

Pharmacy

VA San Diego Healthcare System

**Pharmacy Residency
Postgraduate Year
One (PGY1)
Programs**



Pharmacy Service (119)

3350 La Jolla Village Drive
San Diego, CA 92161
(858) 642-3026 or (858) 642-3497
(858) 642-1608 (FAX)

PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Programs

Thank you for inquiring about the VA San Diego Healthcare System PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Programs. We are pleased you are considering our program(s) for your professional future! This booklet provides valuable information about our facility, teaching programs, preceptor faculty, clinical practice experiences and residency programs.

- PGY1 Pharmacy - Track A General, established 1973, ASHP-accredited
- PGY1 Pharmacy – Track B Ambulatory Care Emphasis, established 2006, ASHP-accredited
- PGY1 Managed Care, established 2009, ASHP/AMCP accredited

We pride ourselves in providing a unique and innovative pharmaceutical care program in which all our pharmacists participate. Patients are our primary customers and we strive to establish a good pharmacist-patient relationship with them. Our Pharmacy Service is committed to providing good customer service for our veteran patients.

For the resident, we offer an opportunity to participate in an active pharmacy practice in a number of clinical settings, including our expansive ambulatory care clinics. Our university affiliations with pharmacy schools at University of California – San Diego and University of the Pacific facilitates the development of teaching skills. Members of our staff are committed to supporting the residency program and assisting residents throughout the residency year. It is a year for tremendous learning.

We hope you will decide to join us for your residency year at the VA San Diego Healthcare System. We look forward to receiving your application!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan P. Lacro, Pharm.D.".

Jonathan P. Lacro, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCPP
Director, Pharmacy Education & Training
jonathan.lacro@va.gov
(858) 642-3497



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Poonam P. Tzorfias, Pharm.D.".

Poonam P. Tzorfias, Pharm.D., MBA
Chief, Pharmacy Services
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VA San Diego Healthcare System

VHA Mission Honor America's veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being.

VHA Vision VHA will continue to be the benchmark of excellence and value in health care and benefits by providing exemplary services that are both patient centered and evidence based. This care will be delivered by engaged, collaborative teams in an integrated environment that supports learning, discovery and continuous improvement. It will emphasize prevention and population health and contribute to the nation's well-being through education, research and service in National emergencies.

Core Values *Integrity:* Act with high moral principle. *Commitment:* Work diligently to serve Veterans and other beneficiaries. *Advocacy:* Be truly Veteran-centric by identifying, fully considering, and appropriately advancing the interests of Veterans and other beneficiaries. *Respect:* Treat all those I serve and with whom I work with dignity and respect. *Excellence:* Strive for the highest quality and continuous improvement.

The VA San Diego Healthcare System (VASDHS), a member of the VA Desert Pacific Healthcare Veterans Integrated Service Network 22, provides high quality health care with advanced technologies and a commitment to friendly, compassionate service to more than 235,266 Veterans in the San Diego and Imperial Valley counties. VASDHS offers a wide range of inpatient and outpatient health services at the medical center in La Jolla and at the seven community clinics located in Chula Vista, Escondido, Imperial Valley, Mission Gorge, Mission Valley, Oceanside and Vista. With an operating budget of over \$547 million (FY 2011), we provide medical, surgical, mental health, geriatric, spinal cord injury, and advanced rehabilitation services.

The operational capacity of the tertiary care medical center in La Jolla has 296 authorized beds, including skill nursing beds and operates several regional referral programs including cardiovascular surgery and spinal cord injury.

We are affiliated with the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine and provide training for medical interns, residents and fellows, as well as 86 other teaching affiliations for nursing, pharmacy, dental, and dietetics. VASDHS has one of the largest research programs in the VA nationally with a budget of over \$55.5 million (FY 2011), VASDHS is also home to several specialty research programs including Health Sciences Research & Development (HSR&D), Mental Illness Rehabilitation, Education, and Clinical Centers (MIRECC), the Research Center for AIDS and HIV, and the San Diego Center for Patient Safety.

VASDHS was recognized as one of "San Diego's Best Workplaces for 2006," by Employers Group and San Diego Magazine. VASDHS ranks top among Veterans Health Administration's leaders in patient satisfaction. In the national surveys of the Health Experiences of Patients, our patients continued to rate their Overall Quality of Care as exceptional.

For more information, visit us at www.sandiego.va.gov.

Pharmacy Service

Pharmacy services at VA San Diego Healthcare System (VASDHS) are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Service promotes active participation in daily pharmaceutical care activities to ensure quality patient care. These services include participation of pharmacists and residents in the following activities:

- Identifying, resolving and preventing drug related problems
- Identifying goals of therapy, monitoring parameters and desired outcomes
- Educating the patient regarding their medication regimen
- Assuring continuity of care between inpatient and outpatient settings

VASDHS features a decentralized unit-dose service with Barcode Medication Administration, IV Additive Service, Automated Dispensing Systems, Physician Order Entry, Computerized Patient Record System, Automated Prescription Filling, and Anesthesia Record Keeping System.

Our Ambulatory Care Clinical Pharmacists at the VASDHS and Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) provide a wide range of pharmaceutical care services to the Veterans in both primary and secondary care clinics. Ambulatory Care Clinical Pharmacists are an integral part of many outpatient clinics including Anticoagulation, Cardiomyopathy, Dermatology, Diabetes, Primary Care, Home-Based Primary Care, Lipid Disorders, Medication Management, Neurology, Pulmonary, Smoking Cessation, Urology, Hepatitis C and Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACT). General responsibilities include assessing patient adherence through refill history review, evaluating medication regimens for appropriateness, counseling patients about their medications, consulting physicians on drug therapy, verifying medication orders, and participating in process improvement projects. Pharmacists working in primary clinics also have the ability to initiate and modify therapy for select disease states under protocol with a supervising provider.

Our Inpatient Clinical Pharmacists provides care to patients on the Medical and Surgical Units, Intensive Care and Step-Down Units, Operating and Recovery Rooms, Ambulatory Surgery, Spinal Cord Injury, Extended Care Unit, and Emergency Department. Responsibilities include interviewing selected patients admitted to the hospital and documenting per protocol an initial assessment note in the patient's medical record, providing discharge medication counseling and medication reconciliation, participating in physician rounds, providing recommendations for drug selection and dosing, providing consultations on pain management, patient-controlled analgesia, anticoagulation management, total parenteral nutrition, and pharmacokinetic dosing, as well as assist in Code Blue Emergencies.

Our Clinical Specialists are an integral part of providing continuity of care. The clinical pharmacy specialists monitor patients on an inpatient, as well as, ambulatory care basis. Primary care is provided by clinical pharmacy specialists in the following areas: infectious diseases, nephrology, oncology, pain management, pharmacoconomics and psychiatry.

Our Pharmacy Service

Selected Faculty Accomplishments and Activities

- 2010 Recipient of VA Under Secretary for Health Pharmacy Award for Excellence in Pharmacy Practice
- 2008 Recipient of ASHP Best Practice Award in Health-System Pharmacy for *Implementing a Comprehensive Emergency Department Pharmacist Program*
- 2002 Recipient of International Society for Pharmacoeconomics Outcomes Research Best Poster for New Investigator
- Recipient of *Pharmacist of the Year* from the San Diego Society of Health-System Pharmacists Association and San Diego County Pharmacists Association (5)
- Recognized Fellow by California Pharmacists Association (CPhA) for ongoing involvement and contribution to pharmacy practice, promoting pharmacy as a profession, teaching students, residents, other clinicians and the public, and participation in professional and governmental affairs (2)
- Recognized Fellow by California Society of Health System Pharmacists (CSHP) for ongoing level of involvement and commitment to educating practitioners, residents, students, administrators, and/or the public in the pharmacy practice (5)
- Recognized Fellow by American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP) in acknowledgment of their distinguished service to pharmacy practice in hospitals and health systems (3)
- Board Certification in Ambulatory Care (2)
- Board Certification in Pharmacotherapy (20)
- Board Certification in Psychiatric Pharmacy (5)
- Board Certification in Oncology Pharmacy (2)
- Certified Anticoagulation Pharmacist (2)
- Certified Geriatric Pharmacist (2)
- Federally funded research investigators by the National Institute of Mental Health and Department of Veterans Affairs

Selected Examples of Committee Membership by Pharmacy Service Members

VA San Diego Healthcare System

- Anticoagulation Task Force
- Code Blue Committee
- Drug Usage Evaluation Committee
- Education Council
- Informatics Committee
- Institutional Review Board
- VISN 22 Medication Safety Committee
- Medical Executive Committee
- Medication Reconciliation Committee
- Mental Health and Behavioral Sciences Committee
- Pain Council
- Performance Improvement Council
- Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee
- VISN 22 Pharmacy Benefits Management Committee

Pharmacy Services Key Personnel

Administration

Chief	Poonam P. Tzorfas, Pharm.D., MBA
Associate Chief	Brian Plowman, Pharm.D., MBA, BCPS
Administrative Officer	Lisa Nelson
Director, Pharmacy Education & Training	Jonathan P. Lacro, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCPP
Co-Director, Ambulatory Care	Elizabeth Gramer, Pharm.D.
Co-Director Ambulatory Care	Canh-Nhut Nguyen, Pharm.D.
Director, Clinical Pharmacy Specialists	Victoria Aldridge, Pharm.D.
Director, Inpatient Section	Helen Park, Pharm.D., BCPS
Director, Medication Safety / Pharmacogenomics	Margaret Mendes, Pharm.D.
Director, Pharmacy Data Applications & Analysis	Daniel Boggie, Pharm.D.
Director, Pharmacy Integrated Technology	Jennifer Howard, Pharm.D.

Residency Program Directors

PGY1 Pharmacy (Tracks A and B)	Jonathan P. Lacro, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCPP
PGY1 Managed Care Pharmacy	Rashid Kazerooni, Pharm.D., BCPS
PGY2 Ambulatory Care	Tung Le, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCACP
PGY2 Biologics and Pharmacogenomics	Margaret Mendes, Pharm.D.
PGY2 Critical Care	Maria Stubbs, B.S., BCPS
PGY2 Infectious Diseases	Scott T. Johns, Pharm.D., BCPS
PGY2 Nephrology	Chai Low, Pharm.D., BCPS
PGY2 Oncology	Muoi Gi, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP
PGY2 Pharmacy Administration & Leadership	Poonam P. Tzorfas, Pharm.D., MBA
PGY2 Pharmacy Informatics	Jennifer Howard, Pharm.D.
PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy	Jonathan P. Lacro, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCPP

Profiles of Selected Faculty



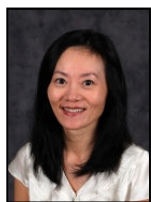
Poonam P. Tzorfas, Pharm.D., MBA is the Chief, Pharmacy Service. Dr. Tzorfas received her Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry Degree from University of California, Riverside, Pharm.D. Degree from University of the Pacific School of Pharmacy, did a Pharmacy Practice Residency at the VA San Diego Healthcare System and received her M.B.A. Degree from California State University, Dominguez Hills. Prior to being the Chief at VA San Diego, she was the Chief of Pharmacy at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center for six years and Acting Associate Director for 10 months. Dr. Tzorfas has held faculty appointments at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA and University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, PA. Throughout her career, she has received several honors and awards, most notably recognized as the San Diego County Pharmacist of the Year and as the Distinguished Young Pharmacist of the Year by the California Pharmacists Association.



Brian K. Plowman, Pharm.D, MBA, BCPS is the Associate Chief, Pharmacy Service. Dr. Plowman received his Pharm.D. Degree from University of the Pacific School of Pharmacy did a Clinical Pharmacy Residency specializing in Geriatric Medicine at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in San Diego, California and received his M.B.A. Degree from Webster University. He is also Board Certified in Pharmacotherapy. Dr. Plowman holds faculty appointments with the University of the Pacific (UOP) and University of Southern California (USC) Schools of Pharmacy.



Jonathan P. Lacro, Pharm.D., FASHP, BCPS, BCPP is Director, Pharmacy Education and Training and serves as Program Director for our PGY1 Pharmacy – Track A/B and PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency Programs. He is an Associate Clinical Professor of Pharmacy and Psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego, and has an affiliation with University of the Pacific (UOP) School of Pharmacy. He received his Doctor of Pharmacy from the UOP, and completed a Residency in Clinical Pharmacy at the VA San Diego and a Fellowship in Psychopharmacology with an emphasis in Geriatric Psychiatry, VA San Diego/UCSD. He conducts a medication management clinic in a Geriatric Psychiatry Clinic and Cognitive Disorders Clinic. He served as Principal Investigator of a National Institute of Mental Health funded study titled *Medication Adherence Therapy in Older Psychotic People*.



Tung N. Le, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCACP is a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Ambulatory Care and she serves as the Pharmacy Program Director for PACT. In addition, she serves as the Residency Program Director for our PGY2 Ambulatory Care Programs. She received her Bachelors of Science in Pharmacy and Doctor of Pharmacy degrees from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She completed her first General Pharmacy Practice Residency at the VA Portland Medical Center followed with the completion of a second year specialty residency in Ambulatory Care at the VA San Diego Healthcare System. Her clinical practices are in primary care with a focus on diabetes, hypertension and dyslipidemia.

Profiles of Selected Faculty



Victoria Aldridge, Pharm.D. is currently the Director of the Clinical Pharmacy Specialists. Dr. Aldridge received her Pharm.D. degree from the University of California San Francisco School of Pharmacy and completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency at the VASDHS. Dr. Aldridge's main area of clinical practice has been in the inpatient setting at the VASDHS where she has held various positions since 2001 including Patient Education, Spinal Cord Injury Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Associate Director and Director of the Inpatient Pharmacy Section. She holds a clinical faculty appointment with the University of Pacific School of Pharmacy. Dr. Aldridge has been an active member and has held many offices in local pharmacy organizations. Dr. Aldridge along with her colleagues recently implemented a successful Emergency Department Pharmacist Program at the VASDHS and is interested in implementing new clinical programs in the Specialists Section in the areas of Infectious Diseases and Psychiatry.



Mark Bounthavong, Pharm.D. is a Pharmacoeconomic Clinical Specialist at the VA San Diego Healthcare System. Dr. Bounthavong received his Pharm.D. degree from Western University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy in Pomona, CA. He has completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency at the Veterans Affairs Loma Linda Healthcare System in Loma Linda, CA. He has also completed a fellowship in Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research at Western University of Health Sciences under the tutelage of Drs Anandi V Law and Mark P Okamoto. Dr. Bounthavong currently conducts Formulary Management, Health Outcomes and Pharmacoeconomics Research in co-operation with Formulary Group Members of VASDHS, and is a guest lecturer at Western University.



Rashid Kazerooni, Pharm.D., BCPS is a Pharmacoeconomic Clinical Specialist at the VA San Diego Healthcare System. Dr. Kazerooni received his Pharm.D. degree from University of Kansas School of Pharmacy. He spent his first three years post graduation split between traveling abroad and working as a travel pharmacist in a diverse variety of healthcare settings. He then completed a Managed Care Pharmacy Residency at VASDHS. Since then, he spent time working as Manager of Pharmaceutical Contracting for a local healthcare system before returning back to VASDHS in his current appointment and taking over as PGY1 Managed Care Residency Program Director. Dr. Kazerooni currently conducts Formulary Management, as well as Outcomes and Pharmacoeconomics Research in co-operation with Formulary Group Members of VASDHS.



Melissa K. Egan, Pharm.D., CACP is an Ambulatory Care Clinical Pharmacist Specialist and the Program Director of the Anticoagulation Clinic at the VA San Diego Healthcare System. Dr. Egan received her Pharm.D. degree from the University of Southern California. She completed her Pharmacy Practice Residency with emphasis in Primary Care at VA Long Beach Medical Center. Dr. Egan has been the Lead Pharmacist in the Anticoagulation Clinic since 1999 and has been a Certified Anticoagulation Care Provider since 2001. She has faculty appointments with UOP and UCSD Schools of Pharmacy.

Profiles of Selected Faculty



Helen Park, Pharm.D., BCPS received her Pharm.D. degree from the University of the Pacific School of Pharmacy. Dr. Park has been at the VASDHS since 2003 and has held multiple positions in our Inpatient Section including the Spinal Cord Injury Clinical Specialist, Associate Director and she is currently Director of the section. Dr. Park is also coordinator of the V.A. Learning Opportunities Residency (VALOR) Program for the pharmacy service. Dr. Park holds clinical faculty appointments with pharmacy schools at the University of the Pacific, and the University of California, San Diego. Dr. Park is very active in professional pharmacy organizations and has held multiple offices at the local, state and national levels and chaired committees on pharmacy practice, competency and regulatory standards. She has received the designation of Fellow from both CPhA and CSHP. Her clinical interests include emergency medicine, critical care, infectious diseases, and disaster preparedness.



Belinda Martinez, Pharm.D. is an Internal Medicine Pharmacist at the VASDHS. She received her Pharm.D. degree from the University of New Mexico College of Pharmacy and completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency at the VASDHS. She has faculty appointments at the University of the Pacific and the University of California, San Diego. She serves as Co-coordinator for the Internal Medicine learning experience for 4th year APPE and PGY1 Pharmacy Residency trainees at the VASDHS.



Tanya (Thanh) Tran, Pharm.D., BCPS is an Internal Medicine Pharmacist at the VASDHS. She received her Pharm.D. degree from the University of Southern California School of Pharmacy and completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency at the VASDHS. She has faculty appointments at the University of the Pacific and the University of California, San Diego. She serves as Co-coordinator for the Internal Medicine learning experience for 4th year APPE and PGY1 Pharmacy Residency trainees at the VASDHS.



Christine Joy Pascua, Pharm.D., BCPS is an Internal Medicine Clinical Pharmacist at the VASDHS. She received her Pharm.D. degree from Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy and completed a Pharmacy Practice Ambulatory Care Residency at the VASDHS. She has faculty appointments at the University of the Pacific and the University of California, San Diego. She serves as a preceptor for both Internal Medicine and Surgery learning experiences for 4th year APPE



Edna Ng-Chen, Pharm.D. is a Ambulatory Care Clinical Pharmacist Specialist. She received her Pharm.D. from the University Of Southern California School Of Pharmacy and completed a Primary Care Pharmacy Practice Residency at the VASDHS. She has faculty appointments with University of the Pacific and University of California at San Diego schools of pharmacy and a student coordinator for the Ambulatory Care Clinical Rotation Program. She is currently a PACT (Patient Aligned Care Team) Pharmacist. Her clinical practices are in anticoagulation, hypertension, diabetes and dyslipidemia.

Profiles of Selected Faculty



Nina vonKuster, Pharm.D., is an Ambulatory Care Pharmacist Specialist. Dr. vonKuster received her Pharm.D. degree from the University of Southern California School of Pharmacy and completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency with emphasis in Ambulatory Care at the Long Beach VA Medical Center. Dr. vonKuster has been practicing in Ambulatory Care at the VASDHS since 1999. Her areas of specialty include diabetes, dyslipidemia, anticoagulation and cardiology and she holds faculty appointments at the University of Pacific and University of California at San Diego. She is currently a PACT Pharmacist.



Tim Chen, Pharm.D. received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Western University of Health Sciences. He completed his Primary Care Pharmacy Practice Residency at VA San Diego. He also trained for 1 year in Hematology/Oncology Fellowship at Western University of Health Sciences. He has faculty appointments with UOP and UCSD schools of pharmacy and currently holds dual appointment as Clinical Pharmacist Specialist and Director of VA National Tobacco Cessation Resource Center (ASCEND).

His clinical practices are in Dyslipidemia, Home-Based Primary Care (HBPC), Hypertension, and Tobacco Cessation.



Candace Eacker, Pharm.D. received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of the Pacific. She then completed the Geriatrics Pharmacy Residency at the VA San Diego Medical Center. Following completion of her residency, she was hired at VA San Diego and worked in various areas including the surgery and general medicine inpatient areas. She then went on to work in the ambulatory care section and is currently the CCHT pharmacist. She has faculty appointments at both UOP and UCSD Schools of Pharmacy. Her clinical specialty areas of practice are in Diabetes and Neurology.



Margaret A. Mendes, Pharm.D. is the Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Biologics and Pharmacogenomics at the VA San Diego Healthcare System. Dr. Mendes received her Pharm.D. degree from Medical College of Virginia at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia. She completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency at the VA Chicago Healthcare System, working at both West and Lakeside Divisions. Dr. Mendes conducts Formulary Management, Health Outcomes and Pharmacoeconomics Research in cooperation with Formulary Group Members of VASDHS.



Maria K. Stubbs, B.S., BCPS is a Critical Care Pharmacist Specialist and Program Director for the PGY2 Critical Care Residency at the VASDHS. Maria received her pharmacy degree at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science in 1990 and has been practicing in critical care at the VASDHS ICU since 2000. She has been a full time Pharmacist Specialist since 1990 starting at the Long Beach VA Medical Center where she also practiced in critical care. She is a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist and

Applicant Qualifications and Application Process

APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS

- Possess a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an accredited School or College of Pharmacy
- Eligible for licensure to practice pharmacy in any state
- United States citizenship. Naturalized citizens must be able to provide proof of naturalization
- Participation in the ASHP Resident Matching Program accessible at <http://www.natmatch.com/ashprmp/>

APPLICATION PROCESS

- All application materials must be submitted online thru PhORCAS (Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application) by January 10, 2013:
 - Basic Demographics
 - Verified Transcripts
 - ALL Schools or Colleges of Pharmacy attended
 - ALL Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences thru December 2012
 - Personal Statement/Letter of Intent specifically addressing why you desire to be matched to our residency program
 - Curriculum Vitae
 - Three letters of recommendation
 - Standardized reference template in PhORCAS AND traditional reference letter
 - Extracurricular Information
 - Supplemental Information
 - Application for Health Professions Trainees (VA Form # 10-2850D) accessible at <http://www.va.gov/oaa/archive/VAFORM10-2850d.pdf>
- Selected applicants will be invited to a personal on-site interview that will take place on February 1, 4, 5, 8, 11, 12 and 15. Candidates who are not invited for an on-site interview will be notified via e-mail no later than January 18.

Open House

November 17, 2012 @ 8:00AM

RSVP to VHASDCPharmacyResidency@va.gov

Open only for eligible 2013 – 2014 applicants

Agenda: Informal Q & A Session and Medical Center Tour

For general information, contact

VHASDCPharmacyResidency@va.gov

Requirements for Successful Completion of PGY1 Pharmacy Residency

- All learning experiences (rotations)
- All learning experience evaluations (self, preceptor, learning experience, end-of year, etc)
- Staffing Assignments
- Formulary Project (i.e., Drug Monograph or Drug Class Review)
- Continuing Education Presentation
- In-services
- Research Project
- Research Platform Presentation to Western States Conference for Pharmacy Residents, Fellows and Preceptors
- Formal Research Report
- Service Enhancement Project (i.e., Patient Safety Tool or Bulletin)
- One monthly Adverse Drug Reaction report
- Formal participation in one agenda item for the P&T Committee, DUE Committee or other formal multidisciplinary medical center committee

PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Class 2012-2013



Phyllis Gayda, Pharm.D.
Pharmacy – Track B
phyllis.gayda@va.gov



Kaitlin Highsmith, Pharm.D.
Pharmacy – Track A
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Oska Lawrence, Pharm.D.
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Ariel Ma, Pharm.D.
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Susan Truong, Pharm.D.
Pharmacy – Track A
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Lauren White, Pharm.D.
Pharmacy – Track A
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Residency Information

Pay and Benefits

Period of Appointment: 12 months, from July 1 through June 30.

Estimated Stipend: \$44,708 (PGY1)

Benefits: Approximately 13 days Annual Leave (“vacation”) and 13 days of Sick Leave, 11 federal holidays and Authorized Absence (leave with pay) to attend selected professional meetings. Health Life and Healthcare insurance is included. Office with up-to-date computer systems, lab coats and lab coat laundry service, and free parking is provided.

Annual leave (vacation) is earned at the rate of 4 hours every two weeks.

Sick Leave is earned at the rate of 4 hours every two weeks and can be used for illness and injury as well as medical, dental, optical, and other medically-related appointments or procedures.

Licensure

For our PGY1 residency programs, the applicant must be licensed or be eligible for licensure in any state. Active Pharmacist or Pharmacy Intern licensure is required upon entry into PGY1 residency programs. Professional pharmacist licensure from any state must be obtained either prior to the beginning of the PGY1 residency program or very soon afterwards. It is highly recommended that all resident applicants apply for licensure from both the California Board of Pharmacy as well as the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) prior to entering the residency program.

For PGY1 pharmacy applicants, if pharmacist licensure is not available, pharmacy intern license is sufficient in the interim; however, all pharmacist activities will require direct supervision until proof of pharmacist licensure is provided.

Service Commitment

Staffing will not be scheduled until the resident has evidence of professional licensing and has demonstrated appropriate competencies. Proper training will be provided prior to staffing.

PGY1 Pharmacy – General/Track A

Residents will staff a minimum of 30 inpatient days (includes 6 weekend days) during their acute care rotations in Medicine, Critical Care, Psychiatry and selected elective rotations. At least one additional weekend day will be scheduled for training. Residents will also staff a minimum of 20 days in the Ambulatory Care General Medicine (“FIRM”) Clinics as well as the Outpatient Pharmacy.

PGY1 Pharmacy – Ambulatory Care Emphasis/Track B

Residents will staff a minimum of 10 days per month in the Ambulatory Care General Medicine (“FIRM”) Clinics, Outpatient Pharmacy and in Psychiatry Clinics. Residents will also staff a minimum of 8 inpatient days (includes 2 weekend days) per month during selected “Acute Care” rotations (Geriatrics, ICU, Medicine, SCI).

Residency Selection Process and Number of Positions

Residency selection for our PGY1 residency programs are made through the ASHP National Resident Matching Program. The exact number of positions will vary from year to year but is estimated to include the following for 2013-2014:

- **PGY1 Pharmacy - Track A** (5 – 6 residents)
- **PGY1 Pharmacy - Track B** (1 – 2 residents)
- **PGY1 Pharmacy – Managed Care** (1 – 2 residents)

PGY1 Pharmacy

Program Purpose:

Our PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency Programs are designed to develop competent and confident practitioners of pharmaceutical care to the adult and geriatric population with common medical disorders in acute and ambulatory care settings. Graduates will be able to achieve optimal drug therapy outcomes as members of the health care team. They will be skilled in formulary management and will be able to serve as competent preceptors of 4th year pharmacy students in Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences. Lastly, graduates will be able to exercise proficiency in communication and in educating other health care professionals, patients, and the community on drug related topics.

Program Comparison:

Characteristic	Track A General	Track B Ambulatory Care Emphasis
Required Rotations	Administration (1) Ambulatory Care (2) Critical Care (1) Infectious Diseases (1) Psychiatry (1) Medicine (2) Electives (3)	Administration (1) Ambulatory Care (4) Acute Care (3) Psychiatry (1) Electives (2)
Required Longitudinal Experiences	Formulary Project & Consults Medication Safety Research Skill Development Series Teaching Certificate Program	Formulary Project & Consults Medication Safety Research Service Enhancement Project Skill Development Series Teaching Certificate Program
ASHP Code	92360	92360
NMS Code	191613	191621

For additional information, contact:

**Jonathan P. Lacro, Pharm.D., BCPS,
BCPP**
Residency Program Director
PGY1 Pharmacy
jonathan.lacro@va.gov
(858) 642-3497

PGY1 Managed Care Pharmacy Residency

ASHP Code: 92012

NMS Code: 153414

Program Purpose:

This PGY1 Managed Care Pharmacy Residency Program is designed to develop a Pharmacist to accept a position in a Pharmacy Benefits Management (PBM) environment, with a foundation of knowledge applicable in both private and public health care systems. The resident will develop ability to assess clinical appropriateness of therapies/regimens initially from an individual patient level and eventually from a population level. The graduate will be able to assess literature critically for decision making and policy making decision purposes. Graduates will be skilled in formulary management and development processes, such as: Pharmacy & Therapeutic Committee presentations/work ups, Medication Safety Committee involvement, guidance document development (algorithms, criteria for use, monographs, etc), cost measurement monitoring, retrospective evaluations assessing clinical/cost effects of initiatives, identification of opportunities for cost savings or clinical improvements in care, and individual non-formulary drug case reviews. Lastly, graduates will be able to effectively communicate and educate patients, clinicians, residents, and students regarding pertinent formulary or policy related topics.

Our 12-month program is designed to meet outcomes required by the PGY1 ASHP/AMCP Accreditation Standard:

- Outcome 1. Understand how to manage the drug distribution process for an organization's members.
- Outcome 2. Design and implement clinical programs to enhance the efficacy of patient care.
- Outcome 3. Ensure the safety and quality of the medication-use system.
- Outcome 4. Provide medication and practice-related information, education, and/or training.
- Outcome 5. Collaborate with plan sponsors to design effective benefit structures to service a specific population's needs.
- Outcome 6. Exercise leadership and practice management skills.
- Outcome 7. Demonstrate project management skills.
- Outcome 8. (Elective) Conduct outcomes-based research.

For additional information, contact:

Rashid Kazerooni, Pharm.D., BCPS

PGY1 Managed Care
Residency Program Director

rashid.kazerooni@va.gov

(858) 552-8585 ext 5925

Our 2007 – 2012 PGY1 Resident Graduates

Following graduation, our PGY1 Residents accepted positions at:

PGY2 Training

- PGY2 Residency Programs in Administration, Ambulatory Care, Biologics & Pharmacogenomics, Infectious Diseases, Managed Care, Nephrology, Oncology and Psychiatry at VA San Diego Healthcare System (17) and other programs (1)

Within San Diego County

- VA San Diego Healthcare System (11)
- California Poison Control System, San Diego Division at UCSD (1)
- Kaiser Permanente in San Diego (2)
- Sharp Grossmont (1)
- Balboa Naval Medical Center (1)
- Community Pharmacy (1)
- Scripps Encinitas (1)
- UCSD Medical Center (1)

Outside of San Diego County

- Antelope Valley Hospital, Lancaster, CA (1)
- Kaiser Permanente in Northern California (1)
- On Lok, Inc, San Francisco, CA (1)
- Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, HI (1)
- UCSF Medical Center (1)
- Independent Pharmacy Owner (1)
- Natividad Medical Center, Salinas, CA (1)
- St. Francis Medical Center, Lynwood, CA (1)
- VA Greater Los Angeles (1)
- Prescription Solutions (1)

PGY1 Resident Research Projects for 2011- 2012

- A Retrospective Study of Atypical Antipsychotics Compared to Haloperidol for the Treatment of ICU Delirium at the Veteran Affairs San Diego Healthcare System (VASDHS)
- Comparison of Attainment of LDL Goals in HIV(+) and HIV(-) Patients on HMG-CoA Reductase Inhibitors
- Effects of Telecommunication on Medication Adherence to Oral Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors in Patients with Chronic Myeloid Leukemia
- A Retrospective Study of the Clinical Impact of Dose Reduction of Citalopram Following QTc Safety Warnings
- The Clinical Impact of Pharmacist Intervention on Lipid and Diabetes Outcomes at the San Diego Veterans Affairs Healthcare System
- Dual use of Bladder Antispasmodics and Cholinesterase Inhibitors in Veterans with Alzheimer's Disease
- Association Between Medication Possession Ratio and Virologic Suppression in HIV Patients on Antiretroviral Therapy
- Cost-Effectiveness Analysis Of Three Intralesional Interventions For The Treatment Of Peyronie's Disease

Unique Opportunities for Residents

VA Stand Down

Pharmacy Residents participate in the VA Stand Down program each year. Operation Stand Down is a program to assist homeless veterans. During this event, up to 900 veterans get the help they need to get back into mainstream society. This is all done over a weekend!

Pharmacy Teaching Program

Our Pharmacy Service is fully committed to pharmacy education and training. In addition to our PGY1 programs, we have a wide-ranging collection of administrative and clinical PGY2 residency programs. Of note, Early Commitment into our PGY2 programs is possible. We also maintain active academic relationships with two Schools of Pharmacy. Our pharmacy residents participate in the teaching of approximately 30 Doctor of Pharmacy students from the University of the Pacific and University of California, San Diego Schools of Pharmacy. Pharmacy Residents act as a preceptor to these students and provide formal and informal teaching. In addition to providing one-on-one preceptorship for students during most 4th year Advanced Pharmacy Practice rotations, pharmacy residents participate in subject reviews, clinical case presentations, and as moderators for their weekly presentations. Finally, opportunities to teach in a classroom may be available to selected individuals in various PGY2 programs.

Skill Development Series / Teaching Certificate Program

All pharmacy residents have the opportunity to participate in a Skill Development Series. The Skill Development Series includes regularly scheduled discussion of research-related topics such as study methodology, biostatistics, literature evaluation, individual residency research projects and other contemporary topics relevant to health care professionals. Participation in our Teaching Certificate Program is required and consists of didactic seminars and homework assignments, development of a personal teaching philosophy and providing formal teaching experiences in clinical rotational settings. Upon completion, participants will be equipped to competently serve as preceptors for 4th year APPE rotations in clinical settings.

Ambulatory Care Clinics

Pharmacy Residents may participate in a wide selection of multidisciplinary and pharmacist-run ambulatory care clinics, including Anticoagulation, Diabetes, Lipid, Dermatology, Dialysis, Medication Management (Compliance), Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT), Psychiatry, Neurology, and Renal. Secondary clinics include Cardiomyopathy, Neurology, Oncology, Pain Management, Pulmonary, Special ID, and Urology. Residents can participate in clinics at the VA Medical Center and our community based outpatient clinics located throughout San Diego County.

Possible Elective Rotation Experiences

VA and Non-VA elective opportunities are available and include Emergency Department, Geriatrics, Infectious Diseases, Informatics, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Oncology, Pain Management, Nephrology and Surgery.

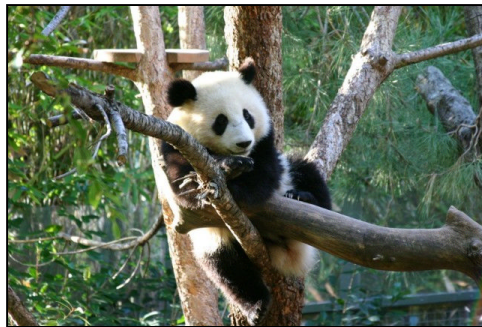
Highlights and Pictures of San Diego

Highlights of “America's Finest City”

- Beautiful weather year round with an average daily temperature of 70.5° (21.4 degrees Celsius). A marked feature of the climate is the wide variation in temperature within short distances due to the topography of the land. You can enjoy coastal, mountain and desert environments all in the space of one day.



- Popular attractions include the world famous San Diego Zoo, Wild Animal Park, Sea World San Diego, LEGOLAND, San Diego and Balboa Park.



- Offers 70 miles of pristine beaches, 92 golf courses, 171 parks and endless opportunities to hike, camp, fish, observe wildlife and much more.

Helpful Internet Links

- Tourists guide: <http://www.sandiego.org/nav/Visitors/>
- Major Local Newspaper (Union-Tribune): <http://www.utsandiego.com/>
- Rental Guide: <http://realestate.utsandiego.com/>
- Local Ground Transportation: <http://www.sandiegotaxicab.com/> or <http://www.cloud9shuttle.com/> or <http://www.sdcommute.com/>



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