The Health Care System

The Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS) has provided comprehensive, world class health care to Veterans for over ninety years. SAVAHCS is an integrated Veteran’s Affairs health care system consisting of an over 250 bed hospital, multiple primary care and specialty clinics, two urban community outpatient clinics, and five community outpatient clinics in Tucson’s outlying areas serving more than 50,000 Veterans annually. A wide range of inpatient and primary care services are provided in the medical center including acute care medicine, primary care, surgery, neurology, infectious diseases, nephrology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, rheumatology, pulmonary, cardiology, oncology, mental health, and emergency medicine. The Pharmacy Service is a technology and patient safety leader assisted by the extensive use of robotics and automation.

SAVAHCS has a strong affiliation with the University of Arizona allied healthcare profession programs. Students and residents from many disciplines, including pharmacy students from several schools of pharmacy, are trained at SAVAHCS each year.

The SAVAHCS Pharmacy Service is a highly integrated, progressive clinical practice model that encompasses approximately 130 pharmacy staff members, including 30 Clinical Pharmacy Practitioners (CPP) in a variety of practice settings. Additionally, the Pharmacy Service is a technology and patient safety leader assisted by the extensive use of robotics and automation.

PGY2 Oncology Program Purpose

The purpose of the SAVAHCS Oncology PGY2 pharmacy residency program builds on Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) education and PGY1 pharmacy residency program to contribute to the development of clinical pharmacists in specialized area of practice. The PGY2 residency provides residents with opportunities to function independently as practitioners by conceptualizing and integrating accumulated experience and knowledge and incorporating both into the provision of patient care or other advanced practice settings. The resident who successfully completes this accredited PGY2 pharmacy residency program is prepared for advanced patient care, academic, or other specialized positions, along with board certification.

Program Description

The oncology pharmacy residency program is a 12-month period of education and experiences that focuses on oncology pharmacy practice and is designed to provide ongoing pharmacy clinical activities while promoting the resident’s needs. The program provides the resident with clinical experiences in a variety of patients and oncology diagnoses. The resident works with physicians, nurse practitioners, and nurses in providing quality pharmaceutical services to patients and their families.

During the year, the PGY2 resident gives presentations, such as patient management conferences, in-services to nurses and physicians, journal clubs, and an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) accredited one hour continuing education presentation. A research project is required with the resident presenting a poster outlining research hypothesis & methods and the completed project at a regional or national meeting. The resident is also expected to assist in the teaching/precepting of pharmacy students and PGY1 Pharmacy Practice residents who are taking an elective in oncology pharmacy at SAVAHCS.

Typical Resident Schedule

July: Orientation
August-Sept: Outpatient Oncology #1
October: Hem/Onc Consult Service #1
November: BMT
December: Gyn/Onc (virtual), Elective
January: Hem/onc Consult Service #2
February: Research/CE
March: Hospice/Palliative Care
April: Elective
May-June: Outpatient Oncology #2

Extended Experiences: provider newsletter, patient newsletter, oncology staffing (one half day each week), MUE, surgical oncology, PBM experience, CE presentation, inpatient oncology, management conference, journal club, oncology investigational research

Longitudinal Experiences: oral antineoplastic clinic, ADR reporting, research project, oncology pharmacy administration, teaching/education.

BMT (off-site) offered at: Audie L. Murphy VA Hospital (San Antonio, TX), VA Tennessee Valley Medical Center (Nashville, TN), VA Puget Sound Health Care System (Seattle, WA).

Elective options include: academia, informatics, hematology, ID, mental health, may repeat area of interest, and other electives can be selected based on resident interest.

Benefits

The residency stipend is $45,704 and includes full federal healthcare benefits. Residents accumulate 13 days of paid vacation time, 13 days of paid sick time, and have 10 paid federal holidays per year.
Applicant Qualifications
• United States citizenship
• Doctor of pharmacy degree from an American Council on Pharmaceutical Education accredited school of pharmacy
• Completion of an ASHP accredited PGY1 pharmacy program
• Pharmacist licensure in any of the United States of America
• National Matching Service and Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application Service (PhORCAS) registration

*Application Requirements:
All application materials are due by January 2nd, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

The SAVAHCS PGY2 Oncology Residency program participates in the Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application Service (PhORCAS). Please refer to SAVAHCS PGY2 Oncology listing on ASHP website for details regarding PhORCAS. Incomplete applications are not considered for review.

In addition to the PhORCAS application standard requirements, there are additional requirements for SAVAHCS that reference writers must complete:

Each reference must provide comments for a minimum of 10 of the “Characteristics Evaluated” on the PhORCAS Standardized Reference form PLUS either complete the first 3 narrative comments on the PhORCAS form or provide a traditional letter of reference that addresses the areas listed in the narrative questions. These additional requirements must be communicated by the applicant to their references.

Materials submitted by the candidate are subject to textual similarity review for detection of plagiarism.

Candidates who are not invited to interview are notified no later than January 30th

This residency site agrees that no person at this site solicits, accepts, or uses any ranking-related information from any residency applicant.

Please refer to the Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA) requirements of Health Professions Trainees (HPTs): Resources for Health Professions Trainees Coming to VA | Eligibility and Forms - Office of Academic Affiliations

For further information or questions, please contact:

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Pharmacy Service (1-119)
3601 S. 6th Ave
Tucson, AZ 85723

Website:
http://www.tucson.va.gov/docs/PGY2_Pharmacy_Residency.pdf

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