

VA HVHCS Past PGY1 Pharmacy Residents Where Are They Now?



2008-2009: Elma Waldo (formerly Omeragic), PharmD, BCPS, CACP



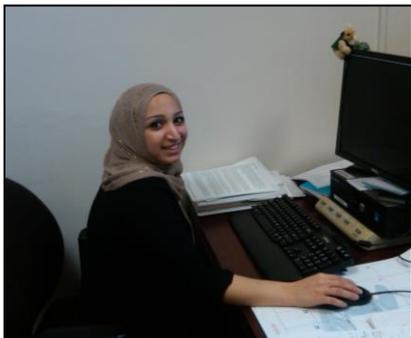
Dr. Omeragic obtained her PharmD degree from Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in 2008. After completing her PGY1 residency at VA HVHCS in 2009, she initially accepted a pharmacist position at Albany Memorial Hospital in her hometown of Albany, NY. This position includes both staffing and clinical responsibilities. Although she continues to work at Albany Memorial Hospital per diem, but took a position in anticoagulation management with St. Peter's Health Partners in 2013. Of note, in 2012 Elma became a board certified pharmacotherapy specialist and as of 2017 also holds certification in Anticoagulation.

2009-2010: Kimberly Allison, PharmD, BCACP

Dr. Allison earned her PharmD degree from the University at Buffalo in 2009. Shortly after completing her PGY1 residency at VA HVHCS in 2010, she joined our pharmacy staff as a clinical pharmacy specialist. She primarily helps manage our Montrose and Castle Point Pharmacy PACT clinics, which focus on diabetes, anticoagulation, hypertension, and heart failure management. Dr. Allison also serves as a primary & secondary preceptor to our PGY1 pharmacy residents, as well as APPE pharmacy students. In addition, Kimberly became board certified in ambulatory care pharmacy in 2011.



2010-2011: Samrah Naseem, PharmD



Dr. Naseem received her PharmD degree from Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in 2010. After completing her PGY1 residency at VA HVHCS in 2011, Sam pursued a PGY2 specialty residency in geriatrics at the Boston VAMC. Currently, she works at Atrius Health as a primary care, geriatric, and psychiatric clinical pharmacist. Her role includes collaborative drug therapy management, drug information consults, formulary management, and

academic detailing. As an active member of the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee, she completes drug monographs, creates therapeutic policies and guidelines, and develops organizational cost-savings prescribing initiatives. She also serves as a primary preceptor for the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (MCPHS) PGY1 residency program and as an instructor for an advanced Neurology/Psychiatry Pharmacotherapy elective course at MCPHS.



2011-2012: Gerard Gawrys, PharmD, BCPS and Manthan Chokshi, PharmD



Dr. Gawrys obtained his PharmD degree from St. Louis College of Pharmacy in 2011 and travelled to New York State for PGY1 residency training. After successful completion of his PGY1 residency program at VA H VHCS in 2012, Gerard furthered his training by traveling west to the Milwaukee VAMC where he completed a PGY2 specialty residency in infectious disease. Dr. Gawrys then decided to settle south in San Antonio, TX, where he accepted an antimicrobial surveillance clinical pharmacist position at Methodist Healthcare System. Of note, Dr. Gawrys became a board certified pharmacotherapy specialist in 2012 and was the recipient on the 2016 Gita Wasan Patel Pharmacy Excellence Award. Gerard also serves as a PGY1 pharmacy residency program director at Methodist Healthcare System and an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the College of Pharmacy at the University of Texas.

Dr. Chokshi received his PharmD degree from Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 2011. Shortly after completing his PGY1 residency at VA H VHCS in 2012, he joined our pharmacy staff as a clinical pharmacy specialist, where he specialized in diabetes and anticoagulation management. Because he was truly passionate about pharmacy informatics, Manny ultimately transitioned into the pharmacy Automated Data Processing Application Coordinator (ADPAC) at VA H VHCS. In 2016, Manny accepted a pharmacy ADPAC position in his home state of New Jersey at the VA New Jersey Healthcare System East Orange Campus.

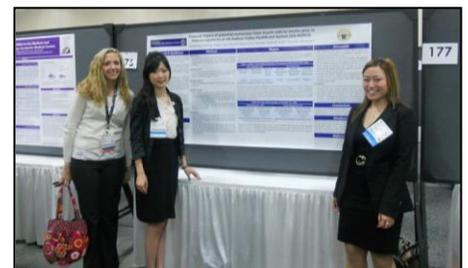


2012-2013: Cindy Lau, PharmD and Debbie Nolan (formerly Hsu), PharmD



Dr. Lau graduated from St. John's University in 2012, receiving her PharmD degree. After completing her PGY1 residency training at VA H VHCS in 2013, Cindy initially accepted a position at the VA New Jersey Healthcare System East Orange Campus, where she served as a clinical pharmacist at the Center for Health and Wellness. In 2015, Cindy accepted a global drug safety specialist position with Leo Pharma in Parsippany, NJ and transferred to their headquarters in Denmark in 2017. She currently serves as a safety surveillance advisor at Novo Nordisk headquarters in Denmark, where she is responsible for Victoza® and Xultophy®.

Dr. Hsu received her PharmD degree from Northeastern University. She successfully completed her PGY1 residency training in 2013, as well as a PGY2 ambulatory care pharmacy residency program at VA H VHCS in 2014. She is now employed as a clinical pharmacy specialist within the VA Central Western Massachusetts Health Care System in Leeds, MA where her clinical responsibilities include formulary, anticoagulation, diabetes and anemia management.



2013-2014: Cristina Madden (formerly Fantino), PharmD, BCPP and Clement Chen, PharmD



Dr. Madden graduated from the University of Connecticut in 2013, receiving her PharmD degree. After completing her PGY1 residency training at VA H VHCS in 2014, Cristina then completed a PGY2 psychiatry pharmacy residency at the VA Connecticut Health Care System. She is now working as a clinical pharmacy specialist in inpatient psychiatry at the VA Connecticut Health Care System. She is also board certified in psychiatric pharmacy.

Dr. Chen graduated from Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University in 2013, receiving his PharmD degree. He now works as an ambulatory care clinical pharmacist specialist with a focus in heart failure/cardiology at University Hospital in

Newark, NJ. He serves as a member of a multidisciplinary healthcare team that aims to reduce 30-day re-admissions and improve long-term outcomes. In addition, Dr. Chen works as a part-time transitions of care pharmacist at Hunterdon Medical Center in Flemington, NJ.

2014-2015: Ashley Farr, PharmD and Brian Smith, PharmD

Dr. Farr graduated from Saint John Fisher College Wegmans School of Pharmacy, in Rochester, NY in 2014, receiving her PharmD degree. After completing her PGY1 residency training at VA HVHCS in 2015, Ashley then completed a PGY2 ambulatory care pharmacy residency at the James A. Haley Veterans Hospital in Tampa, FL. She is currently employed as clinical pharmacist at the same facility and serves as the Pain Program Manager.



Dr. Smith also received his PharmD degree from Saint John Fisher College Wegmans School of Pharmacy, in Rochester, NY. He successfully completed his PGY1 residency training at VA HVHCS in 2015, as well as his PGY2 ambulatory care pharmacy residency training at VA HVHCS in 2016. He is licensed in both North Carolina and New York. He currently works at Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital, in Poughkeepsie, NY.

2015-2016: Drs. Uswa Ahmad, PharmD and Gina Shah, PharmD



Dr. Ahmad graduated from Northeastern University in Boston, MA in 2015, receiving her PharmD degree. She completed her PGY1 residency training at VA HVHCS in 2015 and is currently working as a Clinical Pharmacist at the Cambridge Health Alliance in Cambridge, MA. As a clinical pharmacist she is responsible for Anticoagulation, Diabetes and Hypertension management services.

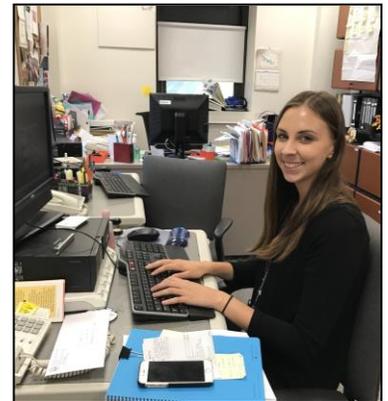
Dr. Shah received her PharmD degree from the University of Connecticut in Storrs, CT in 2015. She successfully completed her PGY1 residency training at VA HVHCS in 2015. Gina is currently working as an Ambulatory Care clinical pharmacist at the VA San Diego Healthcare System in San Diego, CA. She also serves as a member of the Residency Executive Committee there.

2016-2017: Rachel Quinn, PharmD and Catherine Knapp, PharmD

Dr. Quinn graduated from Wilkes University's Nesbitt School of Pharmacy in Wilkes Barre, PA receiving her PharmD degree in 2016. She completed her PGY1 residency training at VA HVHCS in 2016 and successfully completed her PGY2 ambulatory care residency at the Brooklyn Hospital Center in Brooklyn, NY in 2018. She is now employed at Fairleigh Dickinson University as an ambulatory care pharmacist.



Dr. Knapp also graduated in 2016 receiving her PharmD degree from Wilkes University's Nesbitt School of Pharmacy in Wilkes Barre, PA. She successfully completed her PGY1 residency training at VA HVHCS in 2017 and is now working as an Ambulatory Care Pharmacist at Lancaster General Health.



2017-2018: Jesus Melendez, PharmD and Cassandra Warsaw, PharmD

Dr. Melendez graduated from Rutgers University receiving his PharmD degree in 2017. He successfully completed his PGY1 pharmacy residency training at VA HVHCS in 2018 and is currently employed as a clinical pharmacist in Ocean Health Initiatives in Ocean County, NJ.

Dr. Warsaw also graduated in 2017 receiving her PharmD degree from the University at Buffalo. She completed her PGY1 pharmacy residency training at VA HVHCS in 2018 and is seeking employment.

