

Lexington Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Pharmacy Practice Residency (PGY1)
Psychiatric Specialty Residency (PGY2)

Mission Statement

About Us

PGY1

PGY2

Teaching Certificate

Program Information

Preceptors

Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs is to serve America's veterans and their families with dignity and compassion and to be their principal advocate in the ensuring that they receive the care, support and recognition earned in service to this Nation.

PGY1 Residency Director

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Clinical Coordinator, PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program Director

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PGY2 Residency Director

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Lexington Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Pharmacy Practice Residency (PGY1)
Psychiatric Specialty Residency (PGY2)

[Mission Statement](#)

[About Us](#)

[PGY1](#)

[PGY2](#)

[Teaching Certificate](#)

[Program Information](#)

[Preceptors](#)

About Us

The Lexington Veterans Affairs Medical Center is a fully accredited, two-division, tertiary care medical center with an operating bed complement of 99 hospital beds. Acute medical, neurological, surgical and psychiatric inpatient services are provided at the Cooper Drive Division, located adjacent to the University of Kentucky Medical Center. Other available services include: emergency care, medical-surgical units, acute psychiatry, ICU, progressive care unit, (includes Cardiac Cath Lab) ambulatory surgery, OR/PACU, hemodialysis, medicine specialty clinics, surgery specialty clinics, and outpatient primary and specialty care.

The Leestown Division (LD), located five miles from Cooper Drive, offers inpatient Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) treatment, nursing home care with an operating bed complement of 60 beds, hospice and respite services, home based primary care, prosthetics and orthotics, geriatrics, optometry, mental health, and substance abuse treatment as well as primary care and women health. Plans for an inpatient substance abuse treatment program, a teleretinal unit, and a polytrauma unit are underway.

The veteran population in Lexington's primary service area is estimated at more than 92,000. The Lexington VA Medical Center is part of the VA MidSouth Healthcare Network, which consists of six VA medical centers in Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia with community-based outpatient clinics (CBOCs) in those states as well as Arkansas, Mississippi, Virginia, and Indiana.

Currently, the Lexington VA Medical Center operates a community-based outpatient clinic (CBOC) in Somerset, Kentucky, to provide primary care services to veterans in southern Kentucky and northern Tennessee. Another CBOC is opening in Morehead, Kentucky and with two others planned.

The VA Medical Center is adjacent to the UK Chandler Medical Center and is affiliated with the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy. Lexington is located in central Kentucky in the heart of the Bluegrass. The area is famous for its beautiful horse farms and horse racing. Lexington has a variety of cultural activities and sporting events including college sports, along with minor league baseball and arena football.

Pharmacy Services

The pharmacy service provides 24-hour coverage seven days a week. Patient care is provided by a staff of more than 55 pharmacists, residents, students, and technicians practicing in the outpatient, inpatient, and ambulatory care setting.

Inpatient Service. The Inpatient Pharmacy Section provides comprehensive pharmaceutical services for all inpatients at both the Cooper Drive and Leestown Divisions through the central pharmacy. Services provided include unit-dose preparation, cart-fill preparation and delivery, intravenous admixture preparation, chemotherapeutic agent preparation, Omnicell refilling and order processing. Clinical services including pharmacokinetic monitoring, medication reconciliation and team rounding are provided.

Ambulatory Care. The Outpatient Pharmacy Sections provide comprehensive pharmaceutical services for clinic patients, which include primary care management of patients in the General Medicine, Anticoagulation, Diabetes, Hypertension, Mental Health and Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) Clinics. Some of these clinics utilize Telehealth strategies to provide care to patients at remote locations. Two pharmacist based group clinics provide patient education and monitoring for Diabetes and Heart Failure patients.

Education and Training. Members of the pharmacy staff precept residents and University of Kentucky clinical clerkship students.

Affiliation with the [University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy](#)

Lexington Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Pharmacy Practice Residency (PGY1)
Psychiatric Specialty Residency (PGY2)

Mission Statement

About Us

PGY1

PGY2

Teaching Certificate

Program Information

Preceptors

PGY1 Residency

The pharmacy practice residency program is a one-year, full-time residency program accredited by ASHP currently with 3 positions available. Clinical, operational, and educational aspects of pharmacy practice are emphasized during this training experience. Residents will complete rotations including ambulatory care, internal medicine, geriatrics, psychiatry, primary care, and pharmacoconomics. Other opportunities may be available based on resident interest. Residents will complete and present a primary research project. They will also participate in the UK College of Pharmacy teaching certificate program, which incorporates didactic lecturing, small group/lab facilitation and precepting Doctor of Pharmacy students on clerkship rotations. Continuity clinics are integrated into the program, including pharmacist coordinated clinics, e.g., the anticoagulation and pharmacotherapy clinics.

Required Rotations

Orientation/Hospital Introduction (3-4 weeks)

This orientation provides the resident with an orientation to the hospital and pharmacy service. During this rotation the resident will become familiarized with both the inpatient and outpatient pharmacy services provided by the staff. This includes learning the computer system and how to enter notes, processing prescriptions, checking prescriptions, intravenous admixture preparation, and ACLS certification.

Ambulatory Care (8 weeks)

Pharmacy residents are responsible for managing patient health needs based upon provider referrals. Disease states normally encountered include hypertension, diabetes, and hyperlipidemia. These patients are either managed through outpatient Pharmacotherapy clinic appointments or Telehealth. Residents evaluate drug regimens for efficacy, adherence, and adverse effects, make appropriate adjustments in the medication regimen, and order necessary laboratory tests. Teaching opportunities include precepting pharmacy students and providing education to patients, caregivers, and staff.

Acute Care/Internal Medicine (4-8 weeks)

The pharmacy resident on the medicine rotation plays an active role in managing patients admitted to the medicine service. The patient care team consists of an attending physician, medical residents, interns, students, and pharmacy resident. The pharmacy resident provides this team with drug information and patient-specific medication recommendations with the goal of improving patient outcomes. Other activities include participating in daily rounds, monitoring patient medication therapy, reporting adverse drug reactions, pharmacokinetic monitoring and performing medication reconciliation. Teaching opportunities include giving in-services to health care staff and precepting pharmacy students.

Geriatrics (8 weeks)

The Geriatrics rotation involves managing patients through a variety of settings. This includes conducting Drug Regimen Reviews (DRR) for nursing home patients, Home Based Primary Care, and Pharmacotherapy Telephone Clinic. Drug regimen reviews are completed every 30 days, with recommendations sent to the practitioner. The Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) is service provided to veterans that facilitates their care at home rather than in a nursing home environment. The

to veterans that facilitates their care at home rather than in a nursing home environment. The pharmacist is responsible to review every patient enrolled in HBPC every 90 days and provide recommendations to the providers as necessary. Pharmacotherapy Telephone Clinic involves managing patients through telephone follow-up with diabetes and hyperlipidemia that are referred by their primary care providers. Management of diabetes patients involves utilizing patient recorded blood glucoses or lab drawn A1c values, lipid patients are managed by monitoring lipid panels and tracking their progress. Depending on each individual patient, drug therapy can be changed to help patient achieve their goal for the desired disease state.

Pharmacoeconomics/Formulary Management (4 weeks)

This experience provides the resident an opportunity to learn the general principles involved in managing a VA hospital pharmacy formulary, utilizing formulary management, and pharmacoeconomics principles. During this rotation you will gain an overall understanding of the VA hospital pharmacy service and the various clinical services provided. You will become familiar with and understand the VA Formulary System and the role of National, VISN, and Local P&T committees. There will also be times in which medical literature will need to be used effectively to provide drug information, develop drug protocols, and for special project presentations.

The resident will understand the process of performing a medication use evaluation (MUE) to evaluate drug use, provider prescribing patterns, and/or patient drug utilization to determine appropriateness of drug therapy. The resident will also gain an understanding of the principles involved in the electronic formulary management process using medication use evaluation, case management, treatment guidelines/ criteria for use, cost containment initiatives, non-formulary process, and understand the importance of utilizing formulary management and pharmacoeconomics principles in formulary decision making.

Clinical Staffing

This longitudinal experience is comprised of several different clinical opportunities that allow the resident to interact with a variety of patient populations during any given week. This experience provides the resident an opportunity to participate in the management of patients in a clinic setting for anticoagulation, mental health, diabetes, and congestive heart failure. Residents alternate through each of the four areas during quarterly longitudinal time periods. They will spend 1/2 day each week in one of the four clinics.

The anticoagulation clinic focuses on managing patients taking warfarin. Pharmacists perform education and monitoring using a point of care coagulation monitor. Pharmacists also coordinate peri-procedure anticoagulation management. This clinic involves managing patient both as an ambulatory clinic visit and by telephone.

The mental health pharmacotherapy clinic is designed to help monitor and adjust medication therapies for veterans with mental health disorders. VA psychiatrists refer patients requiring mental health drug therapy adjustment to this pharmacist run clinic. A variety of patient conditions are managed through this clinic, including depression, anxiety, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, PTSD, and others.

The diabetes and congestive heart failure components involves participation in the Group clinics one half-day per week, respectively. These pharmacist run clinics also involves a dietician and nurse. Patients are educated about all aspects of diabetes and CHF and some medication management may also occur during these sessions.

Service (one weekend every 3 weeks)

The primary responsibility of the resident is to provide pharmacokinetic monitoring, warfarin monitoring, and conduct medication reconciliation reviews. Other possible responsibilities include providing pt education and drug information, along with review formulary drug consults for inpatients and patient being discharged.

Required Longitudinal Rotations

Drug Information

Drug Information
Code Response Team
Management/ Administration

Elective Rotations

Psychiatry, Inpatient

Residents are active members of a multidisciplinary team consisting of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurses, and students. Residents are integral in implementation of drug therapy, drug monitoring, providing drug information to the staff, and educating the patients.

Critical Care

Residents participate as an active member of an intensive care team. The patient population consists of both surgical (cardiovascular, general, vascular, neurologic) and medical (cardiology and pulmonary) patients. Residents recommend drug regimens for efficacy, evaluate adverse effects, drug dosing and monitoring, and laboratory tests and provide drug information to the team and nursing staff. Learning is focused on hemodynamic monitoring, infectious diseases, fluid and electrolyte balance, acid-base disorders, nutrition, and ICU pharmacoeconomics/formulary management.

Neurology

The neurology rotation is designed to allow the resident to provide evidence-based, patient-centered medication therapy management with the neurology team. The resident is exposed to in-patient and ambulatory adult neurological conditions with emphasis on stroke, Parkinson's disease, epilepsy, and dementia. The resident will participate in patient care rounds with the in-patient neurology team Monday through Friday. Additionally, the resident will attend neurology pharmacotherapy clinic on Thursday afternoons. Exceptions to these schedules may be made for on-going clinical activities or occasional administrative activities. The resident will participate in disease state discussions, patient-centered discussions, and journal clubs scheduled throughout the month. The resident will attend neurology grand rounds and clinical conference. The resident will also present during one clinical conference.

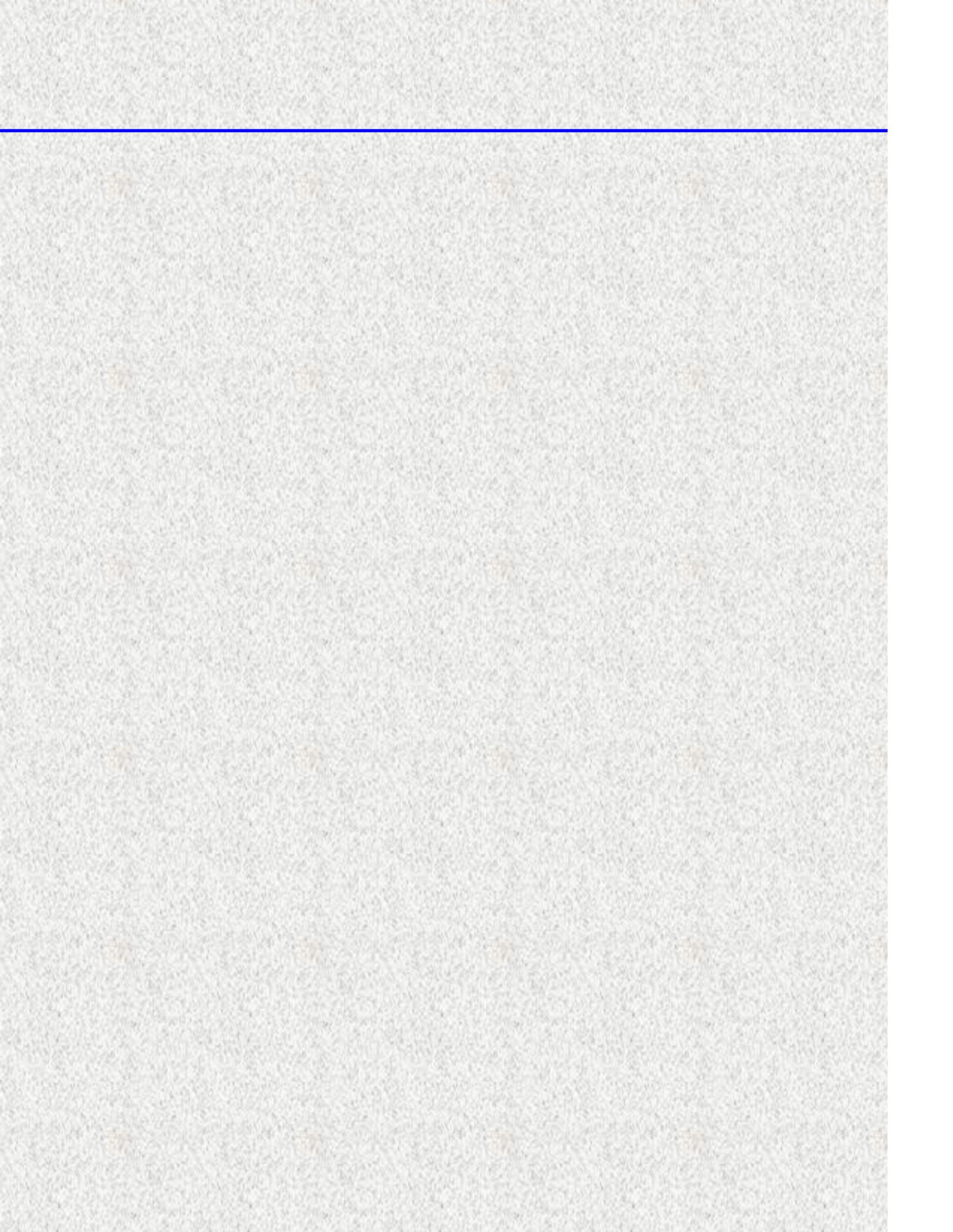
Off-Site Electives

These opportunities are coordinated with the University of Kentucky Medical Center and may be subject to availability of clinical preceptors.

Residents may also repeat VA experiences as an elective as time and schedules permit.

Experiential Requirements

Research Project
Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Certificate Program
Medication Use Evaluation (MUE)
Clinical Conference
Case Presentations
Journal Club Presentations
P&T Minutes Recorder
Student Preceptor
Newsletter Articles
In-service Presentations for Pharmacy and Medical Staff



Lexington Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Pharmacy Practice Residency (PGY1)
Psychiatric Specialty Residency (PGY2)

Mission Statement

About Us

PGY1

PGY2

Teaching Certificate

Program Information

Preceptors

PGY2 Residency

The psychiatric specialty residency program is a one-year, full-time residency program accredited by ASHP with 1 position available. Clinical, operational, and educational aspects of pharmacy practice are emphasized during this training experience. Residents will complete and present a primary research project. They will also perform teaching at the UK College of Pharmacy and precept Pharm.D. students on clerkship rotations.

The main focus of this second-year specialty resident will be in the areas of psychiatric and neurologic conditions. This will be accomplished by completing both required and elective rotations in both inpatient and outpatient psychiatric settings along with neurology rotations in those same types of settings.

Psychiatry

Neurology

The neurology rotation is designed to allow the resident to provide evidence-based, patient-centered medication therapy management with the neurology team. The resident is exposed to in-patient and ambulatory adult neurological conditions with emphasis on stroke, Parkinson's disease, epilepsy, and dementia. The resident will participate in patient care rounds with the in-patient neurology team Monday through Friday. Additionally, the resident will attend neurology pharmacotherapy clinic on Thursday afternoons. Exceptions to these schedules may be made for on-going clinical activities or occasional administrative activities. The resident will participate in disease state discussions, patient-centered discussions, and journal clubs scheduled throughout the month. The resident will attend neurology grand rounds and clinical conference. The resident will also present during one clinical conference.

Off-Site Electives

These opportunities are coordinated with the University of Kentucky Medical Center and may be subject to availability of clinical preceptors. University of Kentucky residents have preference to experiences there and the VA residents' ability to complete one at UK may be affected by this.

Residents may also repeat an earlier experience as an elective considering that time permits and the resident has all other required rotations scheduled.

Non-Experiential Requirements

Research Project
Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Certificate Program
Medication Use Evaluation (MUE)
Case Presentations)
Journal Club Presentations)
P&T Minutes Recorder

P&T Minutes Recorder
Student Preceptor
Newsletter Articles

Lexington Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Pharmacy Practice Residency (PGY1)
Psychiatric Specialty Residency (PGY2)

Mission Statement

About Us

PGY1

PGY2

Teaching Certificate

Program Information

Preceptors

Teaching Certificate

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Certificate

The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Certificate Program (STLC) is a program that is designed for residents to participate in to further develop/enhance their teaching skills for future academic positions. Upon completion of the program, a certificate of completion will be awarded. The following link provides more information about the program: <http://www.mc.uky.edu/pharmacy/residency/teaching.html>.

Description from the Course Syllabus:

Many graduates of the pharmacy residency programs seek careers in academia or have strong interests in academic positions. At the University of Kentucky, multiple teaching opportunities exist for residents and graduate students including lecture experiences, laboratory assistance, small group facilitation, elective rotations, faculty development seminars, and clinical rotation teaching.

The certificate program was developed to introduce participants to academic literature, contemporary pharmacy/health professions education, teaching styles, and philosophies. The primary philosophy of the program is built upon the Carnegies Foundation's work on teaching as scholarship. Through attendance at and participation in seminars, documentation of formal teaching experiences (e.g., didactic presentations, laboratory facilitation, clinical teaching), and development of a teaching portfolio, participants can document their participation and experience while earning a certificate of completion. Participants will receive handouts, bibliographies, and web site information to encourage future learning and development.

Originally developed as an on-campus course, the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Certificate (STLC) program has been expanded via teleconference technology to residency sites across Kentucky and Ohio. The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Certificate Program was recognized as a 2004 winner of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Teaching Innovations Award.^{1,2}

¹ Romanelli F, Smith KM, Brandt BF. Certificate program in teaching for pharmacy residents. *Am J Health-Syst Pharm* 2001;58:896-8.

² Romanelli F, Smith KM, Brandt BF. Teaching residents how to teach: a scholarship of teaching and learning certificate program (STLC) for pharmacy residents. *Am J Pharm Ed.* 2005;69:126-32.

Lexington Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Pharmacy Practice Residency (PGY1)
Psychiatric Specialty Residency (PGY2)

Mission Statement

About Us

PGY1

PGY2

Teaching Certificate

Program Information

Preceptors

Program Information

Residency Program Information

Duration:	12 months
Number of PGY1 positions:	3
Number of PGY2 positions:	1
Application Deadline:	January 7 th
Starting Date:	July 1 st
Estimated Stipend:	\$38,000
Interview Required:	Yes

Benefits:

- Health Insurance
- ACLS Certification
- Thirteen (13) vacations days
 - 4 hours of vacation earned per pay period, total 13 days
- Eleven (11) federal holidays
- Thirteen (13) sick days
 - 4 hours of sick leave earned per pay period, total 13 days
- Administrative time for professional meetings
 - ASHP Mid-Year (Early December)
 - Great Lakes Residency Conference (Mid-Late April)
- Free Photocopying
- Medical Media Support
 - For printing of poster for ASHP Mid-Year Meeting
- Part-time Faculty Appointment to University of Kentucky
 - Unlimited access to journals and other reference material through UK

Special Requirements for Acceptance

- Pharmacy Licensure or Eligibility for Licensure
- Doctor of Pharmacy or Equivalent Experience
- United States Citizenship
- Letter of Interest
- College Transcripts
- Curriculum Vitae
- Three (3) letters of recommendation
- Completed Veterans Affairs application for employment
- Completion of PGY1 residency if applying for PGY2 position

Lexington Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Pharmacy Practice Residency (PGY1)
Psychiatric Specialty Residency (PGY2)

[Mission Statement](#)

[About Us](#)

[PGY1](#)

[PGY2](#)

[Teaching Certificate](#)

[Program Information](#)

[Preceptors](#)

Residency Preceptors

[Jamie Knight, Pharm.D., BCPS](#)

Dr. Knight received her Pharm.D. from the University of Kentucky. She completed a pharmacy practice residency here at the Lexington VAMC. Dr. Knight is board certified in pharmacotherapy. Dr. Knight is a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in our ambulatory/primary care clinics. Dr. Knight coordinates pharmaceutical care services for part of the PC Cooper Team. She is also in charge of the Group Diabetes Clinic.

[Wendy Johnson-Deitemeyer, Pharm.D., BCPS](#) [UK COP Website](#)

Dr. Johnson-Deitemeyer received her Pharm.D. from the University of Kentucky. She completed a pharmacy practice residency here at the Lexington VAMC. Dr. Johnson-Deitemeyer is board certified in pharmacotherapy. Dr. Johnson-Deitemeyer is a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in anticoagulation and coordinates pharmaceutical care services for the Anticoagulation Clinic. She is an assistant professor at the University of Kentucky College Of Pharmacy.

[Jill Johnson, Pharm.D., BCPS, CGP](#) [UK COP Website](#)

Dr. Johnson received her Pharm.D. from the University of Tennessee-Memphis. She completed a pharmacy practice residency with emphasis in geriatrics at the VAMC in Memphis, Tennessee. Dr. Johnson is board certified in pharmacotherapy and a certified geriatric pharmacotherapist. Dr. Johnson is a Geriatric Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in long term care and home based primary care and also assists with clinical services for the PC Leestown team. She is an assistant professor at the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy.



[Matthew Lane, Pharm.D., BCPS](#) [UK COP Website](#)

Dr. Lane received his BS in pharmacy from the University of Kansas and his Pharm.D. from the University of Kentucky. Subsequently he completed a pharmacy practice and critical care residency at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Lane is board certified in pharmacotherapy. His clinical practice areas are surgery, infectious disease and critical care. He is the clinical coordinator



in pharmacotherapy. His clinical practice areas are surgery, infectious disease, and critical care. He is the clinical coordinator of pharmacy service and assistant professor at the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy.

[Adrienne Matson, Pharm.D., BCPS](#)

Dr. Matson received her Pharm.D. from the University of Kentucky. She completed a pharmacy practice residency here at the Lexington VAMC. Dr. Matson is board certified in pharmacotherapy. Dr. Matson is a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist and provides anticoagulation monitoring for inpatients and medication reconciliation for newly admitted patients.



[Bruce McIntosh, Pharm.D.](#)

[UK COP Website](#)

Dr. McIntosh received his BS in pharmacy and Pharm.D. from the University of Kentucky. He completed a pharmacy practice residency here at the Lexington VAMC. Dr. McIntosh is a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist and provides pharmacoconomics and formulary management for the Lexington VAMC. He is also an assistant professor at the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy.

[Sheila Botts, Pharm.D., BCPP](#)

[UK COP Website](#)

Dr. Botts received both her BS and Pharm.D. degrees from the University of Kentucky. She completed a specialty practice residency in psychiatric pharmacy and a two year research fellowship at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Dr. Botts is a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist practicing with the mental health service and also is an assistant professor at the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy.



[Melody Ryan, Pharm.D., MPH, BCPS, CGP](#)

[UK COP Website](#)

Dr. Ryan received both her BS and Pharm.D. degrees from the University of Kentucky. She completed a pharmacy practice residency at Duke University Medical Center and a two year fellowship in Neuroscience at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Ryan is a certified geriatric pharmacotherapist and is board certified in pharmacotherapy. Dr. Ryan also completed a Master's in Public Health. Dr. Ryan coordinates pharmaceutical care for the Neurology Service. Dr. Ryan is an associate professor with tenure at the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy.