

Welcome to the VA North Texas Health Care System Pharmacy Residency Programs



VA North Texas serves over 195,000 Veterans in 38 counties in Texas surrounding the Dallas metroplex area and two counties in southern Oklahoma. VA North Texas is a 1A complexity level facility and is the second largest VA health care system in the country. The main campus is located in Dallas, TX with additional campuses and clinics in Bonham, Fort Worth, Garland, and Tyler, as well as community-based outpatient clinics in Grand Prairie, Plano, Denton, Decatur, Sherman, Greeneville, and Granbury.

VA North Texas provides comprehensive health services through primary, tertiary and long-term care in many areas, including medicine, surgery, mental health and rehabilitation. The 835-bed system includes Spinal Cord Injury Center, Domiciliary and Community Living Center with dedicated hospice and dementia units. The Fisher House on campus at Dallas VA Medical Center provides no-cost temporary lodging in a home-like setting for families of Veterans or active-duty military personnel receiving VA care. A Polytrauma Suite provides specialized treatments and therapies for traumatic brain injury and other combat-associated conditions, and a dedicated Mammography Suite provides OB-GYN and imaging services in a private spa-like environment for female Veterans.

Pharmacy Department

The Pharmacy department at VA North Texas is comprised of a diverse group of over 200 pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, administrative, and technical staff dedicated to meeting the needs of Veterans.

Our **mission** is to provide high quality, Veteran centered pharmaceutical care...ALWAYS.

Our **vision** is to be recognized as a department of excellence by providing state of the art pharmacy services that exceeds the needs of those we serve.

We currently have over 80 staff supporting our clinical pharmacy section – made up of clinical pharmacist practitioners, clinical pharmacists, and clinical pharmacy technicians. Our clinicians serve in pharmacy practice roles across all settings and levels of care; including Emergency Room, Internal Medicine, Critical Care, Surgery, Long Term Care, Spinal Cord Injury, Primary Care, Anticoagulation, Home Based Primary Care, Inpatient and Outpatient Mental Health, Hematology-Oncology, Infectious Disease, and Pain Management.

Residency Programs Overview

VA North Texas has a rich tradition of supporting residency programs with over 170 residency graduates across all our programs.

VA North Texas HCS has offered a PGY1 pharmacy residency since 1996. Our program offers a diverse range of learning experiences to prepare the resident for additional PGY2 residency training or entry level clinical practice positions. The program offers a wide range of rotation experiences to develop the resident into a well-rounded, patient centered pharmacy clinician. The program is tailored to the individual needs of each resident with an emphasis on personal, professional, and leadership development.

We also offer a PGY2 pharmacy residency in Ambulatory Care and in Psychiatric Pharmacy. These programs have been in place since 2006 and 2014, respectively. Residents who complete PGY2 training in either program are prepared to enter advanced clinical practice positions.

Our dedicated residency program directors, residency coordinators, and residency preceptors are dedicated and invested in providing mentorship and training for didactic and personal development of residents.

Our residents are also afforded the opportunity to complete didactic teaching opportunities and a clinician-educator residency teaching certificate program through a partnership with Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC). The major goal of the training program is to supplement a strong clinical background with the skills needed to become a successful educator. The program includes didactic and web-based teaching models, mentored facilitator training for small group problem-based learning, and precepting of third and/or fourth-year Doctor of Pharmacy students. Residents also receive instruction in statistical analysis, and clinical trial design; submit a project proposal to the institutional review board; and collect, interpret, and submit their results for publication. Additional activities are provided to enhance discovery, integration, and writing skills.

[For more information, please utilize the resources and contact information below:](#)

Website

[VA North Texas Health Care System Pharmacy Residency Programs Website](#)

Video Links

[Introduction to VANHCS and Pharmacy Residency Programs](#)

[VA North Texas PGY1 Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Contact Information

NTXPharmacyResidencyPrograms@va.gov

Learn more about the [PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program.pdf](#)



Christyn Mullen-Lee, PharmD, BCACP

Clinical Pharmacy Program Manager for Education and Training
RPD PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program

Practice Site: VA North Texas Health Care System

Email: NTXPharmacyResidencyPrograms@va.gov

Learn more about the [PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency Program.pdf](#)



Trang Nguyen, PharmD, BCACP

Ambulatory Care Clinical Pharmacist Practitioner
RPD PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency

Practice Site: VA North Texas Health Care System

Email: NTXPharmacyResidencyPrograms@va.gov

Learn more about the [PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency Program.pdf](#)



Kristen Backe, PharmD, BCPP

Mental Health Clinical Pharmacist Practitioner
RPD PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency Program

Practice site: VA North Texas Health Care System

Email: NTXPharmacyResidencyPrograms@va.gov

Meet our [2022-2023 VA North Texas Health Care System Pharmacy Residents.pdf](#)



VA North Texas Health Care System offers both postgraduate year one (PGY1) and postgraduate year two (PGY2) psychiatry and ambulatory care pharmacy residencies. VA North Texas HCS has offered a PGY1 pharmacy residency since 1996. Our PGY2 Ambulatory Care program and our PGY2 Psychiatry program have been in place since 2006 and 2014, respectively.

Our PGY1 program offers a diverse range of learning experiences to prepare the resident for additional PGY2 residency training or entry level clinical practice positions. The program offers a wide range of rotation experiences to develop the resident into a well-rounded, patient centered pharmacy clinician. The program is tailored to the individual needs of each resident with an emphasis on personal, professional, and leadership development. Residents who complete PGY2 training in either program are prepared to enter into advanced clinical practice positions.

Our residency program directors, residency coordinators, and residency preceptors are dedicated and invested in providing mentorship and training for didactic and personal development of residents.

Our residents are also afforded the opportunity to complete didactic teaching opportunities and a clinician-educator residency teaching certificate program through a partnership with Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC). The major goal of the training program is to supplement a strong clinical background with the skills needed to become a successful educator. The program includes didactic and web-based teaching models, mentored facilitator training for small group problem-based learning, and precepting of third and/or fourth-year Doctor of Pharmacy students. Residents also receive instructions in statistical analysis, and clinical trial design; submit a project proposal to the institutional review board; and collect, interpret, and publish their results. Additional activities are provided to enhance discovery, integration, and writing skills.

PGY1 Pharmacy Residents:



Talie Gomez Newman, PharmD
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident
VA North Texas Health Care System

Dr. Newman grew up in Lake Point, Utah. She graduated from Brigham Young University with Bachelor of Science in Nutrition. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Creighton University in 2022. Dr. Newman is currently a member of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP). Her professional interests include ambulatory care, internal medicine, infectious diseases, and oncology. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her dog and husband, tending to her plants, and playing piano and guitar.



Cassidy Cosgrove, PharmD
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident
VA North Texas Health Care System

Dr. Cosgrove is originally from Phoenix, Arizona. She earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Midwestern University College of Pharmacy in 2022. Before attending pharmacy school, she graduated from Arizona State University earning a Bachelor of Science in Biology degree. Dr. Cosgrove's professional areas of interest include chronic disease state management (diabetes, hypertension, lipid management), geriatrics, and psychiatry. Her ultimate career goals include practicing as a board-certified clinical pharmacist and educating patients. Gaining experience as a pharmacy resident at the VA North Texas Health Care System provides her with a broad array of clinical inpatient and outpatient pharmacy practice areas. Outside of pharmacy she enjoys exercising, trying out new restaurants, watching thriller movies, and spending time with family and friends including her three cats!



Deepali Bhandari, PharmD
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident
VA North Texas Health Care System

Dr. Bhandari grew up in Spring, Texas. She obtained her Bachelor of Science and Arts in biology in 2018 and her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from The University of Texas at Austin in 2022. She is currently a PGY1 pharmacy resident at the VA North Texas Health Care System with a variety of interests including ambulatory care, psychiatry, internal medicine, administration, and academia. She plans to complete a PGY2 residency in a specialty area of interest. Upon completion of PGY2, she will pursue a clinical position with opportunities in academia as an adjunct professor.

Dr. Bhandari maintains active in the community as a clinical preceptor with Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy and as a volunteer with local organizations in the DFW area. Dr. Bhandari is also a member of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA), College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP), and American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP). In her free time, she enjoys reading, hiking, running, and spending time with friends and family.



Rachel Hopper, PharmD
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident
VA North Texas Health Care System

Dr. Hopper was raised in Denton, Texas before moving to Richardson, Texas where she attended the University of Texas at Dallas and earned a B.S. in Biochemistry in 2018. She then proceeded to earn her PharmD at TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy on the Dallas campus in 2022. Dr. Hopper's professional interests include ambulatory care and academia. Outside of residency, she loves to spend time with her husband and two daughters doing whatever the girls are into at the time; usually that means going outside, playing board games, crafting, or watching movies. When she wants more "me-time", she enjoys running, baking, and doing all varieties of puzzles.



Taylor Ramsey, PharmD
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident
VA North Texas Health Care System

Dr. Ramsey is from Shelby, North Carolina. She went to the University of South Carolina for both her undergraduate studies and pharmacy school. She is an alumna of the Alpha Lambda chapter of Kappa Epsilon. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree in May 2022. Her professional interests include ambulatory care, transitions of care, and women's health. Outside of pharmacy, she enjoys crocheting, listening to podcasts, and spending time with her fiancé and their 3 cats (Pico, Slinky, and Jupiter). She also collects vintage Pyrex and loves thrift shopping.



Allison Tiemann, PharmD
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident
VA North Texas Health Care System

Dr. Tiemann grew up in Lufkin, Texas. She attended the University of Texas at Tyler for her undergraduate studies and completed her PharmD at the Ben and Maytee Fisch College of Pharmacy in Tyler, Texas. Dr. Tiemann is currently a member of Rho Chi, Texas Pharmacy Association (TPA), American Association of Psychiatric Pharmacists (AAPP), and the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP). Her professional interests include mental health, infectious disease, and critical care. During her free time, she enjoys working out, hiking, traveling, and spending time with her friends and family.

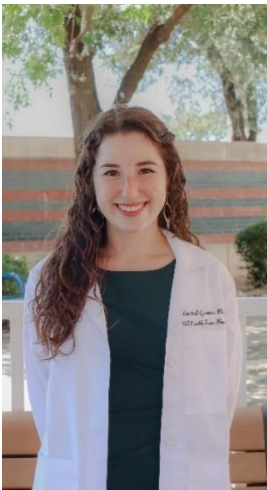
PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residents:



Molly Steeves, PharmD

PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy resident
VA North Texas Health Care System

Dr. Steeves is a DFW native who attended Texas A&M University for her undergraduate studies, earning a Bachelor of Science in biology. She attended Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center for pharmacy school, spending time at both the Amarillo and Dallas campuses. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 2021 and subsequently completed her PGY1 pharmacy residency within the VA North Texas Health Care System. Her professional interests include chronic disease state management and geriatrics. Outside of the residency program, she enjoys Aggie football, watching movies, and spending time with her cat.



Avital Gurman, PharmD

PGY2 Ambulatory Care resident
VA North Texas Health Care System

Dr. Gurman obtained her Bachelor of Science and Arts degree in Biology from the University of Texas at Austin, and received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy in Austin, TX. She completed her PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency training at VA North Texas/Texas Tech University School of Pharmacy, and is currently completing her PGY-2 in Ambulatory Care at VA North Texas as well. Dr. Gurman is a member of Rho Chi, PLS, Texas Pharmacy Association (TPA), Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists (TSHP), and the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP). Her professional interests include ambulatory care, chronic disease management, and academia. In her free time, she enjoys reading, traveling, and spending time with her fiancé, friends, and family.

PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residents:



Rachel M. Paulmann, PharmD
PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Resident
VA North Texas Health Care System

Dr. Paulmann was born and raised in Mequon, WI and attended Drake University for both her undergraduate studies and Pharmacy School. She graduated summa cum laude from Drake University in 2021 with her Doctor of Pharmacy degree. She completed her PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency at the North Texas VA in 2022. Rachel is a current member of the American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP), the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP), and the American Association of Psychiatric Pharmacists (AAPP). Her professional interests include mental health, geriatrics, and internal medicine. Outside of the residency program, she enjoys traveling, cooking, and spending time with friends and family.



Victoria Dadebo, PharmD
PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy resident
VA North Texas Health Care System

Dr. Dadebo was raised in Buffalo, NY and received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA. She went on to complete her PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center in Houston, TX. Her pharmacy interests include mental health, pharmacogenomics, and primary care. Outside of pharmacy, she enjoys watching reality TV, going to brunch, and traveling.



Atinder Singh, PharmD

PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy resident
VA North Texas Health Care System

Dr. Singh was born in Queens, New York and raised in Rockwall, Texas. He attended The University of Texas at Dallas for his undergraduate studies before matriculating into The University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy. He received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 2021. He completed his PGY1 residency training at the VA North Texas Health Care System. Atinder is currently a member of the College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacist (CPNP). His professional interests include mental health and the integration of Whole Health comprehensive care. In his free time, he enjoys rewatching episodes of the Office, spending time with his friends and co-residents, and playing with his dogs named Doug and Mickey.