Residency Program History
The Providence Veterans Affairs Medical Center (PVAMC) residency program was established in 1994 as a specialty residency in primary care. After graduating many successful residents, the residency program was converted in 2007 to the current PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy program. The PGY1 Pharmacy program was established at that time to provide more residency training opportunities to today’s pharmacy graduates. In 2013, two new programs in psychiatry were established - a PGY 2 Psychiatric Pharmacy residency and an additional PGY 1 Pharmacy Residency with a Psychiatry Focus. Currently all PGY1 and PGY2 residency programs at PVAMC are accredited by ASHP.

PVAMC is a 75 bed general medicine and surgical teaching hospital, which provides comprehensive patient care. The medical center provides all major diagnostic and treatment specialties, including comprehensive inpatient and outpatient psychiatric services. The outpatient ambulatory care clinics support over 150,000 patient visits per year in more than 32 primary and specialty care clinics. PVAMC also serves as a teaching facility for The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy, and the MCPHS University School of Pharmacy.

The Pharmacy Service
The pharmacy service features a department consisting of 49 FTEEs which includes 27 pharmacists, 18 technicians and 1 administrative support position. Currently there are 11 clinical pharmacy specialists practicing in ambulatory care and psychiatry and 5 residency positions (three PGY1 and two PGY2 residents). The inpatient pharmacy provides hospital-wide unit dose and intravenous admixture services. The outpatient pharmacy provides over 1.3 million 30-day-equivalent prescriptions to over 30,000 Veterans per year. Both the inpatient and outpatient pharmacies utilize automated dispensing technologies wherever possible including the Pyxis and ScriptPro systems, as well as a comprehensive electronic medical record.

The Clinical Pharmacy Service
In addition to traditional clinical pharmacy services, there has been a concentrated effort to offer advanced clinical pharmacy practice services in the ambulatory care setting. All of the clinical pharmacy specialists at PVAMC work under an advanced scope of practice that includes disease specific prescribing authority. These pharmacists are imbedded in primary care’s Patient Aligned Care Team (patient centered medical home model) and focus on disease state management. Pharmacist managed clinics include the metabolic clinic, Diabetes CARE Team, psychiatric medication management, clozapine clinic, anticoagulation, hepatitis C, and erythropoietin clinics in addition to the traditional pharmacy consult clinic. Other responsibilities include drug information, patient education, drug usage evaluations, and formulary policy and management. Residency rotations are also available with the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy faculty who have teaching sites at PVAMC.
**The City of Providence**

Providence is the capital city of Rhode Island, also known as the “Ocean State.” It offers a thriving arts community, vibrant and diverse neighborhoods, a renowned restaurant scene and a rich historical background. Boston is an hour away and New York City is easily accessible. For outdoor enthusiasts, Rhode Islanders enjoy beautiful beaches, numerous parks, hiking trails, biking paths, kayaking and boating opportunities. For more information visit: [http://www.goprovidence.com/](http://www.goprovidence.com/).

**Overview of the PGY1 Pharmacy and Pharmacy, Psychiatry Focus Residencies**

The PGY1 residency is a 12 month full-time directed training program that builds upon knowledge, skills, and abilities gained from an accredited professional pharmacy degree program. It enhances general competencies in managing medication-use systems and supports optimal medication therapy outcomes for patients with a broad range of disease states. Residents are provided with the opportunity to accelerate their growth beyond the entry-level professional competence in patient-centered care and in pharmacy operational services.

**Outcome competencies include:**

- Managing and improving the medication use process
- Providing evidence-based, patient centered medication therapy management with interdisciplinary teams
- Exercising leadership and practice management
- Demonstrating project management skills
- Providing medication and practice-related education/training
- Utilizing medical informatics

**Objectives include:**

- Function as a highly competent pharmacy generalist who can function in multiple roles within a pharmacy system
- Participate in medication use evaluation and drug policy development
- Evaluate a patient’s medical record and medication profile and obtain information needed to make pharmaceutical care assessments
- Effectively communicate in both verbal and written modalities to patients and other health care professionals
- Develop educational tools designed to optimize patient understanding and medication use
- Enhance communication skills through continuing education program presentations

In addition, the resident will complete the following:

- Research Project
  - Background preparation, protocol design, data collection, and analysis of data
  - Written manuscript suitable for submission to a professional journal
  - Presentation at the Eastern States Residency Conference
- Drug monograph/drug information project(s)
- Pharmacy inservices and continuing education
- At least one lecture in therapeutics at a college of pharmacy
Rotations - Required
Orientation / Training / Ambulatory Care Introduction
Inpatient Pharmacy / Outpatient Pharmacy Operations
Pharmacy Consult / Metabolic Clinic (3 months)
Internal Medicine
Infectious Diseases #
Specialty Care Pharmacy Clinics
Drug Information
Ambulatory Care Longitudinal
Administrative Longitudinal
Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) Longitudinal
Residency Project
Inpatient Psychiatry*
Outpatient Psychiatry*

# Elective for Psychiatry Focus
* Required for Psychiatry Focus

Elective Rotations
Psychiatry Outpatient / Inpatient
Inpatient / Outpatient Operations / Administration
Physician Based Mini-Rotations (Cardiology, Endocrinology, Dermatology, Infectious Diseases, others)
Heart Failure Clinic

Internal Medicine (Physician Based)
Elective (subject determined with RPD)

Teaching Opportunities
Providing the pharmacy resident with opportunities to teach is a primary objective of the VA residency programs. The pharmacy service provides clinical and institutional clerkships for Pharm.D. students from the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy (URI) and the MCPHS University School of Pharmacy – Boston and Worcester campuses. Additionally, residents contribute to the ASHP teaching mission with lectures to Pharm.D. students as well as presentations to the PVAMC pharmacy, medical, and nursing staff. The residency program participates in a formal teaching certificate program through URI.

Service Commitment
All PGY1 residents have a service commitment designed to ensure that they gain experience and can function as a pharmacy generalist. To achieve this objective, residents are scheduled approximately 8 to 16 hours per month (one to two weekend days per month) in a PVAMC inpatient pharmacy setting and are expected to perform as a patient care pharmacist or as an operations pharmacist under the guidance of a supervising pharmacist.

PGY2 Early Option
For PGY1 residents at PVAMC who want to complete a second year of residency training, early acceptance into either the PGY2 Ambulatory Care or Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency may be considered during the late fall as an option. Those residents accepted for early admission to the PGY2 program will NOT participate in the ASHP Match program.
Overview of the PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residency Program
The PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residency is a 12 month, full-time program designed to provide the second year resident with advanced training in physical assessment, clinical decision making, and disease state management in an environment which emphasizes interdisciplinary managed care.

The goal of PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residency is to train practitioners as competent direct care providers in a variety of pharmacist-directed and Interprofessional clinics. The potential settings include the following:

Pharmacist Directed: ● Primary Care (Pharmacy Consult) ● Anticoagulation ● Hepatitis C ● Heart Failure ● Psychiatry ● Erythropoietin Growth Factor ● Home Based Primary Care

Physician Directed: ● Endocrinology ● Neurology ● Women’s Health ● Pulmonary ● Dermatology ● Hematology ● Cardiology ● HIV/Infectious Disease

Ongoing activities include working on special projects for the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee, participating in research projects, precepting PGY1 Pharmacy residents and PharmD clerkship student, as well as other teaching and lecturing activities.

Objectives of the Ambulatory Care Residency
The objective of the specialty residency program is to provide the PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Resident with opportunities to complete the following:

● Improve the skills necessary to function independently as a clinical pharmacy specialist in a primary / ambulatory care setting
● Identify, resolve, and prevent drug related problems through the use of patient interview, physical assessment, patient observation, and medical profile review
● Evaluate a patient’s medical record and medication profile and obtain information needed to make primary care assessments
● Improve continuity of care by promoting interdisciplinary communication and cooperation for the optimal care of patients

In addition, the resident will complete the following:

● Research Project
  -Background preparation, protocol design, data collection, and analysis of data
  -Written manuscript suitable for submission to a professional journal
  -Presentation at the Eastern States Residency Conference
● An administrative project
● Pharmacy inservices and continuing education lectures
Overview of the PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency Program
The PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency Program is a 12 month, full-time program designed to provide the second year resident with advanced training in clinical decision making and disease state management in an environment which emphasizes interdisciplinary psychiatric care. This program is also listed on the College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP) residency directory website: https://cpnp.org/career/residencies?program=254.

The goal of the PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency is to train practitioners as competent patient care providers in a variety of inpatient and outpatient psychiatric settings. The potential settings include:

Pharmacist Directed: ● Outpatient Psychiatry ● Mental Health Pharmacy Consult ● Academia ● Outpatient Addiction Recovery Services ● PTSD/Returning Veterans Clinic

Psychiatrist/Neurologist Directed: ● Neurology (general, multiple sclerosis, movement disorders) ● Outpatient Addiction Recovery Services ● PTSD/Returning Veterans Clinic ● Homeless Veterans Clinic ● Primary Care Mental Health

Interprofessional Teams: ● Inpatient Psychiatry ● Clozapine Clinic ● Suboxone Clinic ● Methadone Clinic ● ALS/Spinal Cord Injury ● Traumatic Brain Injury

Other ongoing activities include: ● Answering drug information questions ● Completing mental health pharmacy e-consults ● Completing a medication use evaluation ● Assisting in an advance neuropsychiatry elective course at the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy (URI) ● Co-precepting URI pharmacy students on psychiatry rotation at the Providence VA Medical Center ● Providing in-services and teaching to healthcare professionals and Veterans

Research Project: ● Background preparation, protocol design, data collection, and analysis of data ● Written manuscript suitable for submission to a professional journal ● Poster presentation at the College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists Annual Meeting

Inter-residency Education: Partnering with residents and preceptors at the Connecticut VAMC and Yale/New Haven Hospital for twice monthly educational topic discussions, journal clubs, and case presentations across a variety of disease states and psychiatric pharmacy issues

Objectives of the PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency Program
The objectives of the specialty residency program are to provide the PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Resident with an opportunity to complete the following:
● Improve the skills necessary to function independently as a clinical pharmacy specialist in psychiatry
● Provide experiences in neurology that are essential for a psychiatric pharmacy specialist
● Identify, resolve, and prevent medication related problems through the use of patient interview, psychiatric assessment, and medical profile review
● Improve continuity of care and optimize patient outcomes through interprofessional communication and collaboration
**Residency Program Benefits**

**Approximate Resident Stipend:**
- PGY1: $44,928
- PGY2: $49,500

**Vacation:** Vacation time will accrue at a rate of four (4) hours per pay period (26 pay periods per year) for a total of thirteen (13) paid vacation days.

**Holidays:** Ten (10) paid holidays

**Required Conference Attendance:** Residents will attend the Midyear Clinical Meeting and the Eastern States Residency Conference (PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Resident attends College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists Annual Conference in place of Eastern States)

**Sick Leave:** Sick time will accrue at the rate of 4 hours per pay period for a maximum of 13 sick days.

**Health Insurance:** Available on a group rate basis.

**Parking:** Free

**Additional Benefits**

Job openings within the VA after graduation are plentiful across the country, many of which are at the clinical pharmacy specialist or supervisory levels.

**Qualifications**
- Be a citizen of the United States
- Have received a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an ACPE accredited college of pharmacy or a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy with equivalent experience for the PGY1 Pharmacy Residency
- Have completed a PGY1 residency or have equivalent experience for the PGY2 residencies in ambulatory care pharmacy and psychiatric pharmacy
- Have/obtain a current license to practice as a registered pharmacist in any state

**Application Requirements** – All documents should be submitted to PHORCAS by assigned date
- Residency application form.
- Letter of intent describing goals/reasons for pursuing advanced residency training in pharmacy, ambulatory care pharmacy, or psychiatric pharmacy
- Official college of pharmacy transcript
- Three letters of recommendation
- CV

**NOTE:** Applicants for the PGY1 and PGY2 residencies **MUST participate** in the ASHP Matching Program.

**Inquiries / Contact Information**

Inquires or questions regarding the PGY1 Pharmacy and PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy residency programs can be made to the residency program director:

Carol Botelho, Pharm.D, BCACP, CGP
Providence VAMC, Pharmacy Service (119)
830 Chalkstone Ave.
Providence, R.I. 02908
Carol.Botelho@va.gov

Inquires or questions regarding the PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy residency program can be made to the residency program director:

Robert L. Dufresne, PhD, PhD, BCPS, BCPP
Providence VAMC, Pharmacy Service (119)
830 Chalkstone Ave.
Providence, R.I. 02908
robdufresne@uri.edu
FACULTY BIOS

Bradley E. Peterson, Pharm.D., BCACP  
*Acting Chief of Pharmacy*  
**Clinical Practice Site:** Providence VA Medical Center

Dr. Peterson is a 1980 graduate of the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, South Carolina and completed an ASHP accredited residency in Pharmacy Practice at the same institution in 1981. He earned his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Florida College of Pharmacy in 2007. Dr. Peterson has held multiple positions ranging from acute care inpatient staff, clinical pharmacy coordinator, to assistant and associate director of pharmacy positions. He has served as a preceptor for both the MCPHS University – Worcester and the URI College of Pharmacy externship and clerkship programs. He holds a membership in ASHP, ACCP, ASCP and has held several positions on the Board of Directors of the RISHP state affiliate. Dr. Peterson’s current practice interests include collaborative practice / pharmacist directed primary care, pharmacy benefits / formulary management, and the integration/ continuity of ambulatory care/ inpatient clinical pharmacy services.

Carol Botelho, Pharm.D., BCACP, CGP  
*Residency Program Director/Clinical Pharmacy Specialist*  
**Clinical Practice Site:** Providence VA Medical Center

Dr. Botelho received both her Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Pharmacy degrees from the University of Rhode Island. Dr. Botelho joined the ambulatory care clinical pharmacy staff in 2006 after serving as an acute care (inpatient) clinical pharmacist in the private sector where she was a preceptor for the URI College of Pharmacy externship and clerkship programs. She has recently moved into the Residency Program Director position. She also works in primary care and is the clinical pharmacist for the Home Based Primary Care program. Dr. Botelho's interests include geriatrics, research, and disease state management of diabetes, hypertension, and dyslipidemia. Dr. Botelho is a preceptor for Pharm.D. candidates from MCPHS University and the University of Sciences – Philadelphia.

George Hoell, Pharm.D.  
*Clinical Pharmacy Specialist*  
**Clinical Practice Site:** Providence VA Medical Center

Dr. Hoell received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1976 and the Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 2000 from MCPHS University. Dr. Hoell has participated in the establishment and development of the Clinical Pharmacy Consult Service in the ambulatory care setting over the last 15 years. He currently practices in this multidisciplinary setting and specializes in the disease state management of diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, smoking cessation, and pain management. Dr. Hoell serves as a preceptor for Pharm.D. candidates from MCPHS University – Worcester.

Christine Borowy, Pharm.D., BCPS  
*Clinical Pharmacy Specialist*  
**Clinical Practice Site:** New Bedford (CBOC) – VA Medical Center

Dr. Borowy joined the clinical staff in 2011 as the first clinical pharmacy specialist located in the Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC). Dr. Borowy received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 2005 and completed her Primary Care Pharmacy Residency at the Louis Stokes VAMC in 2007. She is currently Board Certified in Pharmacotherapy. She has been a clinical pharmacy specialist in primary care at the Dwight D. Eisenhower VAMC and Chillicothe VAMC. Her areas of interest include diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, and smoking cessation.

Megan E. Crete, Pharm.D.  
*Clinical Pharmacy Specialist*  
**Clinical Practice Site:** Providence VA Medical Center

Dr. Crete graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 2005 and completed her Specialty Pharmacy Residency in Primary Care in 2006 at the Providence VAMC. After completion of her residency, Dr. Crete worked as a clinical pharmacy specialist at the Northampton VAMC specializing in anticoagulation and disease state management. Before joining the PVAMC Clinical Pharmacy Service, Dr. Crete practiced as a Clinical Pharmacist in the Inpatient (acute care) setting at PVAMC. Dr. Crete’s interests include disease state management of diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, and anticoagulation. Dr. Crete is a preceptor for the Pharm.D. candidates from the MCPHS University – Worcester.
Glenn Bailan, Pharm.D., MBA  
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist  
Clinical Practice Site: Providence VA Medical Center  
Dr. Bailan holds a Pharm.D. from the Northeastern University School of Pharmacy, Boston, MA during which time he completed research, acute care, and outpatient care rotations. Subsequently, Dr. Bailan graduated from a combined outpatient and acute care PGY1 residency at the VA Boston Medical Center. Dr. Bailan is a Persian Gulf combat Veteran holding a B.S. from the United States Military Academy, West Point, and an MBA from the University of Michigan Ross School of Business. Dr. Bailan joined the Providence VA Medical Center clinical pharmacy staff in 2012, and serves as a preceptor for Pharm.D. candidates from MCPHS University—Worcester and the Northeastern University School of Pharmacy.

Margaret “Maggie” Quillin, Pharm.D.  
Coordinator, Anticoagulation Services  
Practice Site: Providence VA Medical Center  
Dr. Quillin’s area of clinical practice is focused on the management of anticoagulation. She currently coordinates the Anticoagulation Clinic at the Providence VAMC, which provides services to over 900 Veterans, as well as a Heparin Clinic for patients requiring low molecular weight heparin therapy. Dr. Quillin is a preceptor for Pharm.D. candidates from the University of Rhode Island and the MCPHS.

Marlene I. Callahan, Pharm.D.  
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist  
Clinical Practice Site: Providence VA Medical Center  
Dr. Callahan is a clinical pharmacy specialist primarily involved in the GI (Hepatitis C) Clinic and the Anticoagulation Clinic. She precepts pharmacy students and residents in these two specialty areas. Dr. Callahan joined the PVAMC Pharmacy Service after completing a Primary Care Pharmacy Residency at this practice site.

Carlos Freitas, Pharm.D., BCACP  
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist  
Clinical Practice Site: Providence VA Medical Center  
Dr. Freitas holds a Pharm.D. from MCPHS University, Worcester, MA and completed both his PGY1 Pharmacy residency and PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy residency at the Providence VA Medical Center. Dr. Freitas specializes in chronic disease states including diabetes, hypertension and hyperlipidemia. He leads the erythropoietin growth factor clinic and is involved in Diabetes CARE Team, home based primary care and anticoagulation clinic.

Kathryn “Katie” Conti, Pharm.D.  
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist  
Clinical Practice Site: Providence VA Medical Center  
Dr. Conti holds a Pharm.D. from MCPHS University, Boston, MA and completed both her PGY1 Pharmacy residency and PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy residency at the Providence VA Medical Center. In 2016 Dr. Conti was hired on as the clinical pharmacy specialist in Primary Care, Women’s Health and Pain Management. She specializes in chronic disease states including diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, contraceptive management, chronic pain management and is involved in Diabetes CARE Team.

Cristofer Price, Pharm.D., BCPP  
Residency Program Director/Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Mental Health  
Clinical Practice Site: Providence VA Medical Center  
Dr. Price graduated from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in 2011 and completed a PGY1 Pharmacy and PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency at the Lexington VA Medical Center in Lexington, KY. Dr. Price practices on the inpatient psychiatry unit, in the clozapine clinic, and runs a medication management clinic in the outpatient mental health service. Additional areas of practice/research include comprehensive medication management and reducing polypharmacy. Dr. Price serves as a preceptor for Pharm.D. candidates from the University of Rhode Island. He is an active member of College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP) and was a co-author of the 2015 CPNP position paper, “Improving medication-related outcomes for patients with psychiatric and neurologic disorders: Value of psychiatric pharmacists as part of the health care team.”
Robert L. Dufresne, Ph.D., Ph.D., BCPS, BCPP
PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency Program Directory/Psychiatric Pharmacotherapy Specialist
Clinical Practice Site: Providence VA Medical Center
Dr. Dufresne is a Professor of Pharmacy at the URI College of Pharmacy and a Psychiatric Pharmacotherapy Specialist at the Providence VA Medical Center. His educational background includes pharmacy degrees and board certifications in Psychiatric Pharmacy and Pharmacotherapy as well as doctorates in both pharmacology and psychology. He is engaged in teaching psychiatric and neurologic pharmacotherapy to students of pharmacy, nursing, medicine, and assorted allied health fields. He is an active member of the College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP) and has served in various capacities as a board member, journal editor, and participant in numerous committees over the years. In addition to these activities, he provides clinical service at the Providence VAMC. Dr. Dufresne’s research over the course of his career has included work in the pharmacotherapy of major depression and depression in schizophrenia. More recently he has published extensively in the area of antipsychotic induced dyslipidemia.

Jessica Hawthorne, Pharm.D.
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist
Clinical Practice Site: Providence VA Medical Center
Dr. Hawthorne graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy in 2014 and completed a PGY1 Pharmacy and PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency at the Providence VA Medical Center. After residency, Dr. Hawthorne joined the Trauma Recovery Services and Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Services interprofessional teams as a clinical pharmacy specialist in mental health. Responsibilities including medication management clinic, Suboxone clinic, pharmacy consults and e-consults, non-formulary drug requests, and naloxone education consults. Additional areas of practice/research include medication adherence, primary care in patients with mental illness, opioid safety, and benzodiazepine and opioid co-prescribing. Dr. Hawthorne is an Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice at University of Rhode Island and a member of College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP).

Justin C. Ellison, PharmD, BCPP
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Mental Health
Clinical Practice Site: Providence VA Medical Center - Hyannis CBOC
Dr. Ellison graduated from the University of Rhode Island School of Pharmacy in 2012. He then completed a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at Stony Brook University Medical Center and a PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency at the Providence VA Medical Center. Dr. Ellison runs a comprehensive medication management clinic in the outpatient mental health service where he serves Veterans with a variety of illnesses including mood disorders, PTSD, substance use disorders, and schizophrenia. Dr. Ellison has conducted research and published within the area of schizophrenia and related disorders. He is also an active member of College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP) and serves as a peer reviewer for the Mental Health Clinician and Bipolar Disorders.

University of Rhode Island Faculty with Clinical Sites at the PVAMC
Robert L. Dufresne, PhD, PhD, BCPS, BCPP
Clinical Practice: Psychiatry / Psychopharmacology
Kerry LaPlante, PharmD
Clinical Practice: Infectious Diseases
Tracey Taveira, PharmD, CDOE
Clinical Practice: Heart Failure
Nicole Asal, PharmD, BCPS
Clinical Practice: Internal Medicine
Kristina Ward, PharmD, BCPS
Drug Information Service, Practice site at the URI College of Pharmacy