



# Department of Veterans Affairs-New York Harbor Healthcare System

## Pharmacy Practice Residency Program (PGY-I)

### Required Rotations

- Management
- Oncology
- Pharmacy Informatics
- Pain Management
- Infectious Disease
- Internal Medicine
- Critical Care
- PACT Model—Patient Aligned Team
- Diabetes
- Anticoagulation Clinic (longitudinal)
- Hepatic C / Epogen clinics

### Electives

- Infectious Disease 2
- Extended Care
- Home Base / Primary Care (HBPC)

### Inside this issue:

- Spotlight on: **2**
- Management,
- Internal Medicine, Critical **3**
- Care
- Oncology / PACT, & Appli- **4**
- cation Requirements
- Stipend & Benefits, **5**
- Professional Meetings &
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Mission, Contact **6**
- Information & Where Are
- They Now?

### General Information

The Pharmacy Practice Residency is a twelve-month program with learning experiences in both Ambulatory Care and inpatient pharmaceutical care. This program is designed for advanced training in patient care, assessing and planning drug therapy and professional communications in accordance with the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) standards. Because each individual may have specific interests in different areas of pharmacy practice, this residency is geared to fulfill the individual needs of each pharmacy resident.

The primary goal of the VA Pharmacy Practice Residency program is to train and develop pharmacists who possess in-depth knowledge and

skills in Pharmaceutical Care. Additional emphasis of the pharmacy practice residency is the development of a wide spectrum of practice skills in different areas of pharmacy practice such as ambulatory care, internal medicine, infectious disease, Diabetic Management, Anticoagulation, Patient Care Aligned Teams (PACT), critical care, oncology, management academic detailing and Antimicrobial Stewardship.

Each pharmacy resident is scheduled to do the nine (9) required clinical rotations listed in the left column of the page. Each resident can select up to two(2) elective rotations in areas such as infectious disease part 2, Ambulatory care, extended care practice,



Required rotations may be repeated as electives if the resident chooses.

The residency takes place at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, 800 Poly Place, Brooklyn, New York 11209, a 200+ bed teaching hospital in Brooklyn, New York affiliated with SUNY Downstate Medical College and Long Island University Arnold and Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy. The hospital plays an important role in training healthcare professionals from various

### Other Requirements:

Applicants must be U.S. citizen in order to apply. **Research Projects:** One of the criteria for completing the Pharmacy Residency is the completion of a research project during the year which will be presented as an abstract at the ASHP midyear meeting and as a completed project at the Eastern States Conference for Residents and Preceptors. This project may be

in any area of interest to the resident, that is pertinent to pharmacy practice. The completion of such a project will allow the resident to develop competencies in the area of research. Residents must be licensed pharmacists in any of the 50 states by September 23, 2018 of the residency year. Failure to obtain pharmacist license by this date will make the resident ineligible for completion of program.

All residents will also be required to provide the staff with Two(2) Pharmacy Education Programs. The topic will be selected by the resident based on a list of desired topics that the staff has compiled. Residents will practice in a longitudinal learning experience i.e., Antimicrobial Stewardship, Academic Detailing. Specialized learning experience in other areas available. Didactic teaching experience available at LIU



New York Harbor Healthcare System—Brooklyn Campus

The Veterans Affairs New York Harbor Healthcare System is comprised of three campuses: Brooklyn, Manhattan and our long term care facility in St. Albans. .

## Pharmacy Practice Residency Program Practice Site Descriptions

**Practice Management:** In this rotation the resident will be trained and assigned the following responsibilities:

- Work with the Chief/Pharmacy Site Manager on developing effective operational policies and procedures to assure proper control of the compounding and dispensing of all therapeutic and diagnostic agents.
- Identify and implement internal control systems to ensure accountability for funds, medications, equipment, payroll cost and other assets.
- Assist the Site Manager in overseeing the Departmental Operations.
- Assess daily staffing and coverage of all pharmacy areas.
- Contribute to the achievement of pharmacy goals through effective participation in or leading committees and informal work groups.
- Participate in the health system's formulary process.
- Understand the principles of a systematic approach to staff development in pharmacy practice.
- Understand steps that must be taken to ensure departmental compliance with accreditation, legal, regulatory, and safety requirements (e.g., AAHRPP and JCAHO requirements; ASHP standards, statements, and guidelines; state and federal laws regulating pharmacy practice; and OSHA regulations).
- Participate in the pharmacy department's planning processes.
- Help identify a service-level Performance Improvement program consistent with JCAHO and other relevant Quality Assurance standards.
- Utilize pharmacy technical and clerical personnel effectively.
- Contribute to the development of a new pharmacy service or to the enhancement of an existing service.
- Provide instruction to pharmacy technicians, pharmacy students, pharmacy residents, and pharmacists.
- Develop full knowledge of USP 797 Standards.

**Infectious Disease:** Infectious Diseases: Pharmacy services involving active participation as part of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Team (AST).

- Residents will be exposed to all aspects of being involved in an AST including dispensing, education, policy and formulary review
- Participate in ID inpatient rounds
- Evaluate antimicrobial choices and make recommendations involving deescalation, IV to PO conversions and optimization of drug choice and dose/interval

**Internal Medicine: Pharmacy services involving several pharmacists with different roles in improving patient care in the acute care setting.**

- Pharmaceutical Care (PC) Pharmacists conduct medication reviews, evaluate renal dosing, perform pharmacokinetic calculations, counsel patients upon discharge, and document patient education.
- PC pharmacists monitor patients on amino glycosides and vancomycin therapy.
- PC pharmacists attend medical rounds interdisciplinary meetings.
- PC pharmacists make recommendations to physicians regarding medication regimens.
- Long Island University (LIU) faculty member precepts and coordinates activities of internal medicine students from the college of pharmacy.
- LIU faculty member works with medical staff in drug research.
- LIU faculty member conducts lectures to pharmacy staff and students.
- Conduct Medication Reconciliation.

**Critical Care:** Pharmacy service within critical care specialty practice involving extensive patient care management in the acute setting.

- Residents will be exposed to all aspects of critical care practices including service, education, and

## Pharmacy Practice Residency Program Practice Site Descriptions

multidisciplinary approaches to the challenging issues of critical care medicine.

- The resident will receive extensive training in critical care pharmacotherapy.
- Daily multidisciplinary teaching rounds for patients in the MICU and CCU units.
- The resident will serve as a liaison between pharmacy services and the medical team on relevant critical care issues.
- The resident will provide pharmacokinetics, toxicology, nutrition, and infectious diseases concepts on a practical level in critical care.
- The resident will provide education tools to the nursing and medical staff in the form of in-services.
- The resident will serve as a preceptor and mentor to pharmacy students from Arnold and Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, LIU.

**Anticoagulation Clinic:** Pharmacy specialty clinic that manages anticoagulated ambulatory patients referred by primary care provider.

- Assesses patients for appropriateness of Warfarin therapy, potential drug-drug interactions, drug-disease interactions, and drug-food interactions.
- Provides initial education to patients newly initiated on Coumadin therapy.
- Interviews follow-up patients for relevant changes in medications, diet, activity, and disease states.
- Adjusts anticoagulation therapy based on treatment goals, laboratory monitoring and patient interview
- Provides continuous education to follow-up patients regarding Warfarin therapy.
- Interviews, assesses, and triages patients, during visit for new complaints that require physician intervention.
- Precepts ambulatory care stu-

dents from participating pharmacy schools.

### **Oncology Practices:**

In this learning experience the resident will be trained and assigned the following responsibilities:

- Monitor all patients assigned to the oncology clinic
- Develop a full knowledge of all oncology drug protocols.
- Participate as an educator to the medical staff and patients.
- Develop strategies to present medication errors.
- Develop full knowledge of all USP 797 Standards
- Counsel all patients receiving Oncology Services.

### **Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT)**

During this learning experience residents will gain an increased understanding and knowledge of the PACT model of healthcare management. PACT concept was initiated at the VA in 2011 and involves a team approach to managing a panel of patients. Residents will train and improve their pharmaceutical care skills within the team setting. Professional responsibilities include:

- Coordination of patient's pharmaceutical care needs within the PACT model.
- Provision of patients education in the ambulatory care setting.\*
- Participation in developing treatment care plans with other PACT team members at the team meetings or huddles.
- Support of the team as the drug information expert in managing a panel of patients.



Pharmacy resident seeing a patient in anticoagulation clinic

***"To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan."*** - These words, spoken by Abraham Lincoln during his Second Inaugural Address, reflect the philosophy and principles that guide VA in everything we do, and are the focus of our endeavors to serve our Nation's veterans and their families.

### **Pharmacist Managed Clinics**

- \*Warfarin
- \*Hepatitis
- \*Epogen
- \*Smoking Cessation
- \*Diabetes Telepharmacy
- \*Pharmacy Immunization

### **Longitudinal Rotations**

- \*Academic Detailing
- \*Antimicrobial Stewardship
- \*Residency Teaching Certificate Available

## Pharmacy Practice Residency Program Practice Site Descriptions



Pharmacy Preceptors

The pharmacy residents meet with the residency committee every month to track progress and raise any concerns or issues with upcoming events, residency projects or rotations



Pharmacy Residents

**Pharmacy Information Systems:** During this learning experience residents will gain an increased understanding and knowledge of all VA mission critical information systems. At the conclusion of the learning experience residents will:

- \*Have a full understanding of Computerized Physician Record System (CPRS), Bar Code Medication Administration (BCMA), Veterans Integrated Software (VISTA), Centralized Admixture Parenteral Services (CAPS) computerized systems:
  - Gain increased knowledge, and understanding of all fiscal, and patient reporting systems.
  - Develop a full understanding and mastery of Drug Recall software.
  - Understanding the role of Decision Support Software (DSS), and related Pharmacy Management reports.
  - Develop an enhanced knowledge and appreciation of the role Pharmacy Information Systems play in the daily operation of Pharmacy Service.

**Diabetes Management (DM)** During this learning experience residents will gain an increased understanding, and knowledge of diabetes management and related morbidity, and mortality related to poor disease management.

- Develop an increased knowledge and understanding of diabetes mellitus management.
- Provide patient counseling on compliance issues.
- Provision of drug information support to the Diabetes Care Team.
- Gain an increased knowledge of the principles of diabetes Telepharmacy management.

### **Application Requirements:**

Applicants must provide the following to be considered for the residency program:

- Completed application
- Official college transcript
- Curriculum vitae
- Letter of intent
- Three letters of recommendation
- All applicants must be United States Citizens
- Participation in the National Match Services is required
- Participation in PHOREAS required

**Applications and letters of recommendation must be sent thru PHORCAS by January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Charles Sharkey, M.S., M.B.A., Pharm.D.**  
**Pharmacy Site Manager, Brooklyn / SAECC Campus**  
**Pharmacy Residency Coordinator**  
**Chairperson, Institutional Review Board (IRB)**

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### Stipend and Benefits

- Stipend - \$46,000
- Healthcare coverage provided
- Ten days annual leave (vacation)
- Ten days sick leave
- Ten paid holidays
- Public transportation reimbursement
- Free on-site parking

### Professional Meetings

Every year we apply for funding from our educational department to send our residents to the ASHP Midyear Meeting and to the Eastern States Conference for Residents and Preceptors. We will actively request reimbursement for the travel expenses every year from the medical center, but funding is not guaranteed. All attempts will be made to send our residents to these meetings as they are an incredibly valuable learning experience.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### When was the residency program developed?

This residency program was started in 1995 and graduated two residents its first year. Our program will be accepting two (2) PGY-1 residents.

### When does the residency start?

The start date for the 2017-2018 residency year will be July 2nd, 2018.

### Does this program offer PGY-2 (specialty) residencies?

At this time we do not offer any PGY-2 programs. We realize the need for more specialized training and we hope to add PGY-2 residencies in the future.

### What are the staffing requirements for this residency?

Staffing requirements will be met thru one(1) four week requirement. Staffing will be determined by Pharmacy Management.

### How are the rotations scheduled?

At the beginning of the residency year each resident will fill out an initial self-assessment. This assessment will serve as a tool to attain the residents strengths, weakness, interests, and goals for the residency. From this initial assessment, the director and coordinator will devise a customized residency plan for each resident. This plan will be discussed with the resident and elective rotations will then selected by the resident, coordinator, and director. All attempts will be made to accommodate any special scheduling requests for the resident's schedule. Exit interviews are required.

### Do all applicants have to come for an onsite interview?

All applicants who would like to be considered for the residency must come onsite for an interview. All participants must register with the National Match Service.

### How are the onsite interviews scheduled?

Once all of the applications are received and reviewed, applicants who have been selected for an onsite interview will be emailed available interview dates. The applicant will then schedule an interview date and time from the list.

### Do applicants get reimbursed for costs associated with the onsite interview?

Unfortunately, we are not able to reimburse potential candidates for costs associated with onsite interviews. All costs must be paid by the applicant.

### Is office space available to the residents?

There is office space with computer terminals, printers and desks available for all residents.

### What are the teaching responsibilities of the residents?

Residents that choose to teach at Long Island University Arnold and Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy will have the opportunity to assist in/or Physical Assessment Laboratory for two hours and one day every-other week for two hours to lead the Pharmacology and Therapeutics recitation. The teaching is from September through December of the residency year.

## Pharmacy Practice Residency Program (PGY-1)



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### OUR MISSION

The Veterans Affairs New York Harbor Healthcare System is dedicated to providing quality health care to veterans using the abilities of all employees, supported by our commitment to education and research.

### OUR VISION

We seek to be the provider of choice of veterans and the community by offering an efficient, integrated quality health care system capable of providing a full range of primary, specialty and chronic health care services in a system that is readily accessible and responsive to change.

### WE VALUE

Trust, Respect, Compassion, Commitment, Excellence,  
Teamwork, Communication, Diversity



Visit our medical center's website at:

<http://www.nyharbor.va.gov>

## Where are they now?

Many applicants ask, "Where are the graduates of your residency program now?" This residency program was started in 1995 so our alumni base is quite extensive. Below highlights some of our alumni. For a full list please contact the residency coordinator.

### **Viktorla Kharlamb '96**

Senior Pharmacy Consultant  
PBM, VISN 3 New York

### **Nino Marzella '02**

Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice  
LIU Arnold & Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy, NY  
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist  
VA New York Harbor Healthcare System, Brooklyn Campus

### **Helen Kourlas '02**

Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice  
LIU Arnold & Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy, NY  
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Drug Information Services  
VA New York Harbor Healthcare System, Manhattan Campus

### **Janine Smith '03**

Amgen Corp, Medical Liaison

### **Thlen-Ly Doan '04**

Antibiotic Utilization Coordinator, Long Island Jewish Medical Center, NY  
Specialty Pharmacy Practice Residency in Infectious Disease  
Bronx VA Medical Center, NY

### **Olga Hilas '04**

Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy Practice St. John's University, College of Pharmacy, NY  
Clinical Coordinator of Inter Medicine  
New York Presbyterian - Cornell Medical Center, NY

### **Danielle Ezzo '04**

Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy Practice  
St. John's University, College of Pharmacy, NY  
Clinical Coordinator of Internal Medicine  
Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New York

### **Tomasz Jodlowski '05**

Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy Practice  
St. John's University, College of Pharmacy, NY  
Clinical Coordinator of Internal Medicine  
Jacobi Medical Center, New York  
Specialty Pharmacy Practice Residency in Infectious Diseases  
James A. Haley VA, Florida

### **Paris Abrams '08**

Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice  
LIU Arnold & Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy, New York  
**Chris Emerson '08**

Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice  
LIU Arnold & Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy, New York  
Lennox Hill Hospital, New York

### **Melissa Tergesen '10**

PGY2, Bronx VA—Geriatrics

### **Polina Plotkin '10**

PACT Pharmacist New York Harbor Healthcare-Brooklyn VA

### **Amy Umlinski '11**

PGY2, Cleveland VA—Ambulatory Care

### **Khusbu Patel '11**

PGY2, Bronx VA—Geriatrics

### **Julie Billeto '12**

PGY-2 Brooklyn Hospital Center— Ambulatory Care

### **Darlene Bhokasub '12**

PGY2, University of Sennadoah—Psychiatry

### **Jane Wong '13**

PGY2 Bronx VA

### **Mohammed Rattu '13**

Montifore Medical Center—Clinical Pharmacist

### **Milena Monskaya '14**

Fellowship Palliative Care—Bronx VA

### **Marla Sorbera '14**

Brooklyn Hospital Center—Ambulatory Care

### **Brittany Gallagher '15**

Gainsville VA—Clinical Pharmacist

### **Yesha Patel '15**

Kaiser Permanente

### **Caitlyn Bloom '16**

PGY2 Bronx Lebanon

### **Wal Lim '16**

Memorial Sloan Kettering—Clinical Pharmacist

### **Sybil Goday-Pena '17**

Bronx Lebanon PGY 2

### **Julia Kamuda '17**

Clinical Pharmacist—Memorial Sloan Kettering