

2013 - 2014

PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency



**DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**GREATER LOS ANGELES
HEALTHCARE SYSTEM**

WEST LOS ANGELES HEALTHCARE CENTER
11301 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90073

SEPULVEDA AMBULATORY CARE CENTER
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Los Angeles, CA 90012



PGY1 PHARMACY PRACTICE RESIDENCY

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS GREATER LOS ANGELES HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Introduction



The VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (VAGLAHS) is the largest and among the most complex medical centers in the nation. It provides a full spectrum of acute and long term inpatient and ambulatory care to approximately 1.4 million veterans residing in the primary service area of Los Angeles, Ventura, and Kern Counties, covering 20,000 square miles. The VAGLAHS consists of one tertiary care facility, two ambulatory care centers, and nine community based outpatient clinics. VAGLAHS is affiliated with both UCLA School of Medicine and USC School of Medicine, as well as more than 45 colleges, universities, and vocational schools in 17 different health care related programs.

The *West Los Angeles Healthcare Center* is a tertiary care teaching facility dedicated to providing a wide array of acute and ambulatory patient care services to our nation's veterans. The comprehensive diagnostic and treatment services provided include a broad range of medical, surgical, and psychiatric care. Internal medicine subspecialties include cardiology, infectious diseases, gastroenterology, allergy, pulmonology, nephrology, endocrinology, rheumatology, and hematology/oncology. Major

General Information

The PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at VAGLAHS was first established in 1952 and is considered the first postgraduate pharmacy program in the nation. It is a twelve-month long, ASHP accredited program that offers a diverse hospital residency program with emphasis on clinical pharmacy activities. This residency is structured to give the resident a well rounded clinical experience in acute medicine and ambulatory care, as well as pharmacy administration.

Pharmacists completing this residency will be competent and confident practitioners in multiple patient-care environments. They will demonstrate competence by appropriately utilizing their clinical knowledge and skills, with the ultimate goal of possessing the ability to apply these skills to a variety of situations. They will develop confidence through the feedback and independence offered to them through each of their experiences. These pharmacists will be accountable for achieving optimal drug therapy outcomes as members of the healthcare team. They will also refine their skills in educating other healthcare professionals and patients on drug-related topics.

surgical subspecialties include orthopedics, urology, neurosurgery, ophthalmology, plastics, ENT, podiatry, and cardiothoracic surgery. In addition to the main acute care hospital, there is a 180-bed Nursing Home, a Hospice Unit, Home-Based Primary Care, and a newly built 300+ bed State Home.

The *Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center & Nursing Home* offers a state-of-the-art ambulatory care facility. The center has specialty outpatient programs in spinal cord injury, stroke rehabilitation, women's health, preventative medicine, dentistry, mental health, and chemical dependency. Extended care activities include a 120-bed Academic Nursing Home and a Home-Based Primary Care Program. The facility hosts extensive clinical and basic science research, including Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center (GRECC) and Field Program for Health Science Research and Development (HSR&D). The HSR&D program evaluates provider practice and patient outcome studies in the delivery of ambulatory health care.



The *Los Angeles Ambulatory Care Center* is located in the heart of Downtown Los Angeles. It serves as a centrally located facility for the diverse veteran population of the city of Los Angeles, focusing on primary care and mental health services. The clinic provides special services in post-traumatic stress disorder, day treatment, and mental health services.



Rotations offered through the residency provide experiences in acute care medicine, cardiology, GI/hepatology, geriatrics, infectious diseases, long term care, critical care, neurology, oncology, pharmacy benefits management, drug information, ambulatory care, psychiatry, surgery/TPN as well as opportunities in pharmacy research, quality assurance, and departmental administration. Experiences for select elective rotations are offered at other divisions within VAGLAHS, including Los Angeles Ambulatory Care Center and Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center. Focused areas of study are available in Ambulatory Care, Geriatrics, and Neurology.

VAGLAHS has established academic affiliations with various schools of pharmacy including USC, UCSF, UOP, and Western University. Residents also have ongoing teaching responsibilities to pharmacy students and other trainees, as well as hospital staff. The PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at VAGLAHS is affiliated with the USC School of Pharmacy and offers residents the option of a teaching certificate and appointment as Adjunct Assistant Professor at the USC School of Pharmacy.



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Program Description

VAGLAHS PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residents must successfully complete 8 six-week rotations. The 4 required rotations include acute care medicine, ambulatory care, critical care, and pharmacy benefits management. Residents may select 4 electives which can include rotations at either the Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center and Nursing Home or the Los Angeles Ambulatory Care Center.

Program Components	Description
Rotation Selections <i>(Required rotations indicated in bold)</i>	Acute Care Medicine Pharmacy Benefits Management Ambulatory Care at one of the following sites West Los Angeles Campus Sepulveda Campus Los Angeles Campus Cardiology (CCU) or Critical Care (MICU) Gastroenterology/Hepatology Infectious Diseases Geriatrics, West Los Angeles Geriatrics, Sepulveda Neurology Oncology Psychiatry, Outpatient (<i>pending</i>) Surgical ICU (SICU)/TPN
Areas of Focused Studies <i>(Accomplished in 2 rotations, not to exceed 4 months)</i>	Ambulatory Care Geriatrics Neurology
Staffing Requirements	Residents are required to function as an inpatient pharmacist and cover the pharmacokinetic monitoring service for 1 day every weekend for 3 rotations of the year (total 18 weekend days). During the ambulatory care rotation(s), residents will assist in reviewing and finishing computerized prescriptions.
Residency Research Project	Residents are required to complete a research project suitable for presentation at the Western States Conference for Pharmacy Residents, Fellows, and Preceptors. Residents are also required to complete and submit a manuscript for publication and prepare a poster presentation of their research project.
Teaching Responsibilities	Residents will have the opportunity to precept APPE pharmacy students (Level IV), as well as IPPE pharmacy students (Level I/II), pharmacy interns, and pre-pharmacy students. Residents also have the option of a joint academic appointment with the USC School of Pharmacy which offers opportunities to teach and lecture to Level II and Level III PharmD students. Residents are provided the opportunity to participate in various scheduled coursework and seminars developed to enhance the residency experience. Those residents participating in this affiliation will receive faculty appointment and earn a teaching certificate from the university. A separate interview with USC may be required for this affiliation. Residents interested in the affiliation are also required to have an active California license.



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Area of Focus: Ambulatory Care

General Information

The VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (VAGLAHS) offers a distinctive experience in the area of ambulatory care. The three campuses, located in Downtown Los Angeles (LAACC), Sepulveda (SACC), and West Los Angeles (WLA), provide a wide variety of exposure to the different clinics and training environments unique to each of the sites.

Preceptors involved at each site are specially trained, many having completed post-doctorate residencies in ambulatory care, geriatrics, psychiatry, and pharmacy practice and some having pursued advanced certification in diabetes, psychiatry, and geriatrics.

In these rotations, residents will work with clinical pharmacists in primary care (PACT) and sub-specialty clinics, participating as integral members of a multidisciplinary team. Residents will regularly review medication profiles for appropriateness of therapy, evaluate laboratory tests as they relate to drug therapy, obtain complete medication histories to detect adverse drug events, drug interactions, allergies, and other untoward drug related effects, recommend alternatives to

prescribed drug regimens when appropriate with an expected endpoint of achieving optimal therapy, provide drug information services, and provide patient education.

Residents will be involved in the newly developing PACT (Patient Aligned Care Teams), the VA coined patient centered medical home model of care, as well as other drug management services. Residents will also be involved in the pharmacist-run anticoagulation clinic. Opportunities to be involved with innovative modalities of care, such as telemedicine (i.e. video conferencing), are offered. Various opportunities to provide patient and staff education exists at all practice sites.

An emphasis in ambulatory care is available for residents interested in receiving additional training in this specialty. This can be achieved by selecting the ambulatory care rotation offered at each of the three campuses. This unique opportunity provides the resident an array of practice settings and experiences specific to each of the three sites.

Practice Experience

West Los Angeles Healthcare Center (WLA):

Primary Preceptor: Yeunhee Wang, Pharm.D.

WLA is located at the Healthcare Center campus, providing comprehensive ambulatory care services to veterans. The center offers numerous subspecialty clinics in addition to primary care services.

Residents may participate in the following clinics/activities:

- Anticoagulation Clinic
- PACT Clinic
- Infectious Disease Clinic
- GI/Hepatitis C Clinic
- Cardiology Clinic
- DM/Endocrinology Clinic
- Pulmonary Clinic
- Renal/Hypertension Clinic
- Neurology Clinic
- Pain Clinic
- Diabetes Medication Class
- DM Med Titration Clinic

Los Angeles Ambulatory Care Center (LAACC):

Primary Preceptor: Thien-thanh Nguyen, Pharm.D.

LAACC is a free standing ambulatory care facility located in the downtown Los Angeles area. It has served as a model for ambulatory care service in the VA system.

Residents may participate in the following clinics/activities:

- Anticoagulation Clinic
- PACT Clinic
- ID/HIV Clinic
- Smoking Cessation Clinic
- Lithium/Clozapine Clinic
- Parkinson's Support Group
- Diabetes Meter Training
- Brown Bag Day
- Clinical Staff Education
- Follow-up Clinic

Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center (SACC):

Primary Preceptor: Linh Nguyen, Pharm.D.

SACC is a multidisciplinary teaching facility in cooperation with the UCLA School of Medicine and Olive View Hospital. The clinic is located in the San Fernando Valley, 25 miles from downtown Los Angeles.

Residents may participate in the following clinics/activities:

- Anticoagulation Clinic
- PACT Clinic
- Cardiology Clinic
- Endocrinology Clinic
- Neurology Clinic
- Renal Clinic
- Rheumatology Clinic
- Pulmonary Clinic
- Diabetes Class
- Hypertension Class
- Healthy Heart Class
- Brown Bag Day
- DM Med Titration Clinic





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Area of Focus: Geriatrics

General Information

The VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (VAGLAHS) offers a distinctive experience in the area of geriatrics. West Los Angeles Healthcare Center and Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center and Nursing Home provide a wide spectrum of experiences from acute care to ambulatory care in geriatrics. Each site offers residents the opportunity to learn skills necessary for a multidisciplinary team approach to geriatric patient care. As part of the Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center (GRECC) and the UCLA Multicampus Division of Geriatric Medicine, the residents are a part of a well respected and long established training program in geriatrics. Nationally and internationally recognized physicians and



researchers in the field of geriatrics provide a didactic base and clinical training model, incorporating an inter-disciplinary team approach to the planning and care of elderly patients.

Preceptors involved at each site are specially trained in geriatrics and have advanced certifications in this specialty.

An emphasis in geriatrics is available for residents interested in receiving additional training in this specialty. This can be achieved by selecting the geriatric rotation offered at both WLA and SACC. This unique opportunity provides a comprehensive experience in the area of geriatrics.

Practice Experience

West Los Angeles Healthcare Center (WLA):

Primary Preceptor: Marian Rofail, Pharm.D., BCPS, CGP

The clinical training model at WLA incorporates an interdisciplinary team approach to the planning and care of elderly patients. The primary responsibility of the resident is to review, assess, and monitor pharmacotherapy for geriatric patients in the various clinical settings described below.

Inpatient Experiences

- **Geriatric Evaluation and Management Unit (GEM):** This unit is an intermediate care unit where the focus is geriatric assessment and rehabilitation. An interdisciplinary team of professionals and trainees from other disciplines, including geriatric medicine fellows, provide care and participate in weekly team meetings and lectures.
- **Transitional Care Unit (TCU):** This unit admits patients for wound care, chemotherapy, long-term total parenteral nutrition (TPN), and intravenous antibiotic therapy.
- **Nursing Home Care Unit (NHCU):** This unit provides care for veterans who require skilled nursing care. The residents will gain experience in monthly medication reviews, quality assurance, discharge counseling, and pharmacokinetic consultations.

Ambulatory Care Experiences

- **Geriatric GRECC Primary Care Clinic:** In this one half-day clinic, residents will have the opportunity to experience the practice of ambulatory care in the geriatric population. Resident responsibilities include: interviewing assigned patients, assessing medication regimens and medication adherence, writing progress notes in patients' charts, and discussing drug therapy recommendations with the interdisciplinary team.

Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center (SACC):

Primary Preceptor: Kristie Tu, Pharm.D., BCPS, CGP

The clinical training model offered at SACC provides a well-balanced experience that allows residents to gain clinical insight and practical experiences in the interdisciplinary team approach to inpatient geriatric care. The resident will participate in geriatric pharmacist-run clinics, where the

pharmacist plays an integral role in implementing, adjusting, and monitoring drug therapy.

Inpatient Experiences

- **Academic Nursing Home:** Residents will be responsible for monitoring drug therapy, providing anticoagulation, antimicrobial, and pharmacokinetic dosing consults to physicians and allied healthcare professionals. As members of the geriatric medical team, residents will actively participate in interdisciplinary team meetings and medical rounds and serve as the drug therapy specialist, as well as the pharmacy educator.
- **Hospice Care Unit:** A state of the art 14-bed hospice care unit opened in September 2006. The resident will have the opportunity to round as an active member of the interdisciplinary palliative/hospice team where they are responsible for monitoring drug therapy. They will have the opportunity to participate in hands-on experiences in pain management, patient-controlled analgesia (PCA), and end of life symptom management.

Ambulatory Care Experiences

- **Geriatric Primary Care Clinic:** In this three half-day pharmacist-run clinic, residents will have opportunities to perform pertinent physical assessments/basic cognitive function tests, assess/initiate/adjust medication regimens, as well as order and follow up on laboratory test results under attending physician/pharmacist supervision. Resident responsibilities in the clinics also include: reviewing medication profiles for drug interactions, appropriate dosing, evaluating therapy duplication, possible medication-induced side effects, and assessing compliance and possible barriers to compliance.
- **Center for Ambulatory, Rehabilitation and Education (CARE):** In this rehab clinic, residents will have opportunities to provide group, as well as individual, patient education sessions to veterans. Residents will be responsible for evaluating patient medication regimens and serve as a drug therapy specialist to the interdisciplinary CARE team.



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Area of Focus: Neurology

General Information

The VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (VAGLAHS) offers a distinctive experience in the area of neurology that is unique to this program. The facility was one of five VAs granted designation as an Epilepsy Center of Excellence and the only VA identifying a clinical pharmacist in the model of care. The facility is involved in cutting edge research, education, and clinical care and features state of the art equipment.

West Los Angeles Healthcare Center provides a balanced experience of acute care and ambulatory care in neurology. The resident will gain clinical insights and practical experiences in an interdisciplinary team approach to inpatient neurology care. Residents will also participate in neurology pharmacist-run clinics, where the pharmacist plays an integral role in implementing, adjusting, and monitoring drug therapy.

Practice Experience

West Los Angeles Healthcare Center (WLA):

Primary Preceptors: *Sunita Dergalust Pharm.D., BCPS, Viet-Huong Nguyen, Pharm.D., M.S., BCPS*

Inpatient Experiences

- **Acute Care Neurology:** The resident will be responsible for reviewing and monitoring drug therapy and antimicrobial and anti-epileptic drug pharmacokinetic dosing consults to physicians and allied healthcare professionals. Residents will serve as the drug therapy specialist, as well as a pharmacy educator on the team. They will actively participate in interdisciplinary team meetings and medical rounds. The medical team consists of Board Certified Neurologist attendings, UCLA Neurology fellows, UCLA Neurology residents, UCLA Psychiatry interns, and a clinical pharmacist.
- **Epilepsy Monitoring Unit:** This is a specialized unit that was developed as part of the Epilepsy Center of Excellence use to properly identify seizure localization and subsequently surgical candidates. The resident will work closely with the Neurology fellow and will be responsible for obtaining a detailed admission history and medication history for long term video EEG monitoring. Residents will actively participate in assessing/planning safe drug titration on and off AEDs.

Ambulatory Care Experiences

- **Stroke Clinic:** In this clinic, residents will have the opportunity to assess/initiate/adjust medication regimens under the guidance and supervision of a PGY2 Neurology pharmacy resident/pharmacist/attending physician. Resident responsibilities in the clinic also include: interviewing patients prior to seeing their provider, reviewing medication profiles for drug interactions, appropriate dosing, therapy duplication,

Preceptors involved in this specialty are skilled practitioners with extensive experience in research and academia.

An emphasis in neurology is available for residents interested in receiving additional training in this specialty. This unique opportunity provides a comprehensive experience in the area of neurology.



possible medication-induced side effects, and assessing compliance and barriers to compliance.

- **Seizure Clinic:** In this one half-day clinic, residents will have opportunities to assess/initiate/adjust AEDs under the guidance and supervision of a PGY2 Neurology pharmacy resident/pharmacist/attending physician. In addition to having the same general responsibilities as those identified for the Stroke Clinic, residents, will assure a comprehensive AED history is obtained, as well as appropriately monitor seizure response.
- **Dementia/Neurobehavior Clinic:** In this one half-day clinic, residents will have the opportunity to conduct an in-depth review of medication profiles, evaluating all medications and their potential to contribute to memory disorders. Residents will also be involved in telephone titration of dementia medications.
- **Movement Disorder Clinic:** In this one half-day clinic, residents will have the opportunity to provide detailed counseling on medications to patients diagnosed with various movement disorders such as Parkinson's, ataxia, and tremor.
- **General Neurology Clinic:** In this two half-day clinic, residents will have the opportunity to provide detailed counseling on medications to patients diagnosed with general neurologic disorders, particularly headache and neuropathy.

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A Division of VA Desert Pacific
Healthcare Network

General Program Information

Program Components	Description
General Program Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type/Duration of Program: Full-time residency/12 months • Number of Positions: 11 • Application Deadline (PhORCAS™): January 7, 2013, 11:59PM EST • Residency Start Date: July 1, 2013 • Estimated Stipend: \$45,778 • Fringe Benefits: Health and life insurance, 10 paid holidays, 12 days sick leave, 12 days vacation/annual leave, professional leave available to attend meetings and educational conferences
Requirements for Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an ACPE accredited college of pharmacy • Licensing exam scheduled prior to July 1 of the residency year with licensure by September 30 of the residency year • License may be from any of the 50 states (California licensure required if USC affiliated) • US citizenship for Federal employment
USC School of Pharmacy Affiliation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optional joint appointment to the residency program • Includes faculty appointment and teaching certificate • Responsibilities include teaching/facilitating discussions for Level II and Level III pharmacy students, as well as lecturing • Opportunity to participate in coursework and seminars developed by the university for pharmacy residents • Active California licensure by September 30 of the residency year is required • Separate interview with USC and subsequent acceptance by the university is required • Interested candidates should mark "YES" on the VAGLA PGY1 Application



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Application

Components	Description
<p>Required Application Materials</p>	<p>Application via PhORCAS™</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PGY1 Residency Program Application • Personal Statement • Curriculum Vitae (CV) • Three References, preferably from <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One faculty ○ One employer ○ One clerkship preceptor <i>Letters of recommendation may be submitted to supplement the required online template</i> • Official Pharmacy School Transcript, which includes Fall rotation grades (may initially submit without Fall grades to meet deadline and update once available) <p>Supplemental Documents via PhORCAS™</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VAGLA PGY1 Application (which includes optional photo) • OF 306 (Declaration for Federal Employment)
<p>Required Interview</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-site interviews are offered to eligible candidates upon initial review of application materials • Interviews are required for final consideration

Applications must be complete and meet yearly established deadlines to be considered. Please forward all inquiries to:

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**Department of Veterans Affairs
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<http://www.pbm.va.gov/VAPharmacyResidencyProgram.aspx>

