PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency

Lebanon VA Medical Center Lebanon, PA
Philosophy

The PGY2 residency in Ambulatory Care pharmacy practice at the Lebanon VA Medical Center is focused on developing practitioners who will exhibit excellence in pharmaceutical care in Ambulatory Care practice settings. An Ambulatory Care Clinical Specialist should possess the clinical skills needed to practice in a wide range of patient care settings and a solid knowledge base in ambulatory care pharmacotherapy. This PGY2 residency will provide the environment necessary to achieve the knowledge and skills needed to care for patients in this area. The program will foster the development of an independent, versatile Clinical Pharmacy Specialist. This PGY2 residency will help prepare graduates of the program to achieve the clinical knowledge base needed to attain board certification in ambulatory care.

Program goals

Clinical development

- Provide patient-specific medication management services within an approved Scope of Practice which results in positive patient outcomes
- Develop strong patient care skills in chronic Ambulatory Care disease states
- Provide patient specific educational services on a one-to-one basis as well as in group meetings
- Become familiar with pharmacy benefit management principles including the non-formulary process
- Become established as an integral part of the health care team
- Develop skills needed to precept both Lebanon VA PGY1 Pharmacy Practice residents and Pharm.D. student rotations

Educational development

- Effectively evaluate and apply data from clinical trials into your pharmacy practice skills
- Develop skill set to effectively educate health care professionals in small discussions groups as well as during didactic type lectures
- Develop skills to provide competency based training to pharmacy employees including pharmacists and pharmacy technicians

Personal development

- Develop the skills necessary to effectively self evaluate one’s work
- Develop written and verbal communication skills to successfully practice in Ambulatory Care clinics
- Demonstrate effective time- management skills needed to successfully practice as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist

Core rotations (half day blocks)

- Pharmacotherapy Clinic
- Diabetes Education Clinic
- ESA Monitoring Clinic
- Therapeutic Lifestyle Classes at Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC)
- Administrative time (Total of one day per week)*

Elective rotation options

- PACT clinic
- Cardiology Clinic
- Geriatric Outpatient Clinic*
- Nephrology Clinic*
- Endocrinology Clinic*
- Psychiatry Clinic*
- Home Based Ambulatory Care*
- Women’s Health Clinic*
- Emergency Department*

*Preceptor may be an allied health professional such as a Physician Assistant or Nurse Practitioner or a Physician, etc. Although, the main preceptor for the elective experience will be a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist.
Meet the preceptors:

Dina Hunsinger-Norris, Pharm.D., BCPS, AQ-Cardiology  
PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency Director  
Primary Care Clinical Specialist  
Pharm.D., Temple University, 2000  
Specialty residency in Primary Care with a focus on education, Chicago College of Pharmacy, Midwestern University, 2001  
dina.norris@va.gov

Lisa McKee, Pharm.D., BCPS, CDE  
Primary Care Clinical Specialist  
BA Biology, La Salle University, 1993  
BS Pharmacy, Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, 1998  
Pharm.D., Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, 1999  
Specialty residency in Primary Care, Madison VAMC, 2000  
lisa.mckee@va.gov

Heather Ulrich, Pharm.D., BCPS, CDE  
Endocrinology Clinical Specialist  
BS Pharmacy, Duquesne University, 1997  
Pharm.D., Duquesne University, 1998  
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice residency, Temple University Hospital, 1999  
PGY2 Primary Care residency, Providence Health System, 2000  
heather.ulrich@va.gov

Inga Washington, Pharm.D., BCPS  
Primary Care Clinical Specialist  
BS Biology, University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Pharm.D., Temple University, 2007  
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice residency, Lebanon VAMC, 2008  
inga.washington@va.gov

Christy Dayhoff, RPh  
Hematology/Oncology Clinical Specialist  
BS Pharmacy, The Ohio State University, 1983  
christy.dayhoff@va.gov

Monica Bowen, Pharm.D., BCPS  
Primary Care Clinical Specialist  
Pharm.D., Wilkes University, 2009  
PGY1, Lebanon VAMC, 2010  
PGY2, Ambulatory Care, Lebanon VAMC, 2011  
monica.bowen@va.gov

Chelsea Fitzgerald, Pharm.D.  
Clinical Specialist – Primary Care/Endocrinology  
PharmD, University of Pittsburgh, 2013  
Pharmacy Practice Residency, Geisinger Medical Center, 2014  
Ambulatory Care Residency, Lebanon VA Medical Center, 2015

Benefits

- Stipend: $44,522  
- 13 paid annual leave/13 paid sick days/10 paid federal holidays  
- Funds may be available to attend national and regional pharmacy conferences  
- Subsidized health insurance  
- Vision/dental benefit offered  
- Free parking/lab coats  
- YMCA onsite with free membership fee

About the Lebanon VA

The medical center is a Joint Commission accredited medical complex, which consists of a main campus in Lebanon, plus Community Based Outpatient Clinics in Camp Hill, York, Reading, Lancaster, Frackville, and Pottsville, serving approximately 45,000 patients in 9 counties of south central Pennsylvania. A large part of the main campus centers around primary care; there are eight primary care teams, various outpatient specialty clinics including cardiology, oncology, nephrology, physical/occupational therapy clinics, dental clinic, as well as behavioral health clinics to name a few. The main hospital has a total of 280 beds in the areas of intensive care, acute care, psychiatry, surgery, transitional care, substance abuse rehabilitation, nursing home and hospice.

About Lebanon, PA

Lebanon is located in the beautiful farmlands of South Central Pennsylvania, nestled between mountains that run along the northern and southern borders. Lebanon has a small-town atmosphere with a great quality of life and relatively low cost of living.

Lebanon is a short drive from Harrisburg, the state capital of Pennsylvania as well as Lancaster - famous for its Amish farms. Several major interstate highways intersect the county and provide easy access to many large cities such as Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington D.C. and New York City.

Enjoy a short drive to Hershey, PA – the chocolate capital of the world - offering one of the nation’s finest theme parks, beautiful hotels, and golf. The Hershey area attracts many nationally and internationally renowned touring acts as well as millions of chocolate loving visitors every year.
Application Requirements

The Lebanon Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residency Program is open to any individual regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, age, or handicap. All applications materials should be submitted via the PhORCAS system by the application deadline and will be competitively considered for an onsite interview. The minimum requirements to receive consideration for an onsite interview are as follows:

- Current enrollment in a PGY1 pharmacy residency program with anticipated completion prior to start of PGY2 residency or have previously completed a PGY1 residency
- Must be licensed as a pharmacist in any US state or territory
- Possess a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an ACPE-accredited school or college of pharmacy; or a B.S., M.S., or Ph.D. degree and equivalent experience
- Applicants must be able to commit to the residency for a period of no less than one year.
- Applicant must be a US citizen.

Please note that these are the minimum requirements to receive consideration for an onsite interview. Meeting these criteria does not guarantee acceptance.

Resident Application Process

Letter of intent*
Curriculum Vitae
Three recommendations in PhORCAS (Letters recommended)

College transcripts

*The letter of intent should include the answers to the following three questions: (1) Why do you want to do this residency? (2) What are your personal and professional strengths? (3) Where do you see yourself in five years?

If any of the above materials are not received by the application deadline of January 15, the applicant will not be considered for an interview. Submitted in PhORCAS.

For more information regarding this PGY2 send all correspondence to:
Dina Hunsinger-Norris, Pharm.D., BCPS AQ-Cardiology PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency Director
1700 South Lincoln Avenue, BLD 19, Rm 258a
Lebanon, PA 17042
1-800-409-8771 ext. 5444
dina.norris@va.gov

“I feel VERY PREPARED and confident in my knowledge, I know Lebanon trained me well and I don’t think I would be able to do what I’m doing without a PGY2 and experience prescribing..”

Former PGY2 Lebanon VA Ambulatory Care resident