

# SOUTH TEXAS VETERANS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM PGY2 AMBULATORY CARE PHARMACY RESIDENCY

## **Summary:**

This post-graduate second year residency in Ambulatory Pharmacy Practice is a flexible, directed postgraduate program of clinical experience in outpatient settings. Through structured rotations, the ambulatory care resident will gain a broad range of experience within an academic VA healthcare system. What sets this residency apart is its flexibility and continuity of care. The pharmacist will treat and manage ambulatory patients in a variety of settings and clinical complexity. In addition, the curriculum is flexible and allows the pharmacist to pursue specific interests that best complement their career goals. This is achieved by choosing from a variety of core and elective clinical rotations that are structured to build upon previous learning experiences.

The pharmacist will participate in the direct care of those patients with chronic, uncontrolled disease. In all settings, patients are scheduled to physically see the pharmacist. The interventions may include: initiating and modifying therapy, ordering labs, providing patient education, and teaching the use of medical devices. Physical assessment and triaging skills will be used routinely. Preceptors and/or attending physicians are always available for consultation.

Clinical expertise in other subspecialty areas will be developed through elective rotations in additional specialized clinic settings. Other opportunities for the resident include precepting Doctor of Pharmacy students and first year residents and professional advocacy through state and national associations.

## **Objectives:**

Pharmacists completing this residency will be competent, autonomous providers of direct patient care in multidisciplinary environments. They will demonstrate effective listening and communication skills. They will use their knowledge of Primary Care literature to triage patients appropriately and provide safe care to patients. They will demonstrate professionalism and leadership when interacting with colleagues and patients. These pharmacists will combine the above skills to effectively educate their patients and other health care workers.

## **Training Areas:**

The pharmacist will spend a majority of their time in a Medication Therapy Management (MTM) pharmacist-managed subspecialty primary care clinic which serves patients with multiple, chronic medical problems (e.g. cardiovascular risk reduction and type 2 diabetes mellitus). Direct patient care activities in this setting will be emphasized. Elective practice settings will provide the pharmacist the opportunity to provide direct patient care to ambulatory patients in the following areas: anticoagulation, behavioral health, renal, cardiology, psychiatry and allergy.

Oral and written communication skills are emphasized through active participation in ambulatory lectures given in conjunction with the pharmacy students, weekly pharmacotherapy resident seminar and therapeutic discussions with the primary care clinical pharmacy specialists. Residents are also required to complete Pharmacotherapy Grand Rounds presentation.

Teaching skills are refined through association with The University of Texas and a **teaching certificate** is available. In addition to experiential contact with pharmacy students, the specialty resident will interact with PGY1 residents. The resident will formulate and answer a research question, using the scientific method, with a strong emphasis on outcomes research and present their research findings at a regional or national meeting. The research project should be completed in a publishable form.

## **Content of the Residency Program:**

The PGY-2 Ambulatory Care Residency Program at South Texas Veterans Health Care System utilizes the Residency Learning System (RLS) developed and supported by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP). PharmAcademic, the web-based residency tracking system will be used to assist in the administration of RLS.

## **Summary of Residency Requirements:**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| July            | Orientation   |
| August-October* | Pharmacy MTM Clinic/Anticoagulation clinic/clinic management  |
| November        | Elective or required rotation based on preceptor availability |
| December        | Research/Pharmacy MTM clinic                                  |
| January-March*  | Research/Elective rotations/Pharmacy MTM clinic               |
| April           | Elective or required rotation based on preceptor availability |
| May - June      | Pharmacy MTM Clinic/clinic management                         |

\*These are focused, longitudinal learning experiences for 2 to 3 months. Learning experience schedules may be variable due to the residents' interests and preceptor availability.

### **Required rotations:**

Pharmacy MTM clinic, outpatient anticoagulation

### **Elective rotations:**

neurology, inpatient/outpatient cardiology, inpatient anticoagulation, allergy clinic, renal clinic, behavioral health, outpatient psychiatry, internal medicine

### **Longitudinal:**

anticoagulation management, Pharmacy MTM clinic, practice management

### **Other requirements:**

- one formal drug information response per direct patient care rotation
- one in-service to staff pharmacists
- one medication use evaluation
- one committee assignment

### **Other opportunities:**

A teaching certificate program is available in coordination with the University of Texas.

**Qualifications:**

U.S. Citizenship  
Pharm.D. with successful completion of ASHP accredited PGY1 Residency  
Academic transcript(s)  
Curriculum Vitae  
Letter of Interest  
Three letters of recommendations

**Program Completion:**

Upon completion of the program requirements participants will be awarded an ASHP accredited PGY-2 Ambulatory Care Residency certificate.

**Program Director:**

Carrie E. Gonzalez, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCACP  
Primary Care Clinical Pharmacy Specialist  
Adjoint Assistant Professor, University of Texas College of Pharmacy  
carrie.gonzalez@va.gov  
210-617-5300 ext. 14122

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