For general information, contact
Jonathan P. Lacro, PharmD, BCPS, BCPP
Director, Pharmacy Education & Training
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(858) 642-3497
VA San Diego Healthcare System

**VHA Mission** Honor America’s Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being.

**VHA Vision**
- VHA will continue to be the benchmark of excellence and value in health care and benefits by providing exemplary services that are both patient centered and evidence based.
- This care will be delivered by engaged, collaborative teams in an integrated environment that supports learning, discovery and continuous improvement.
- It will emphasize prevention and population health and contribute to the nation’s well-being through education, research and service in national emergencies.

**Core Values (I.C.A.R.E)**
- **Integrity**: Act with high moral principle.
- **Commitment**: Work diligently to serve veterans and other beneficiaries.
- **Advocacy**: Be truly veteran-centric by identifying, fully considering, and appropriately advancing the interests of veterans and other beneficiaries.
- **Respect**: Treat all those I serve and with whom I work with dignity and respect.
- **Excellence**: Strive for the highest quality and continuous improvement.

**Key Facts**
- Provided high quality health care to 82,940 Veterans in the San Diego and Imperial Valley counties in FY16
- Offers a wide range of inpatient and outpatient health services at the medical center in La Jolla (304 beds) and at six community clinics located in Chula Vista, Escondido, Imperial Valley, Mission Valley, Oceanside and Sorrento Valley and at the Rio clinic
- Provides medical, surgical, mental health, geriatric, spinal cord injury, and advanced rehabilitation services
- We provide training for 1,519 medical interns, residents and fellows, as well as 910 other health profession trainees in areas such as pharmacy, nursing, dental, and dietetics
- One of the largest research programs in the VA nationally with a budget of over $41 million (FY16)
- Ranks top among Veterans Health Administration’s leaders in patient satisfaction
Our Values
• P Patient-centric, Patience, Professional, Pro-active
• H Helpful, Honest
• A Accessible
• R Responsible, Respectful
• M Meticulous, Mentor
• A Accurate
• C Caring, Competent, Clinical, Collaborative
• Y Because Veterans come first

Provision of Care
• Pharmacy services provided 24 hours a day, seven days a week
• Decentralized unit-dose service with Barcode Medication Administration, IV Additive Service, Automated Dispensing Systems, Physician Order Entry and Automated Prescription Filling
• Our Ambulatory Care Clinical Pharmacists, Inpatient Clinical Pharmacists, and Clinical Specialists provide a wide range of pharmaceutical care services to veterans in the inpatient and outpatient settings.

Our Staff and Preceptors
• 73 pharmacists serve as preceptors to our student and resident trainees
  • 61 have greater than 5 years of experience with serving as a preceptor to residents
  • 40 are Certified as Pharmacotherapy Specialists (BCPS), Oncology Pharmacists (BCOP), Psychiatric Pharmacists (BCPP), Ambulatory Care Pharmacists (BCACP), Critical Care Pharmacists (BCCCP) and Board Certified Geriatric Pharmacists (BCGP)
• 40 possess Scopes of Practices that allow for prescriptive authority

Our Teaching Program
• Multiple PGY1 and PGY2 residency training programs
• Have academic relationships with two Schools of Pharmacy – University of the Pacific (UOP) and University of California, San Diego (UCSD)
• Annually provide APPEs to approximately 30 students

Poonam P. Tzorfas, Pharm.D., MBA
Chief, Pharmacy Services
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General Residency Information

Pay and Benefits

Period of Appointment
- **PGY1**: 12 months, from June 25, 2018 through June 21, 2019

Estimated Stipend: $44,903 (PGY1)

Benefits
- 13 days Annual Leave (“vacation”) and 13 days of Sick Leave
  - Leave is earned at the rate of 4 hours every two weeks
- 11 federal holidays
- Authorized Absence (leave with pay) to attend selected professional meetings
- Health, life, vision/dental insurance options
- Office with up-to-date computer systems
- Lab coats and lab coat laundry service
- Free parking off-site

Pharmacist Licensure
Professional pharmacist licensure from any state must be obtained either prior to the beginning of the residency program or the resident must provide proof of sitting for the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) and Multistate Pharmacist Jurisprudent Licensure Examination (MPJE) within 30 days from the first day of their residency training and must obtain professional pharmacist licensure within 90 days from the first day of their residency program.

Note: California licensure is highly encouraged for residents who wish to rotate through or conduct direct patient care activities in non-VA facilities.
Pharmacy Residency Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Residents</th>
<th>Established</th>
<th>Accreditation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PGY1 Pharmacy - Track A General</td>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>1973</td>
<td>ASHP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY1 Pharmacy - Track B Ambulatory Care Emphasis</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>ASHP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY1 Managed Care</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>ASHP/AMCP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY2 Ambulatory Care</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>ASHP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY2 Critical Care</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>ASHP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY2 Health-System Pharmacy Administration</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>ASHP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY2 Infectious Diseases Pharmacy</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>ASHP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY2 Pharmacy Informatics</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>ASHP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY2 Nephrology Pharmacy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>ASHP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY2 Oncology</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>ASHP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>ASHP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Many programs allow for PGY2 Early Commitment

We offer residents many opportunities to practice in a number of clinical settings, including our expansive ambulatory care clinics. Our affiliations with pharmacy schools at University of California, San Diego and University of the Pacific facilitate the development of teaching skills. Our preceptors are committed to supporting the residency program and assisting residents throughout the year.

We hope you will join us at the VA San Diego Healthcare System for your residency year. We look forward to receiving your application!

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Nermeen Madkour, PharmD, CSP
Program Director, PGY1 Managed Care
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(858) 552-8585 ext 2516
Current PGY-1 Residents

Merta Cushing, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Track A
Merta.Cushing@va.gov

Aanika Das, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Track A
Aanika.Das@va.gov

Lauren Wong, Pharm.D.
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Judy Lam, Pharm.D.
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Marcus Ellis, Pharm.D.
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Marcus.Ellis@va.gov

Grace Joy Kim, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Track B
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Yu Jin, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Managed Care
Yu.Jin@va.gov
PGY1 Program Overview

Program Purpose
PGY1 Pharmacy (Track A and B)
• Develop pharmacists who are:
  • Prepared to provide cost-effective pharmacotherapy to adult and geriatric patients in acute and ambulatory care settings
  • Proficient in communicating with and educating trainees, pharmacists, other health care providers and the community on drug related topics
  • Eligible for additional post-graduate training

PGY1 Managed Care
• Develop pharmacists who are:
  • Eligible for a position in a managed care setting such as:
    • Formulary Management Pharmacist, Prior Authorization Pharmacist, Pharmacoconomics Specialist, Drug Information Pharmacist, etc.
  • Skilled in formulary management and development processes, such as:
    • Presenting at Pharmacy & Therapeutic Committee/Medication Safety Committee
    • Drafting guidance document (conversions, protocols, criteria for use, monographs, etc.)
    • Managing clinical programs, drug utilization reviews, cost-saving initiatives, and quality improvement projects
    • Reviewing non-formulary and prior authorization consults
# PGY1 Program Structure

## Overview
Orientation (2 weeks), 11 rotation blocks (4-6 weeks each)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rotations (# of blocks)</th>
<th>Track A (General)</th>
<th>Track B (Ambulatory Care Emphasis)</th>
<th>Managed Care</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Administration (1) Ambulatory Care (2) Medicine (2) Psychiatry (1) Critical Care (1) Infectious Diseases (1) Electives (3)</td>
<td>Administration (1) Ambulatory Care (4) Medicine (1) Psychiatry (1) Other Acute Care (2) Electives (2)</td>
<td>Administration* Ambulatory Care (1) Medicine (1) Drug Information* Formulary Management* Elective (1) *Longitudinal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASHP Code</td>
<td>92360</td>
<td>92360</td>
<td>92012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMS Code</td>
<td>191613</td>
<td>191621</td>
<td>153414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positions</td>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elective Rotations</th>
<th>Ambulatory Care Clinics</th>
<th>Longitudinal Experiences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ambulatory Care</td>
<td>Anticoagulation</td>
<td>Teaching Certificate Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiology</td>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>Formulary Consults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Department</td>
<td>Gout</td>
<td>Medication Safety Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geriatrics/Nutrition</td>
<td>Lipid</td>
<td>Research Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informatics</td>
<td>Medication Management</td>
<td>Skill Development Series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oncology</td>
<td>Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT)</td>
<td>Pharmacy Practice Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain Management</td>
<td>Psychiatry</td>
<td>Service Enhancement Project (Track B only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nephrology</td>
<td>Renal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgery</td>
<td>Smoking Cessation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinal Cord Injury</td>
<td>And more!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Additional Training

### Pharmacy Teaching Program
- Our pharmacy residents participate in the teaching of approximately 30 Doctor of Pharmacy students from the University of the Pacific and University of California, San Diego Schools of Pharmacy.
- Pharmacy Residents serve as a preceptor to APPE students during rotations by providing formal and informal teaching and mentoring.
- Residents facilitate weekly conferences consisting of topic discussions and clinical case presentations.

### Skill Development Series / Teaching Certificate Program
- All pharmacy residents participate in a Skill Development Series, which includes regularly scheduled discussion of research-related topics such as study methodology, biostatistics, literature evaluation, individual residency research projects and other contemporary topics relevant to health care professionals.
- Participation in our Teaching Certificate Program is required and consists of didactic seminars and homework assignments, development of a personal teaching philosophy and providing formal teaching experiences in clinical rotational settings.

### Additional Requirements for Completion of PGY1 Pharmacy Residency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Activities</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staffing Assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formal Research Project and Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Platform Presentation to VISN 22 Conference for Pharmacy Residents, Fellows and Preceptors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formulary Project (i.e., Drug Monograph or Drug Class Review)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Resident Service Commitment

Staffing will be scheduled once the resident has evidence of professional licensing and has demonstrated appropriate competencies. Training will be provided.

Staffing Requirements

PGY1 Pharmacy Track A – General
- At least 20 inpatient days (includes 2 weekend days) during Medicine
- At least 6 days in the Ambulatory Care “Primary Care” Clinics and Outpatient Pharmacy
- Additional staffing days required during Critical Care, Psychiatry and selected elective rotations
- At least one additional weekend day scheduled for training

PGY1 Pharmacy Track B – Ambulatory Care Emphasis
- At least 6 days per month in the Ambulatory Care “Primary Care” Clinics or Outpatient Pharmacy while on ambulatory care rotations
- Two days per month in Psychiatry Clinics during Psychiatry rotation
- Additional staffing days may be required during selected elective rotations
  - At least 8 inpatient days per month during selected acute care rotations (Medicine, Geriatrics, Critical Care, SCI)

PGY1 Managed Care Pharmacy
- At least 15 inpatient days (includes 2 weekend days) during Medicine
- At least 4 days in the Ambulatory Care General Medicine (“Primary Care”) Clinics and Outpatient Pharmacy
- Additional staffing days may be required during selected elective rotations

VA Stand Down
- Operation Stand Down is a annual program that provides up to 900 Veterans with services such as food, shelter, clothing, health screenings, and other service referrals. Resident will work 1 day.
First Position Accepted Post-Residency (Previous 3 graduating classes)

PGY2 Residency Training Programs:
- VA San Diego Healthcare System
  - Critical Care
  - Infectious Diseases
  - Nephrology
  - Oncology
  - Psychiatric Pharmacy
- Academic Medical Centers
  - Ambulatory Care / Virginia Commonwealth University
  - Pharmacy Informatics / UCSF
  - Infectious Diseases / UCSF
  - Oncology / University of Colorado – Denver
- Other Health Care Organizations
  - Medication Safety / Kaiser Oakland

Pharmacy Practice Positions:
- VA San Diego Healthcare System
  - Clinical Pharmacist in Ambulatory Care
  - Clinical Pharmacist in Emergency Department
- Other VA Healthcare Systems
  - Clinical Pharmacist in Ambulatory Care Pharmacist at VA Northern California Health Care System
  - Clinical Pharmacist in Ambulatory Care Pharmacist at VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System
- Other Healthcare Organizations
  - Clinical Pharmacist at Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara, CA
  - Clinical Pharmacist at Scripps Mercy in San Diego, CA
  - Managed Care Pharmacist at Kaiser Santa Clara, CA
Applicant Qualifications & Process

APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS

• Register with the ASHP Resident Matching Program accessible at http://www.natmatch.com/ashprmp/
• Possess United States citizenship; Naturalized citizens must be able to provide proof of naturalization
• Possess a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an accredited School or College of Pharmacy
• PGY1 applicants must be eligible for licensure to practice pharmacy from any state at the beginning of their residency program
• PGY2 applicants must be licensed to practice pharmacy from any state at the beginning of their residency program
• PGY2 applicants must complete or be in the process of completing an ASHP accredited PGY1 residency OR have equivalent experience

APPLICATION PROCESS

• All application materials must be submitted through Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application (PhORCAS):
  • PHASE I DEADLINE for PGY1 Programs is January 1, 2018
  • PHASE I DEADLINE for PGY2 Programs is January 1, 2018
  • PHASE II DEADLINE for ALL Open Programs is March 23, 2018
• Submitted Materials must include:
  • Basic Demographics
  • Verified Transcripts for Schools or Colleges of Pharmacy Only
  • Personal Statement / Letter of Intent
    • PGY1 Applicants
      • Include your short- and long-term professional goals
      • Describe how our residency program will assist you in accomplishing your goals
      • Include your **single greatest strength AND weakness** and comment on how these will affect your performance as a resident
    • Curriculum Vitae
    • Three letters of recommendation using the standardized reference template in PhORCAS
      • PGY1 Applicants
        • At least one letter writer should be from a preceptor of a Direct Patient Care APPE such as Internal Medicine or Ambulatory Care
      • Extracurricular Information
  • Selected applicants will be invited to a personal on-site interview occurring in February or March. Candidates who are not invited for an on-site interview will be notified via e-mail
2017 Residency Showcase Information

**CSHP Seminar**
- Las Vegas, NV
- Friday, October 27 (2-5pm)
- Booth 423

**ASHP Midyear**
- Orlando, FL
- Tuesday, December 5 (8-11am)
- Booth 5719

**Open House**
- VA San Diego Healthcare System
- Saturday, Dec. 16th, 9-11am
- For prospective 2018-2019 PGY1 Candidates Only
Pharmacy Service (119)
3350 La Jolla Village Drive
San Diego, CA 92161
VOICE: (858) 642-3026 or (858) 642-3497
FAX: (858) 642-1608