

2021-2022 POSTGRADUATE YEAR ONE

Pharmacy Residency Program

ASHP Accredited, Est. 1979



VA Long Beach Healthcare System

5901 E. 7th Street (119)

Long Beach, CA 90822

562.826.8000 ext. 3959

Fax 562.826.5797





Hello and thank you for inquiring about the VA Long Beach Healthcare System ASHP Accredited Pharmacy Residency Program. The VA Long Beach residency program was first established in 1979 – and continues to be a leader in the advancement of clinical pharmacy practice. Our program offers opportunities to practice across a wide variety of settings within a large integrated healthcare system. This booklet provides valuable information about our facility, teaching programs, preceptor faculty, clinical practice and residency program.

VALB Pharmacy is a well-established and highly respected service, integral to the VA Long Beach Healthcare System. We consider it a privilege and an honor to provide healthcare to the men and women who have dedicated their lives in service to our country. Our pharmacists actively participate at all levels of the organization including in key leadership roles and as fully integrated members of the health care team. VALB Pharmacy is recognized for developing and managing clinical programs that focus on delivering value to patients, the organization and to the community. We are passionate about our profession and steadfast in our pursuit of excellence.

As a Pharmacy resident you will serve as a key member of our patient care team, providing direct patient care and education to patients, trainees and staff. Our training and practice environment is designed for those looking to be challenged both clinically and intellectually. Our goal is to inspire and provide opportunities for trainees to develop the knowledge, skills and abilities to become principled, highly competent and confident advanced care practitioners and future leaders.

We wish you the very best as you make this important career decision. We look forward to meeting you and encourage you to consider our program.



Michael Ascari, PharmD, MS
Chief, Pharmacy Service



Patricia Chun, PharmD, BCPS
Medication Safety Officer and Residency Program Director
Pharmacy Service

Postgraduate Year One Pharmacy Residency



The Training Site

VA Long Beach Healthcare System (VALBHS) is a tertiary care facility and accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. VALBHS is one of the most diversified tertiary health care providers in the VA. It is a teaching hospital, providing a full range of patient care services, with state-of-the-art technology as well as education and research. The medical center is a 360-bed progressive teaching facility affiliated with UCI School of Medicine and UOP, USC, UCSF, and Western Schools of Pharmacy. It encompasses Medical, Surgical, Spinal Cord Injury, Blind Rehabilitation Center, and Psychiatry Services, as well as Long-Term Care and Home Based Primary Care. The immense Ambulatory Care Program consists of Primary Care and numerous specialty Medical and Surgical Clinics. The pharmacy department is staffed by greater than 110 employees and provides complete clinical pharmacy services 24 hours daily, seven (7) days a week. VALBHS Pharmacy Service is committed to honoring our Veterans and providing exceptional health care. To that end, we are continually evaluating services and processes to enhance the patient experience, improve patient safety, and positively impact patient outcomes. Automation and technology is integrated into all aspects of the medication-use system such as patient-profiled automated medication storage and distribution devices (Omnicell® AMSDD), automated prescription filling (ScriptPro®) and Bar Code Medication Administration (BCMA) to enhance medication safety, reduce dispensing and administration errors, and allow pharmacists time to participate in direct patient care and cognitive services.

Geographical Information

VA Long Beach Healthcare System is centrally located within the heart of sunny Southern California, in between Los Angeles and Orange County. There is much to experience in the local area including the Aquarium of the Pacific, Belmont Shore, Disneyland, Disney's California Adventure, and many more attractions. The City of Long Beach is well-known for easy access to miles of sandy beaches, fine dining, and exciting nightlife.

VA Long Beach Pharmacy Mission

Our mission is to deliver safe, effective, and compassionate care to all those we serve. We aspire to create a valuable service that exceeds the expectations of patients, stakeholders, and the medical community. Our commitment is to our patients, the advancement of healthcare, and to the development of future leaders.

Core Values

(I.C.A.R.E) 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 Residency Program Director and Preceptors

The residency program director is appointed by the Pharmacy Chief to oversee the residency program. The residency program director has demonstrated sustained contributions and commitment to pharmacy practice as shown by numerous publications and presentations, extensive teaching experience and experience directing a residency program in clinical pharmacy practice, and program development. Most assigned preceptors have extensive experience in their respective areas, have completed an ASHP-Accredited Residency, are Board Certified Specialists, and hold faculty positions with various pharmacy school affiliations.

Clinical Pharmacy Specialists

Clinical pharmacy specialists have scopes of practice, which include prescribing authority, laboratory ordering, and writing of chart notes.

Inpatient services include the following:

- Transitions of care medication review and intervention
- Daily evaluation and monitoring of patient medication regimens
- Participation in teaching rounds
- Provision of drug information
- Responding to pharmacotherapy consultations
- Admission and discharge medication reconciliation
- Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic dosing
- Parenteral nutrition per pharmacy
- Anticoagulation management per pharmacy
- Medication error prevention and reporting
- Antimicrobial Stewardship
- Influenza and pneumococcal vaccine ordering per protocol
- Adverse drug reaction detection and reporting (VA ADERS)
- Participation in Cardiac and Respiratory Arrests (Code Blue)



Ambulatory care practice settings include the following:

- Anticoagulation Management Clinic
- Anemia Management
- Diabetes Management



- Geriatric Evaluation Management Clinic
- Outpatient Pharmacy
- Pulmonary Management Clinic
- Oncology / Infusion Center
- Cholesterol Clinic
- HIV / PREP Clinic
- PACT Clinic (Primary Care)
- Tobacco Cessation Program
- Hepatitis C
- Hemodialysis Center
- Spinal Cord Injury Pharmacotherapy Clinic
- Women's Health Clinic
- Cardiology / Heart Failure Clinic
- Rheumatology Clinic

Residency Training Program Purpose

The purpose of this PGY1 pharmacy residency program is to build on Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) education and outcomes to contribute to the development of clinical pharmacists responsible for medication-related care of patients with a wide range of conditions, eligible for board certification, and eligible for postgraduate year two (PGY2) pharmacy residency training.

This residency program aims to train pharmacists to provide pharmaceutical care across a variety of practice settings (e.g., ambulatory care, acute care, critical care, pharmacy benefit management, and pharmacy operations), participate as a member of the health care team, and provide education of patients, health professionals and themselves. In addition, residents will learn to perform self-monitoring and demonstrate leadership through contributions to performance improvement. Residents will be encouraged to develop an approach to the profession that can lead to life-long learning and career satisfaction.

Program Competency Areas

Upon completion of this program, the pharmacy resident will achieve the following competencies as determined by the ASHP Accreditation Standard for PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Programs:

Patient Care

Independent provision of pharmaceutical care, primarily to ambulatory, acute, critical, geriatric and long term care patients, through participation on health care teams and working under pharmacists with scopes of practice.

Advancing Practice and Improving Patient Care

Identify and implement changes needed to improve patient care and medication use systems and assess the impact of these changes. Make contributions to the current and future knowledge bank through evaluation and investigation.



Leadership

Demonstrate leadership through a positive professional attitude and contributions to improvements in patient care systems. Perform self-monitoring and self-directed learning in preparation for life-long learning. Develop attitudes and skills for a satisfying career. Promote the profession of pharmacy and demonstrate professional commitment.

Teach, Educate and Disseminate Knowledge

Educate patients and health professionals about medication/health related issues. Communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing, with patients/public and members of the health care team and other health professionals to build relationships and accomplish goals.

Program Structure

The training and education of residents are important components of the VALBHS Pharmacy Service. The services provided by the resident will complement existing clinical pharmaceutical care. The resident will be directly involved in and have responsibility for providing patient oriented pharmaceutical services. The resident will actively participate in other pharmacy operations including management and assigned projects. The resident will develop the knowledge and skills required to become a competent, clinical practitioner through training in the following areas of pharmacy practice.

- Approximately 2 week Orientation at beginning of academic year
- 6 required rotation blocks
- 2 elective rotation blocks
- 2 longitudinal rotations
- Two 2-weeks incorporated within academic calendar for research/QI project
- Two weeks incorporated within academic calendar for practice management projects
- Precept and lead weekly APPE didactic sessions

Six Required Rotations (6-week rotation blocks)

Acute Care Internal Medicine
 Critical Care (Medical and Surgical)
 Patient Aligned Care Team (Primary Care) Pharmacy
 Specialty Clinics or Emergency Department/Surgery
 Anticoagulation
 Formulary Management/Drug Information

Two Elective Rotations (6-week rotation blocks)

Pharmacy Administration
 Pharmacy Operations
 Infectious Diseases (includes HIV clinic)
 Long Term Care

Spinal Cord Injury
 Oncology
 Inpatient Psychiatry
 Medication Safety
 Outpatient Mental Health/Pain
 Emergency Department
 Surgery
 Repeat of any required rotations
 Other, self-directed



Longitudinal Rotations (year-round)

Research/Quality Improvement Project
 Weekend Inpatient Staffing (every 4th weekend)

Sample Pharmacy Resident Schedule

	BLOCK 1	BLOCK 2	BLOCK 3	BLOCK 4	DEC
Resident 1	Medicine	ICU	Anticoag	Elective: ID	2 week research/ project time
Resident 2	Elective: Psychiatry	Elective: Oncology	Formulary	Specialty Clinics	
Resident 3	PACT	Anticoag	Medicine	ICU	
Longitudinal Rotations ▪ Inpatient staffing: every 4th weekend ▪ Research/QI project: on going and during allotted project time					

Requirements for PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Certificate

- Satisfactory completion of all learning experiences (rotations)
- Quality improvement or research project with a written manuscript suitable for publication in the professional literature
- Quality improvement or research project presentation at Southern California VA Pharmacy Residents Conference or other similar regional conference
- Completion of a medication safety report for Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee review
- Completion of 1 Drug Use Evaluation or Medication Use Evaluation
- Completion of 1 one of the following practice management assignments (development of or revision of a formulary monograph, drug class review, criteria for use, therapeutic guideline, protocol, policy, procedure, operational or clinical service enhancement project, or other similar management type of activity).
- Journal clubs
- Inservices

Benefits

- Period of Appointment: 12 months, from July, 1 2021 through June 30, 2022
- Salary: \$47,329
- Per-diem opportunities as available
- Health/ Life Insurance
- Authorized Absence and financial support to attend the following professional meetings:
 - ASHP Midyear or CSHP Annual Seminar
 - Southern California VA Residents Conference
- Thirteen (13) days annual leave accrued
- Thirteen (13) days sick leave accrued
- Ten (10) paid holidays
- Centralized office work space with access to a personal computer and desk
- Uniform allotment and laundry service
- Free Parking

Licensure

The pharmacy resident is required to obtain a pharmacist license in one of the States of the United States. The pharmacy resident will be licensed upon entry into the program or at the earliest possible date. The applicant is highly encouraged to take the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) and the California or Multistate Pharmacist Jurisprudence Examination (CPJE or MPJE) prior to entering the residency program (July 1st) and must be licensed in any state by September 30th.

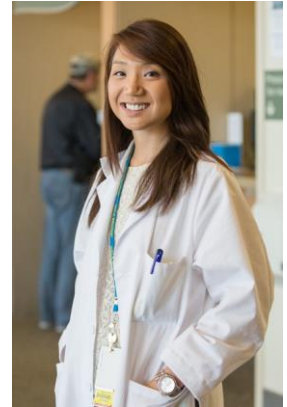
Applicant Qualifications

- 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 with proof of naturalization if naturalized
- Male Trainees: Registration for Selective Service prior to end of 25th birthday or by the time of application submission, whichever comes first.
- Participation in the ASHP Residency Matching Program
- Completed a professional curriculum which includes significant clinical clerkship experience



Application Procedure

- Online submission to the program thru PhORCAST™ (Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application)
 - Basic Demographics
 - School of pharmacy transcript
 - Personal statement/letter of intent specifically addressing why you desire to do a residency with the VALB
 - Curriculum Vitae
 - Three (3) letters of recommendation (standardized reference form in PhORCAST™). The form must address the following abilities of the candidate: critical thinking/problem solving skills and clinical aptitude.
 - Extracurricular information
 - Supplemental information (<http://www.va.gov/vaforms/>):
 - VA Application for Health Professions Trainees (Form # 10-2850D)
 - Declaration for Federal Employment (Form # OF-306)



Interviews will be scheduled based on evaluation of the written application. Applicants will be ranked for selection based on qualifications and a personal interview. Eight positions are available beginning July 1st.

Open house will be offered to interested applicants during the months of November/December. Please inquire should you desire more information.

All required application materials for the 2021-2022 residency program must be **SUBMITTED ONLINE** through PhORCAST™. Application deadline is January 1, 2021. Questions about the program and application process may be directed to:

Patricia Chun, PharmD, BCPS
 Residency Program Director (03/119)
 VA Long Beach Healthcare System
 5901 E. 7th Street
 Long Beach, CA 90822

E-mail: patricia.chun@va.gov
 Phone: 562.826.8000 ext. 3959
 Fax: 562.826.5797

2021-2022 Postgraduate Year One Pharmacy Residents



Allison Hy
Allison.Hy@va.gov
University of Southern
California
School of Pharmacy



Sarah Le
Sarah.le@va.gov
University of Southern
California
School of Pharmacy



Francisco Chung
Francisco.Chung@va.gov
Western University of
Health Sciences College
of Pharmacy



Nathan Nguyen
Nathan.Nguyen@va.gov
University of Southern
California
School of Pharmacy



Hyun Ji (Angie) Chin
HyunJi.Chin@va.gov
Western University of
Health Sciences College
of Pharmacy



Kristin Ignacio
KristinAnne.Ignacio@va.gov
University of
California, San
Francisco
School of Pharmacy



Ryan Lee
Ryan.Lee7@va.gov
University of Pacific
School of Pharmacy



Jeffrey Hua
Jeffrey.Hua@va.gov
University of Pacific
School of Pharm



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