Setting

The KCVA Medical Center currently provides services to over 48,000 of the veterans that reside in the Kansas City primary service area. The Medical Center is a tertiary care hospital that serves as a referral center for the Kansas VA Medical Centers in Leavenworth, Topeka, and Wichita as well as the Columbia, Missouri VA Medical Center. This integrated health care system is dedicated to providing quality health care to veterans of Mid-America.

In addition to acute care medicine and surgery services, the Medical Center has Primary Care services for all veterans patients. The Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) housed in Overland Park & Paola, Kansas, and in Belton, Cameron, Excelsior Springs, Nevada, & Warrensburg, Missouri provide an extension of these services to veterans in rural areas. Subspecialists or Specialty Care is also available to patients for evaluation and management of endocrine, pulmonary, gastroenterology, nephrology, cardiology, hematology/oncology, ID and geriatric disorders. Clinical Pharmacy Specialists play an integral role by enhancing care to all patients at the KCVAMC.

As a principal teaching hospital, the KCVAMC is affiliated with the University of Missouri - Kansas City School of Pharmacy and the University of Kansas Schools of Medicine and Pharmacy.

Pharmacy Services

Ambulatory Care The clinic pharmacy staff provides pharmaceutical services for primary care and specialty care clinic patients both at the medical and community clinics. Pharmacists in these areas provide drug information, observations on patient response to therapy, and appropriate recommendations regarding treatment alternatives or additional interventions to maximize patient care outcomes. The pharmacists in these clinics function as licensed individual practitioners and work under a scope of practice.

The resident will also have the opportunity to develop innovative medication management services and patient care clinics. The practice environment promotes the development of the skills necessary for the resident to function as an independent clinical pharmacy specialist. Members of the pharmacy staff precept PGY1 pharmacy practice residents as well as KU and UMKC clerkship students.
**Purpose**
Residents completing the PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency Program will be competent and confident practitioners of pharmaceutical care in Ambulatory Care practice settings. They will be a skilled practitioner, leader, and educator who is accountable for achieving optimal therapeutic outcomes in a primary care outpatient setting. The graduate will function independently as well as be prepared to integrate as a member of a health care team. These pharmacists will exercise proficiency in communication and education of other health care professionals and patients.

Residency graduates will possess competencies that enable attainment of board certification in ambulatory care (i.e., BCACP), and are qualified to practice as a clinical pharmacy specialist in a VA ambulatory care clinic or VA community based outpatient clinic or ambulatory care pharmacist within a private healthcare system.

**Outcomes**
- Establish a collaborative interdisciplinary practice.
- In a collaborative interdisciplinary ambulatory practice provide efficient, effective, evidence-based, patient-centered treatment for chronic and/or acute illnesses in all degrees of complexity.
- Demonstrate leadership and practice management skills.
- Promote health improvement, wellness, and disease prevention.

This 12 month ambulatory care residency provides the resident exposure to commonly encountered disease states in an ambulatory primary care setting. The resident is afforded the opportunity to longitudinally monitor patients’ clinical progress through pharmacy-directed clinics. In addition, the resident will gain valuable experience in our pharmacy administrative programs, including budget preparation, local drug utilization reviews, academic detailing, and developing clinical programs. The resident will work with the primary preceptor to develop a pharmacy newsletter appropriate for providers in the CBOC setting as well as providing educational programming for these providers as deemed necessary.

The resident will be afforded the opportunity to participate in many educational programs, including a teaching certificate program offered through the UMKC School of Pharmacy.
Rotations

Structurally the residency is divided into nine rotations of varying length. The rotations are arranged to combine required experiences along with electives in the resident’s area of interest to allow for growth of skills throughout the year. The resident is simultaneously expected to prioritize and work on ongoing requirements in longitudinal clinical, didactic, management and residency project rotations.

The resident works closely with the residency director and the primary preceptor to develop goals and objectives that will assist the resident in expanding skills for current and future practice. Regular meetings with the residency director ensure that long-term goals of the residency program are fulfilled.

Completion of a residency project of the resident’s choosing is also required. The resident will work with a pharmacy staff mentor to plan, carry out, and evaluate the results of this project. Comprehensive project results are presented as a poster at an ASHP affiliate or ACCP Spring Meeting.

**Required Rotations:**
- Anticoagulation
- Excelsior Springs CBOC Medication Management Clinic
- Home Based Primary Care
- Mental Health Clinic
- Orientation
- Pain Clinic
- Primary Care Medication Management Clinic

**Longitudinal Rotations:**
- Rural Health/CBOC MM Clinic
- Practice Management
- Residency Project
- Telehealth Clinic

**Elective Rotations**
- Cardiology
- Diabetes
- Geriatrics
- Infectious Disease
Eligibility
Applicants must be a graduate of an American Council of Pharmaceutical Education accredited School of Pharmacy with a Pharm.D. degree and complete a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice residency. Applicants must be U.S. citizens – a requirement to be employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Application
The following items are required to be submitted for application to the program:

- Letter of intent
- Curriculum vitae
- Pharmacy school transcripts
- Three references completing appropriate template in PhORCAS

A personal interview is required of all selected candidates. This program participates in the ASHP Matching Program.

Application materials should be submitted through PhORCAS. Deadline for application receipt is December 30.

For additional information contact:

Lauri A. Witt, Pharm.D., BCACP
Residency Program Director
(816) 861-4700 ext. 57423
lauri.witt@va.gov

Current Resident
Beth Bedel, Pharm.D.
Elizabeth.bedel@va.gov

Benefits
Benefits include health and life insurance, annual leave (vacation), days off for illness/medical appointments/family care and 10 paid federal holidays. The annual stipend is $44,651 with financial compensation for staffing.