Purpose of the Program

ASHP 2014 Standards state the purpose of PGY1 pharmacy residency program is to build on Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) education and outcomes to contribute to the development of clinical pharmacists responsible for medication-related care of patients with a wide range of conditions, eligible for board certification, and eligible for postgraduate year two (PGY2) pharmacy residency training.

Additionally, the Cincinnati VAMC PGY1 residency training program is intended to provide its graduates with a variety of advanced practice skills including:

- Functioning effectively as a pharmacist in multiple healthcare & environments &
- Functioning effectively as a member of an interdisciplinary primary care team
- Working under a collaborative practice agreement to provide direct patient care services including disease state management, patient education and wellness promotion
- Developing leadership skills in all areas of pharmacy practice management including continuous quality improvement, medication use evaluation, medication reconciliation, drug information, staff development and formulary management
- Developing and refining teaching, writing and speaking skills to ensure professionalism in providing patient/staff education and information
- Developing the ability to manage one’s own practice
- Becoming a self-directed learner who takes personal responsibility for attaining excellence in one’s ability to provide pharmaceutical care

Training Practice Sites

1. Primary Care Training

Each of the pharmacy residents will work as an integral part of the Primary Care Service at the Cincinnati VA Outpatient Clinics and the Community Based Clinics. The pharmacy resident will work under a collaborative practice agreement with the primary care providers to facilitate achievement of therapeutic goals through evidence-based disease state management. The pharmacy residents will each have two full months in these areas and an additional month providing ambulatory care services in some of our specialty clinics including: cardiology, endocrinology, pain and/or extended infectious disease. This will provide them with an in depth learning experiences in the ambulatory care setting.

The pharmacy resident will have patients referred by the providers on the teams on a scheduled basis. The pharmacy residents will learn to work independently with the patients to do a comprehensive interview and assessment of the patients’ pharmaceutical care needs. They will then staff the patients with the Clinical Pharmacy Specialist preceptor and the referring physician to gain consensus for their proposed treatment plans. The pharmacy resident will be responsible for carrying out the treatment plans as well as the monitoring and necessary follow-up to ensure that the patient receives safe and effective therapies for all of their medical conditions.

2. Acute Care Learning Experiences

Each pharmacy resident will have at least three months of learning experiences in the
acute care (inpatient) setting. They will have a month working with an internal medicine team, a month working with critical care team in the MICU or SICU and a third month on a team of their choosing. During all of these learning experiences, the resident will be provided with multiple opportunities to interact with their physician and nursing colleagues to provide direct patient care and to provide timely and patient specific drug information. Additionally, they will train with Clinical Pharmacy Specialist preceptors in these areas to ensure they develop the knowledge and skills to become an effective acute care practitioner.

3. Pharmacy Administration and Practice Management Learning Experience
Each Pharmacy resident will have a required learning experience in each of these areas working closely with the pharmacy Assistant Chiefs to develop skills in all aspects of practice management and leadership.

4. Four Elective Learning Experience
These elective learning experiences may include antimicrobial stewardship/infectious disease, I geriatrics, HIV, inpatient or outpatient psychiatry, oncology, other medicine experiences, other practice management experiences, surgery,

5. Teaching and Precepting Experience
The Pharmacy Service currently has affiliations with five colleges of pharmacy and serves as a training site for Pharm.D. students in a variety of practice settings. The pharmacy residents will be involved in a variety of teaching experiences throughout their residency year including precepting students in multiple learning experiences and facilitating student learning experiences including critical literature evaluations through journal clubs, topic discussions and patient presentations. The resident will also be doing formal presentations and ACPE Continuing Education Programs for the pharmacy.

During the course of the residency year, they will be completing the didactic and practical experiences to complete a Teaching Certificate Program through the James L Winkle University of Cincinnati College of Pharmacy.

6. Longitudinal Experiences
The residents will also engage in a variety of longitudinal learning experiences over the entire training year. These experiences include:
- Serving as the Drug Information Resident for the medical center for three months
- Working on a medication use evaluation project as part of the MUE Committee
- Working with the Associate Chief of Clinical Programs on newsletter articles, formulary management issues and adverse drug event reporting.

Working in the longitudinal telehealth anticoagulation clinic and review consults for anticoagulation management

7. Final Project
The resident will complete a major project focused on an appropriate topic, which will afford him/her the opportunity to:
Submit a formal written proposal to the local VA Research Service who in conjunction with the Investigational Review Board will determine the scope of the project and whether it will be exempt or expedited
- Present a poster at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting
- Present at the Great Lakes Pharmacy Residency Conference Pharmacy
- Present at the Greater Cincinnati Society of Health Systems Pharmacists
- Write a formal manuscript and consider submitting their project for publication

8. Staffing/Service Commitment
Each resident will be required to help cover one Friday evening shift on one Saturday daytime shift on one weekend and then one Sunday daytime shift on another weekend every month. In addition to this, the resident will also cover one non-major holiday per year provide coverage during staff lunch breaks one day a week for 1 hour in outpatient pharmacy.

Residents are not pulled to staff beyond these required service commitments.

Residency Benefits
The resident will be appointed as a temporary pharmacy employee of the Cincinnati Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Benefits include:
- $42,678 stipend
- Health insurance
- Paid leave days: 13 vacation, 13 sick, 9 holidays
- Financial assistance and administrative leave for selected professional meetings
- BLS and ACLS certification
- Computers (PC/Internet)
- Office space, supplies and support
- Copying and medical media services
- Free Parking

Application Requirements
(online via Phorcas)
- United States Citizen
- Licensed Pharmacist (or in process of licensure)
- Letter of Intent
- Completed application
- Curriculum vitae
- Copy of pharmacy college transcripts
- Three letters of recommendation
- On site interview

Program Official
for application materials or additional information contact:
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