job opportunities, social activities, art, cultural events, great shopping, and restaurants.

Attached you will find a copy of the residency application as well as the program description and requirements. All applicants should submit a signed completed application, a personal cover letter, an official university transcript and three letters of recommendation. An on-site interview in Atlanta is required for qualified applicants prior to the Match. Your completed application packet must be POSTMARKED by December 31, 2011 and your transcript must be REQUESTED by December 16, 2011.

We appreciate your interest in the Atlanta VAMC! If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to email me at demetria.gaines@va.gov.

Sincerely,

Demetria Gaines Pharm.D., BCPS
PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program Director
Atlanta VA Medical Center
Pharmacy Dept (119)
1670 Clairmont Rd
Decatur, GA. 30033
Office: 404-321-6111 Ext 1741
Fax: 404-417-1708



**ATLANTA VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER
DECATUR, GA
*PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency Program Description***

SETTING

The Atlanta VAMC is a tertiary care center that is dedicated to providing both primary and specialized outpatient health care, extended care, acute medical, surgical, intermediate and mental health services with almost all major specialties and subspecialties represented.

MISSION STATEMENT

To develop an integrated healthcare delivery system that improves the quality of health care for the veteran population by providing primary care, specialty care, extended care and related social support services.

RESIDENCY PROGRAM PURPOSE STATEMENT

Pharmacists completing this residency will be competent, compassionate, and independent practitioners providing direct patient care in diverse health care environments. They will be skilled in educating health care professionals, patients, and others regarding medication-related issues. They will practice professionally and with high personal standards in order to be an effective member of the health care team and be innovative in providing pharmacy care practices.

EDUCATIONAL AFFILIATION

As a teaching and research institution, affiliation with other educational organizations is an integral part of our practice (Emory University School of Medicine, Morehouse School of Medicine, Mercer University School of Pharmacy).

POST-GRADUATE YEAR ONE PHARMACY RESIDENCY (PGY1)

The residency is a one-year postgraduate program that provides training in different areas of Pharmacy Practice. Our program is accredited by ASHP and offers three PGY1 Pharmacy general practice residency positions. Pharmaceutical care opportunities are afforded in the following areas:

Learning Experiences

Core Experiences

- Concentrated:
 - Orientation
- Rotational:
 - Critical Care
 - Internal Medicine/Infectious Disease
 - Geriatric Experience
 - Mental Health
 - Primary Care
- Extended:
 - Anticoagulation
 - Long-term Care
- Longitudinal:
 - Conferences
 - Journal Club
 - Grand Rounds
 - Topic Discussion
 - Atlanta Pharmacy Resident Information Exchange (APRIE)

- South Eastern Residency Conference (SERC)
- ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting
- o Drug Distribution (Inpatient Staffing)
- o Drug Information
- o Pharmacy Administration
 - Practice Management
 - Drug Information
- o Teaching Certification (Mercer University)

Elective Rotations

May repeat any of the required rotations

- o Cardiology/Endocrinology
- o Rheumatology
- o HIV Clinic/Hepatitis C Clinic
- o Oncology/Hematology

Other Requirements

Include (not limited to) the following:

- Chief Resident Responsibilities (Rotated Quarterly)
- Research Project (Presented at ASHP Midyear and SERC)
- Journal Clubs (Presented at AVAMC and APRIE)
- Topic Discussions (Monthly)
- Pharmacy Grand Rounds (Presented to AVAMC)
- Teaching Certificate Program through Mercer University
- Mentoring Pharmacy Students
- Pharmacy Newsletter
- P & T Meeting Attendance (Secretary)
- Non-formulary Review
- MUE and/or Pharmacy Quality Assurance Assignments
- In-services to Medical/Pharmacy Staff

RESIDENCY PAY AND BENEFITS:

Appointment Period: June 18, 2012 - June 14, 2013
 Salary: \$42,944
 Benefits: 13 days of both paid annual leave and sick leave, 10 federal holidays, authorized leave for professional meetings, comprehensive health insurance coverage.

CURRENT RESIDENCY CLASS 2011-2012

Vian Nguyen, Pharm.D., Mercer University, Atlanta, GA
 Laura Pruett Pharm.D., University of Tennessee, Memphis, TN
 Christiana Udoji, Pharm.D., University of Tennessee, Memphis, TN

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESS

All applicants must have:

- U.S. Citizenship. Naturalized citizens must provide proof of naturalization.
- Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an accredited School of Pharmacy
- Completed the pharmacy board exam prior to starting (though may be awaiting results)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Transcripts from all schools of pharmacy attended sent directly from the school
- Completed application packet
 - o Letter of Intent
 - o Completed the Atlanta VA PGY1 Residency Application (**see attachment A**)
 - o Three (3) letters of recommendation utilizing the Applicant Recommendation Request Form and Formal Letter from the recommender. (**see attachment B**)

- VA Application (form 10-2850c) <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/medical/pdf/vha-10-2850c-fill.pdf>
- An onsite interview with a 10-15 minute presentation will be required. The Residency Director will contact selected candidates in January to schedule interviews. Once all interviews are completed, we will submit our rank order list of candidates to the National Matching Service.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION PACKET ITEMS:

- The following items must be sent in the same package, POSTMARKED by **December 31, 2011**.
 - Letter of Interest
 - Curriculum Vitae
 - Letters of Reference (three are needed; see attached form)
 - VA Job Application, form 10-2850c (including naturalization documents if applicable)
- The following items must be REQUESTED from the school by **December 16, 2011**.
 - Transcripts from all schools of pharmacy attended sent directly from the school

CLINICAL PHARMACY PRECEPTORS



Clinical Pharmacy Supervisor

Sumita Biswas received a B.S. in Biology from Emory University in 1993 and went on to receive her Pharm.D. from Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy in 1997. After graduation, she completed two ASHP-accredited residencies from Grady Health System in Atlanta- Pharmacy Practice ('97-'98) and Primary Care ('98-'99). Upon completion of the residencies, Dr. Biswas joined the Atlanta VAMC as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Primary Care. She serves as a preceptor to the Primary Care residents in addition to Mercer and UGA pharmacy students. She has given many presentations and inservices in topics related to primary care. Her areas of interest include diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, hyperlipidemia, and asthma. Dr. Biswas worked as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist with the Red Team for approximately 2 years and transferred to Purple Team in 2001 until February 2007. Currently she is the Clinical Pharmacy Supervisor. Dr. Biswas helps coordinate the journal club schedule for the pharmacy residents. She teaches the MOVE program for Weight Loss Management at the medical center as it relates to weight loss medications. She has served as President of the Atlanta Academy of Institutional Pharmacists and Chairman of the Board She regularly attends AAIP and GSHP meetings.

Pharmacy Residency Director

Demetria C. Gaines received a B.S. in Chemistry (2000) and Pharm.D. (2004) from Auburn University. After graduation, she completed an ASHP-accredited primary care pharmacy practice residency at the Atlanta VA Medical Center (2005). Following the completion of her residency, Dr. Gaines worked at Grady Health System in primary care and also gained additional experience at Omnicare and Southern Regional Health System as an agency staff pharmacist. Dr. Gaines later returned to the Atlanta VA Medical Center as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in the Anticoagulation Clinic where she practiced for over a year prior to transferring to her current position as primary care clinical pharmacy specialist at

Lawrenceville Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC). In addition to establishing pharmacotherapy services and managing an anticoagulation clinic at the Lawrenceville CBOC, Dr. Gaines is also involved in the education of veterans through the Diabetes Resource Program and the MOVE program for Weight Loss Management. Additionally, she received BCPS certification in 2008 and is a member of ASHP. Dr. Gaines became the Residency Program Director since December 2010.

Clinical Pharmacy Preceptors

Jacinda Byrd-Smith received her Pharm.D. from Xavier University of Louisiana in 1997. After graduation, she worked at CVS pharmacy for 3 years (1997-2000). She then went on to work at Kaiser Permanente where she worked in their clinical department. As a clinical pharmacist, she assisted new members as they transitioned into Kaiser Permanente and reviewed physician requests for non-formulary and Criteria Restricted Medications for prescription drug benefit coverage. She has also served as an adjunct professor at Georgia Perimeter College lecturing on various topics in the Pharmacy Technician Certification program from 2004-2005. Dr. Byrd-Smith has completed certificate programs in dyslipidemia, asthma and anticoagulation. She then went on to join the Atlanta VA Medical Center in 2006 as a clinical pharmacist. Her current area of practice is the management of anticoagulation therapy.

Sybelle Blakey Scott received a BS in Zoology (1991) and a PharmD (1995) from the University of Florida. She completed an ASHP-accredited pharmacy practice residency at Mercer University/Piedmont Hospital and became a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist in 1997. From 1996 – 1997 she served as a Patient Care Pharmacist and Critical Care Pharmacist at Southern Regional Health System where she established clinical pharmacy services in the medical intensive care unit. Dr. Blakey served as a Clinical Assistant Professor specializing in adult internal medicine at Mercer University and the VA Medical Center Atlanta from 1996–2000. She joined the VA Medical Center Atlanta full –time in 2000 where she serves as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in the Hem/Onc and GI clinics. Dr. Blakey is involved in teaching Emory University medical residents and Hem/Onc fellows as well as pharmacy residents and students and VA healthcare providers. She is also involved with research in both the Hem/Onc and GI departments.

Heidi Cantrell received a BS in Biology from North Georgia College in 1996 and a Pharm.D. from Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy in 2002. She completed an ASHP-accredited primary care pharmacy practice residency at the Atlanta VAMC (2003). After completion of her residency, Dr. Cantrell joined the Atlanta VAMC as a clinical pharmacy specialist. Her current areas of practice include pulmonary medicine, rheumatology, and physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM&R). She completed BCPS certification in 2004.

Gara Coffey received her Pharm.D. from the University of Kentucky in 2001. She completed an ASHP-accredited pharmacy practice residency at Emory University Hospital in 2002. She then went on to complete a psychiatric pharmacy residency at the University of Kentucky in 2003. Upon completion of this, she worked at Grady Health System in Atlanta, GA as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Psychiatry. She joined the VA medical center in 2004. She has held previous appointments with inpatient pharmacy and Anticoagulation Clinic. She currently practices as Eagle's Nest CLC Clinical Pharmacist.

Kathy Davari received her Pharm.D. degree from Mercer University in 1996. After graduation she worked at Eckerd retail pharmacy for 2 years ('96-'98). She, then, completed a primary care pharmacy residency at the Atlanta VAMC.

Upon completion of the residency, she joined the Atlanta VAMC as a primary care clinical pharmacist. She established clinical pharmacy services for Platinum clinic (primary care clinic for mental health patients) and continues to work with Platinum primary care team. She serves as a preceptor to primary care pharmacy residents and fourth year pharmacy students. Her areas of interest are cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, CHF, and psychiatric disorders.

Kathryn DeSilva received her Pharm.D. from the University of Michigan in 1987. Upon completion of an ASHP-accredited clinical pharmacy residency from the Memphis VAMC in 1988, she became a clinical pharmacy specialist in infectious diseases at the James A. Haley Veterans Hospital in Tampa. Since

1993 she has been the clinical pharmacy specialist in infectious diseases at the Atlanta VAMC. She has published papers and has given numerous presentations, lectures, and inservices on various topics in the treatment of infectious diseases. Dr. DeSilva currently practices primarily in the HIV Clinic. Research opportunities exist in the clinical management of this patient population.

Allison Fox received a B.S. in Pharmacy (1995) and Pharm.D. (summa cum laude, 1997) from Auburn University. She completed an ASHP-accredited primary care pharmacy specialty residency at the William S. Middleton Veterans Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin, during which time she was also a clinical instructor for the University of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy. From 1998-1999, she served as an assistant professor of pharmacy practice at the St. Louis College of Pharmacy with a practice site in the adult medicine clinics of the St. Louis County Department of Health. In 1999, she joined Midwestern University Chicago College of Pharmacy as an assistant professor of pharmacy and practiced in the Cardiovascular Risk Reduction Center at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL. Dr. Fox came to the Atlanta VAMC in 2001 and served as a primary care clinical pharmacy specialist on the Red Team for 5 years and at the East Point CBOC for 3 years. She has been a primary care clinical pharmacy specialist at the Newnan CBOC since December 2009. She served as Primary Care Pharmacy Residency Director at the Atlanta VA from 2002-2007. She became a Certified Diabetes Educator (CDE) in 2005 and recertified in 2010. Dr. Fox's teaching background includes lecturing experience in cardiovascular disorders, diabetic complications, and physical assessment, workshop facilitation, and precepting experience of both pharmacy students and residents.

Cathy Gable received a B.B.A in International Business (1994) and a Pharm.D. (2000) from the University of Georgia. She completed an ASHP-accredited primary care pharmacy practice residency at the Atlanta VAMC (2001). Upon completion of her residency, Dr. Gable joined the Atlanta VAMC to establish an adult internal medicine clinical service and ultimately a critical care clinical pharmacy service. Her current areas of practice include the MICU, CCU and SICU with a MICU emphasis. She assists in training Emory ICU residents and fellows along with pharmacy residents. Through her involvement with the Emory program, she has developed multiple ICU protocols and order sets used at the VA. Her areas of interest include critical care, infectious disease, cardiology, diabetes, hyperlipidemia and hypertension.

Clifford (Alman) Garrett received a BS degree in biology and chemistry from Berry College in 1976 and an MBA from Berry College in 1981. After spending 10 years in the chemical manufacturing industry he received a Pharm.D. degree from Mercer University. Dr. Garrett began his career at Redmond Regional Medical Center where he established internal medicine, critical care, and nutritional support clinical pharmacy services. At Redmond he was clinical coordinator and associate director for clinical services. Dr. Garrett also served as clinical consultant for Harbin Clinic's Ambulatory/Home Infusion service. While at RRMC, Dr. Garrett was adjunct professor of Pharmacy Practice for University of Georgia and Mercer University and precepted students for both schools. Dr. Garrett retired from RRMC in 2007 and returned to the work force when the VA opened the CBOC in Rome, Ga. His interests include internal medicine, anticoagulation, and cardiology.

Rosalind McBeth Glover received her Pharm.D. from Florida A&M University in 2005. After graduation, she completed an ASHP-accredited Primary Care Pharmacy Practice residency at the James A Haley VA Hospital in Tampa, FL. She then continued her employment with JAHVA Hospital as a primary care clinical pharmacist managing therapy for patients with diabetes, hypertension, and dyslipidemia. Dr. Glover also served as an adjunct/associate professor for Florida A&M University. In 2008, she joined the Atlanta VAMC as a clinical pharmacy specialist with the Anticoagulation Clinic where she also precepts residents and 4th year Pharm.D. candidates from Mercer University. Dr. Glover is currently working to establish a Telecare Anticoagulation Clinic and plans to sit for the BCPS exam in Ambulatory Care in 2011.

Benjamin D. Goodrich received a B.S. in Health Sciences (2009) and Pharm.D. (2009) from Creighton University. After graduation, he completed an ASHP-accredited primary care pharmacy practice residency at the Atlanta VA Medical Center (2010). Following the completion of his residency, Dr. Goodrich joined the Atlanta VA Medical Center Stockbridge Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) as a clinical pharmacist managing veterans in the areas of anticoagulation, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, and

hypertension. Dr. Goodrich is also actively involved in education programs for veterans through the Diabetes Education and MOVE program classes. He also serves as a preceptor for 4th year Pharm.D. candidates from Mercer University.

Deshondra Clark Green received her PharmD from Florida A&M University in 2003. After graduation, Dr. Green completed an ASHP-accredited pharmacy practice residency at Howard University Hospital in Washington, DC (2004). Upon completion of her residency, Dr. Green accepted a position as an internal medicine clinical pharmacist at Howard University Hospital from 2004-2007. During her tenure, Dr. Green served as an internal medicine preceptor for both students and residents, gave lectures to pharmacy students at Howard University as well as served on several committees. In 2007, Dr. Green joined the VA system as a Primary Care Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at the Washington DC VA Medical Center where she worked with the Orange and Yellow Team as well as the HIV Clinic. She then transferred to the Atlanta VA Medical Center in 2008 as an Internal Medicine Clinical Pharmacy Specialist.

Auna Harsini received her Pharm.D. (1995) from Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy and completed a primary care pharmacy practice residency at VAMC-Atlanta in 1996. After completion of her residency, Dr. Harsini joined the VAMC-Atlanta as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Primary Care working with the Purple Team for 8 years. Dr. Harsini established clinical pharmacy services for the Smyrna CBOC and worked with that team for about 2.5 years. Her special interests include diabetes, lipid, hypertension, and CHF management. She became a Certified Diabetes Educator (CDE) in 1999. She precepts 4th year pharmacy students as an adjunct faculty member for Mercer University. She served as the Residency Program Director at Atlanta-VAMC from 2007-2010.

David Hankin received B.A. in chemistry and theater (1998) from Wabash College and a Pharm.D. (2002) from Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy. He completed an ASHP-accredited psychiatric pharmacy practice residency at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center. Dr. Hankin joined the Atlanta VAMC in July 2003, where he practices as a psychiatric clinical pharmacy specialist and precept future residents on mental health rotations.

Andrea Jackson received a B.S. in Biology from Georgia Southern University in 1993 and a B.S. in Pharmacy from Medical University of South Carolina in 1996. After graduation she worked at Hilton Head Medical Center and Clinics as a Staff Pharmacist (1996-1998). In 1998, she joined Ralph H. Johnson Veterans Medical Center as inpatient/outpatient pharmacist. Later in September 1998, she transferred to the Savannah Primary Care Clinic which is an outpatient veteran affairs clinic associated with Charleston VAMC. In Savannah she was an outpatient pharmacist and in 2000 she transitioned into a primary care clinical pharmacist position. She joined the Atlanta VAMC in 2004 as clinical pharmacy specialist in Anticoagulation Clinic.

Becky Johnson received her Pharm.D. (1996) from Mercer University and completed a pharmacy practice residency (1997) at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, NC. She has been a clinical pharmacy specialist at the Atlanta VAMC since 1997, maintaining an active practice in the subspecialty outpatient clinics (cardiology, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, and hypertension). Dr. Johnson received her board certification in Pharmacotherapy in 1998 with added qualifications in Cardiology in 2000. She was appointed as adjunct clinical instructor at Emory University School of Medicine, Department of Cardiology in 2001 and is active in the training program of the Cardiology Fellows. She has also been a co-investigator in several research projects in the areas of diabetes, cardiovascular risk reduction, and lipid management.

Katisha Johnson-Pitt received her PharmD from the Medical University of South Carolina in 2001. After graduation, she completed an ASHP-accredited Ambulatory Care residency at the Medical College of Virginia located in Richmond. Dr. Johnson-Pitt accepted a position at Shands Jacksonville Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida as an Ambulatory Care Practitioner after completing her residency program. In 2003, Dr. Johnson-Pitt moved to Richmond, VA and accepted a position in internal medicine at Henrico Doctor's Hospital. At this facility, she spearheaded many programs and developed an Ambulatory Care Service and initiated pharmacist services in the Heart and Kidney Transplant Program. In 2005, she completely moved to the Transplant Department and served as primary preceptor for both students and

residents rotating through the Ambulatory Care and Transplant Departments. In 2007, Dr. Johnson-Pitt joined the VA system as a Primary Care Practitioner through the Dorn VA Medical Center. In 2008, she transferred to Atlanta VA Medical Center as an Internal Medicine Clinical Pharmacist.

LaWanda Kemp received her Pharm.D. from the University of Georgia in 1993. She completed the National Pharmacy Cholesterol Council Lipid Training certificate program at the Hunter Holmes McGuire VAMC in Richmond, Virginia in 1994. She completed a Geriatrics Traineeship Program at the Little Rock VAMC in 1996. She worked as the Geriatric Clinical Pharmacist at the Carl Vinson VAMC in Dublin, Georgia from 1995 to 1999. She became a certified geriatric pharmacist in 2000. She currently practices as the Geriatric Clinical Pharmacy Specialist with Geriatrics and Extended Health Care at this facility since July 1999. She also serves as the pharmacy liaison for the Home Based Primary and Palliative Care Program since February 2007. She serves as a preceptor to the primary care pharmacy practice residents.

Alfreda Kinnon received her Pharm.D. (1996) from Florida A & M University and completed a pharmacy practice residency (1997) at the William Jennings Bryan Dorn VA Medical Center in Columbia, SC. She has been a clinical pharmacy specialist at the Atlanta VAMC since 1997. Her areas of interests are hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia and poly-pharmacy management. Dr. Kinnon current works as a clinical pharmacist in the Decatur clinic.

Zerine Kurian received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy in 2009. She went on to complete a one year post-graduate pharmacy practice residency at the Memphis VA Medical Center. In October 2010, she joined the Atlanta VA Medical Center as the Palliative Care Clinical Pharmacist. As the pharmacist for the Palliative Care Consult Team, Dr. Kurian develops a pharmaceutical care plan centered around symptom management for all patients on the Palliative Care Unit. She also assists with patients followed by the Palliative Care Outpatient Clinic. In addition, Dr. Kurian serves as a member of the Pain Management Committee and the Inpatient Pain Management Process Action Team at the Atlanta VAMC. She received her BCPS certification in 2011. Dr. Kurian is a member of ASHP and AAIP.

Kimberly D. Martin is currently a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at the Atlanta VA Medical Center anticoagulation clinic. She received her doctorate in pharmacy from Hampton University School of Pharmacy in 2008 and sequentially completed a PGY1 pharmacy practice residency at the Richmond VA Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia. Prior to joining the Atlanta VA pharmacy service in 2010, Dr. Martin was positioned as a Clinical Pharmacist at the Augusta VA Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia. While in Augusta, she initiated a pharmacotherapy clinic that serviced patients for 11 primary care providers. She also participated in several group clinics and was heavily involved in facilitating care planning for meeting diabetes and lipid performance goals. Dr. Martin currently holds a teaching certificate from the Medical College at Virginia Commonwealth University and plans to continue preceptor development at the Atlanta VA.

James Mitchell received a B.S. in Pharmaceutical Science (2007) and Pharm.D. (2009) from the University of Mississippi. Following graduation, he completed an ASHP-accredited pharmacy practice residency at North Mississippi Medical Center (2010). During his residency, Dr. Mitchell focused much of his time in the ambulatory care setting. Also, in the time during and immediately following his residency, Dr. Mitchell worked with the anticoagulation services at North Mississippi Medical Center's Family Medicine Residency Center and Internal Medicine Associates Clinic. Currently, Dr. Mitchell works with the Atlanta VA Medical Center as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in primary care at the Rome Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC).

Avani Patel received her Pharm. D. from the University of Florida in 2005. After graduation, she completed an ASHP-accredited primary care pharmacy practice residency at the Atlanta VA Medical Center (2006). Dr. Patel joined the Atlanta VA Medical Center after completion of her residency as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist where she practiced in the Anticoagulation Clinic for one year. She then

transferred to the Smyrna CBOC (Community Based Outpatient Clinic), which is now the newly named Austell CBOC where she currently manages patients in areas related to anticoagulation, diabetes, hypertension, and hyperlipidemia. She has volunteered serve as a resident mentor, Mercer student preceptor and is a member of the Residency Selection Committee.

Jaina J. Patel received her B.S. in Biology (2005) from USC Aiken and her Pharm.D. (2009) from the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy. After graduation, she completed an ASHP-accredited primary care pharmacy practice residency at the Atlanta VA Medical Center (2010). Upon completion of her residency, Dr. Patel joined the Atlanta VAMC as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at the East Point Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC). She manages patients with diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia as well as anticoagulation management. Dr. Patel is also involved in the education of veterans through the MOVE program for Weight Loss Management and Diabetes/Hypertension group appointments.

Kimberly Bryce Piro received her Pharm. D. from the University of Florida in 2008. She remained in Florida and completed an ASHP-accredited PGY1 Primary Care pharmacy residency at the Fort Myers VA Outpatient Clinic (2009). Upon completing her residency, Dr. Piro continued to work with the VA in Fort Myers in the areas of diabetes, lipids, hypertension, weight management, and hepatitis C. Dr. Piro joined the Atlanta VAMC team in October 2009 as a clinical pharmacy specialist and practices in the area of anticoagulation management. She received her board certification in anticoagulation care (CACP) in March of 2011. She also teaches the pharmacy component of the MOVE program, precepts 4th year pharmacy students, and acts as one of the pharmacy department's Student APPE Coordinators working closely with Mercer University. Dr. Piro is planning on sitting for the Board Certified Ambulatory Care Specialist Exam in the near future.

Faith Powell received an Associate of Science degree from Chattahoochee Valley Community College (2001) and Pharm.D. from Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy (2006). She completed an ASHP-accredited primary care pharmacy practice residency at the Atlanta VAMC (2007). After completion of her residency, Dr. Powell joined the Atlanta VAMC as a clinical pharmacy specialist where she practiced in the Anticoagulation Clinic for a year before transferring to her current position at the Stockbridge Community Based Outreach Clinic where she now practices as a primary care clinical pharmacy specialist. She also served as a residency advisor for the 2008-2009 year and currently precepts 4th year pharmacy students. Dr. Powell also provides education to veterans through the MOVE! Program for weight loss management and is currently working on establishing a diabetes workshop at the Stockbridge CBOC.

Katheryn (Alexis) Pruitt received her Pharm.D. from the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy in 2007. After graduation, she completed an ASHP-accredited Primary Care Pharmacy Practice residency at the Atlanta VA Medical Center (2008). Upon completion of her residency, Dr. Pruitt joined the Atlanta VAMC as a clinical pharmacy specialist where she practiced in Anticoagulation Management from 2008-2010. Dr. Pruitt currently practices as a PACT clinical pharmacy specialist in our Stockbridge Community Based Outpatient Clinic, specializing in primary care. Dr. Pruitt's interests include diabetes, hypertension, and hyperlipidemia. She served as an advisor for the 2009-2010 PGY1 Pharmacy Residency class and currently serves on the Residency Advisory Board and precepts 4th year Pharm.D. students as an adjunct faculty member for Mercer University. She received Board Certification in Pharmacotherapy in 2010.

Sharita Golphin Reese received a B.S. in Chemistry from Spelman College in 1997 and went on to receive her Pharm.D. from Xavier University of Louisiana in 2001. After graduation, she completed an ASHP-accredited pharmacy practice residency with an emphasis in infectious diseases from the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, GA. In 2002, Dr. Reese joined Grady Health System as a surgery and trauma clinical pharmacist where she served on many hospital committees and was involved in several projects. Dr. Reese joined the Atlanta VAMC as a clinical pharmacy specialist in 2007 in the Anticoagulation Clinic. She served as a residency advisor for the 2008-2009 year. She is currently practicing in the area of acute care medicine.

Denise Martyn Ritchie received an MBA from St Mary's University in 1986. She earned her Pharm.D. degree from Mercer University in 1995 and completed a Primary Care pharmacy practice residency at the Atlanta VAMC in 1996. She became a board certified Anticoagulation Care Provider (CACP) in 1999. Dr. Ritchie has worked as a term instructor for the University of Maryland overseas division and Big Bend Community college overseas division from 1986 through 1989. She established a CHAMPUS surgical recapture program at Davis Monthan Air Force Base in Arizona from 1989-1990. She has worked as a Pharmaceutical Care pharmacist at Kennestone Hospital (1996-1997) and established the Anticoagulation Monitoring Service for WellStar Health Systems (1997-1998). She has worked at the Atlanta VA Medical Center as Lead Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in the Anticoagulation Clinic from 1998 through 2006. This included clinic operations and precepting pharmacy students in fourth year rotations, as well as AVAMC pharmacy residents. Dr. Ritchie is currently serving as ambulatory care clinical pharmacist for the AVAMC Gold team, Womens Wellness Team and OEF/OIF support.

Khadijeh (Mehran) Salles received her Ph.D. from West Virginia University in 1977. She dedicated her time to teaching and research from 1977-1989 at Pahlavi University, Shiraz, Iran, University of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y., and Washington University, St. Louis, MO. She received her Pharm.D. from Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy in 1995. After completion of an ASHP-accredited drug information residency from Grady Health System /Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy in 1996, Dr. Salles spent one year as a senior research associate in industry, and currently serves as Clinical Pharmacist Research Specialist. Her services as a clinical research pharmacist involve advising, managing, and consulting on all research functions as they pertain to the Pharmacy Service. She is an active member of Research & Development Committee.

Erin Spivey received her Pharm.D. from Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in 2009. Following graduation, she completed an ASHP-accredited pharmacy practice residency at the Atlanta VA Medical Center (2010). Dr. Spivey joined the Atlanta VA Medical Center after completion of her residency as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in the East Point Community Based Outreach Clinic (CBOC) where she manages patients in the areas of anticoagulation, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, and hypertension management. Dr. Spivey is also actively involved in the education of veterans through the Diabetes Education classes and the MOVE program. She has plans to sit for the Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialists exam in the future.

Emily Gribble Wood received a BS from Lipscomb University in 2003 and went on to receive her PharmD from Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy in 2006. After graduation, Dr. Wood completed an ASHP-accredited General Pharmacy Practice Residency at the VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System in Nashville, TN (2007). Upon completion of her residency, Dr. Wood worked as a staff pharmacist in both the home infusion and corporate retail settings. In October 2008, Dr. Wood joined the Atlanta VAMC where she is a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in internal medicine. Dr. Wood currently precepts Atlanta VAMC PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residents and 4th year students as an adjunct faculty member for Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

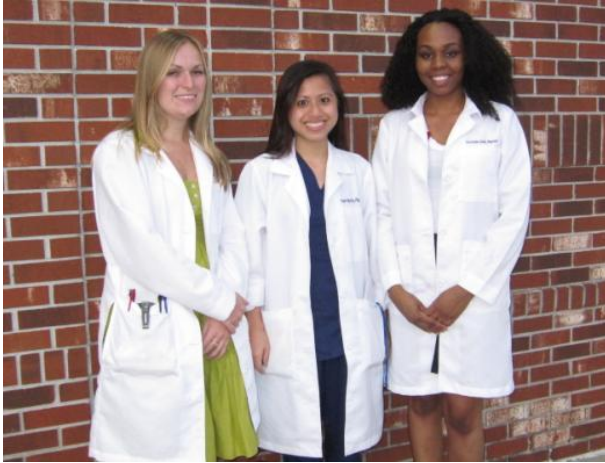
Staffing Preceptor

Diana Marie Durham received a B.S. in Science from Delgado University in 2000 and went on to receive her Pharm.D. from Xavier University of Louisiana in 2004. She began her pharmacy career in 1982 in the Army at Fort Sam Houston Texas. She started working at the VAMC in New Orleans, Louisiana as a technician in 1993, and after graduating from Xavier until 2005. She then transferred to the Atlanta VAMC for a total of 28 years of pharmacy experience. She is currently working as the Quality Assurance Officer for Pharmacy and is responsible for keeping the institution accredited for The Joint Commission and other oversight organizations.

Faculty Mentor

Gina Ryan is an Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice at Mercer University School of Pharmacy. Dr. Ryan received her Pharm.D. and completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency at the University of California in San Francisco. She is also a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist. Dr. Ryan serves as the faculty mentor for the Mercer University Teaching Certification.

PGY-1 RESIDENTS 2011 – 2012



Pictured Left to Right

Laura Pruett received her Pharm.D. from the University of Tennessee School of Pharmacy.

Vian Nguyen received her Pharm.D. from Mercer University School of Pharmacy.

Christiana Udoji received her Pharm.D. from the University of Tennessee School of Pharmacy.

Attachment A



**ATLANTA VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER
DECATUR, GA
PGY-1 Residency Program Application**

Name: _____
Last Name First Name Middle Initial

Permanent Address: _____
Street (Apartment) City State Zip Code

Current Address: _____
Street (Apartment) City State Zip Code

Email address: _____ **Telephone#:** _____ **Match#:** _____

Please list the names and titles of the individuals whom you have requested to send letters. At least one letter should be obtained from your college professor.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Are you a US Citizen? _____

Please note that to be considered for a residency position, the VA requires you to be a US citizen.

Applications Packet Checklist:

- VA Application for Associated Health Occupations: <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/medical/pdf/vha-10-2850c-fill.pdf>
- Letter of Intent: Must include your goals/objectives for completing a residency, rationale for pursuit of residency at the Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and long term goals post-residency
- Curriculum vitae
- Three letters of recommendation including forms– college professor, preceptor, and/or employer
- Transcript requested by December 16, 2011 (May be sent separately by the school. Must be sealed upon arrival.)

Mail Application Packet and Transcript to:

Demetria C. Gaines, PharmD, BCPS
PGY-1 Residency Director
Veteran Affairs Medical Center
Pharmacy Department (119)
1670 Clairmont Rd
Decatur, GA 30033

