Residency Program Overview
The VACCHCS ASHP-accredited PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program is a 12-month comprehensive year of education and experience with an emphasis on direct pharmaceutical care. Residents serve the Veteran population in both ambulatory and acute care settings. Emphasis is also placed on experiences in leadership, practice management, and teaching. Residents participate in formulary and medication-use management, medication safety, performance improvement, and providing education to patients and health professionals. VACCHCS offers a progressive training environment, where pharmacists with a scope of practice may prescribe medications, order laboratory and diagnostic tests, and place consults to other services.

About VACCHCS
VACCHCS is a 57-bed acute care, general medical, and surgical center with state of the art primary, secondary, and tertiary care in major diagnostic and treatment specializations. In addition, a 60-bed Community Living Center (CLC) is located on campus and provides skilled nursing and rehabilitation care. VACCHCS has three Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) located in Merced, Oakhurst, and Tulare. In total, over 32,000 Veterans are served throughout Central California. The health care system is a teaching facility, with a strong affiliation with the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine. It is located in the heart of California, and is known as California’s Year-Round Playground due to having over 300 sunny days per year. Home to more than 522,000 people, Fresno is the fifth largest city in California and is also the world’s most productive agricultural region. It is situated near three National Parks, Yosemite, Kings Canyon, and Sequoia National Park, offering the perks of a big city as well as beautiful natural scenery.

Residency Program Benefits
• Competitive annual stipend
• 13 days of paid vacation and 13 days of sick leave
• 10 paid federal holidays
• Federal health benefits and life insurance available
• Education and travel allowances
• Ability to practice with pharmacy license from any state
• Access to the VA health care system with opportunities for continuing education and networking nationwide

Residency Program Learning Experiences

Required Core Rotations:
5 weeks each
• Inpatient/IV and Outpatient Pharmacy Orientation
• Acute Care Internal Medicine I (ICU)
• Acute Care Internal Medicine II (General Medicine)
• Ambulatory Care I (Primary Care Clinic)
• Ambulatory Care II (Anticoagulation, Primary Care, Women’s Health Clinics)
• Practice Management

Required Longitudinal Rotations:
• Ambulatory Care*
• Major Project
• Project Management and Leadership Development
• Staffing (Inpatient; 1 weekend and 1 evening shift every 3 weeks plus 1 major and 1 minor holiday)

Elective Opportunities:
3 electives, 5 weeks each
• Emergency Medicine, Geriatrics, Hematology/Oncology, Infectious Diseases, Informatics, Managed Care, Pain Management, Pharmacy Customer Care Center, Psychiatric Care, Psychiatric Ambulatory Care, Transitions of Care

*Longitudinal Clinic Opportunities:
Anticoagulation, Benzodiazepine Taper, Clozapine, Erythropoietin, Hematology/Oncology, Pain Management, Psychiatry, Pulmonary
Application Process

Qualification Requirements:
• United States Citizen
• Graduate of an ACPE-accredited school of pharmacy
• Ability to obtain pharmacist licensure by Oct 1st of the residency year
• Registered in the ASHP Resident Matching Program

Application through PhORCAS:
• Letter of intent
• Curriculum vitae
• Academic transcripts
• Three letters of recommendation using the PhORCAS Standardized Reference Form
  o At least one letter should come from a preceptor with whom the applicant had a clinical rotation

Application Deadline: January 1st

Interview:
• An interview is required and takes place in early February

Program Contact Information

VA Central California Health Care System (VACCHCS)
Pharmacy Service (119)
2615 E Clinton Ave, Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 225-6100 ext. 5119
Fax: (559) 241-6496

Residency Program Director
Kori Malepsy, PharmD, BCPS
Kori.Malepsy@va.gov
(559) 241-6490

Residency Program Coordinators
David Charlestham, PharmD, BCPP
David.Charlestham@va.gov
(559) 225-6100 ext. 4883

Nader Nassar, PharmD, BCPP
Nader.Nassar@va.gov
(559) 225-6100 ext. 5134

2020 – 2021 Residents
Jenny He, PharmD
Jenny.He5@va.gov
(559) 225-6100 ext. 4813

HongKong Tran, PharmD
HongKong.Tran@va.gov
(559) 225-6100 ext. 6342