

Department of
PHARMACY

Laura K. Mark, MS, Pharm.D., *Department Director*

Post-Graduate Year One (PGY1) and Year Two (PGY2) Residency Programs

James Coons, Pharm.D., BCPS, *Program Director (PGY1)*

Edward Seidl, Pharm.D., *Critical Care Program Director (PGY2)*

Rick Miller, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP, *Hematology-Oncology Program Director (PGY2)*

Length of programs: 1 year
Number of position(s): PGY1-5 positions
PGY2-1 position-Critical Care
1 position-Hematology-Oncology

HISTORY

The PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency Program at Allegheny General Hospital (*AGH*) was first accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (*ASHP*) in 1980 and most recently reaccredited in 2008. The Program provides comprehensive training in all aspects of institutional practice with an emphasis on the delivery of pharmaceutical care and clinical services. The goal of the Program is to develop the knowledge, skills, and philosophy required to pursue rational pharmacotherapy in a collaborative environment.

The PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Practice Residency Program was established in 1996 and most recently reaccredited by ASHP in 2008. The Program emphasizes the integrated approach to the application of advanced clinical skills. The goal of the Program is to refine the knowledge, skills, and attitudes required to pursue rational pharmacotherapy in a collaborative environment for a critically ill patient population.

The PGY2 Oncology Pharmacy Practice Residency Program was established in 2007 and will be seeking accreditation by ASHP in 2008. The Program provides an environment to enhance pharmacotherapy skills in a variety of inpatient and outpatient settings through a health system with strength in hematological and oncological disorders. The primary objective of the program is to build problem solving skills to enable practice in a multitude of clinical environments. Another goal is to provide the educational background for a PGY2 resident to eventually become BCOP certified.

MISSION STATEMENT

Individuals who complete the Residency Program at AGH shall be highly qualified independent practitioners that demonstrate a commitment to patient-centered practice and professional leadership. They shall be highly proficient in managing medication-use processes to optimize medication therapy outcomes in patients with a variety of disease states. Individuals will apply principles of evidence-based medicine within a multidisciplinary care environment. They will also exhibit leadership and practice management skills to promote the profession of pharmacy and facilitate their own professional development. They will effectively educate patients and their professional colleagues and engage in practice-related research to enhance patient care.

ROTATIONS

The Residency Programs provide residents with the skills and knowledge required to become competent pharmacy practitioners.

The Programs are 12-month, post-graduate training experiences composed of a variety of required and elective rotations tailored for each resident. The Residency Programs are divided into monthly or bi-monthly rotation periods.

The core rotations for the PGY1 Residency include:

- Cardiology
- Critical Care (*2 months*)
 - Medical ICU required
 - Select 2nd month from Trauma and Surgical ICU
- Drug Information
- Hematology/Oncology
- Infectious Diseases
- Internal Medicine
- Practice Management
- Electives (*3 rotations*)
- Ambulatory Care (*Longitudinal*)
- Direct Patient Care/Practice Management (*Longitudinal*)
- Pharmacokinetics (*Longitudinal*)
- Staffing (*Longitudinal*)

The core rotations for the PGY2 Critical Care Residency include:

- Medical ICU (*2 months*)
- Trauma ICU (*2 months*)
- Coronary ICU (*2 months*)
- Infectious Diseases
- Pharmacokinetics (*Longitudinal*)
- Cardiothoracic Surgical ICU
- Neurosurgery/Neurology ICU

The core rotations for the PGY2 Hematology-Oncology Residency include:

- Medical Oncology-Inpatient (*2 months*)
- Medical Oncology-Outpatient (*2 months*)
- Hematology
- Blood and Marrow Transplant
- Infectious Diseases
- Nutrition
- Research
- Pharmacokinetics (*Longitudinal*)

The specific program for each resident varies based upon the residents' goals, interests, and previous experience. However all residents are required to complete the above core rotations for each Program, respectively. A variety of elective rotations is available to suit flexibility in pursuing individual

goals. The resident may choose to complete an elective rotation in one or more of the core rotation practice areas, or choose another practice area. Examples of other elective rotations include: ambulatory care, HIV, nephrology, nutrition, pain management, pediatrics, practice management, psychiatry, toxicology/emergency medicine, and transplantation.

Orientation

Residents complete a standard orientation during the first month of the Program. The Program Director will orient residents to the Program purpose, applicable accreditation standards, designated learning experiences, and the evaluation strategy. In addition, residents will be introduced to the various operational areas of the pharmacy department and gain experience under the guidance of a full-time staff pharmacist. Residents will also attend a general hospital orientation.

RESIDENCY PROJECTS

Various residency-related projects are required throughout the year. Residents will be provided numerous opportunities to enhance their verbal and written communication skills in a variety of settings. Residents will provide both formal and informal presentations. The required formal presentations include:

- Resident Seminar
- Research Project Proposal
- Journal Club
- Pharmacist Continuing Education Program
- Eastern States practice sessions and final presentation

To more fully engage in quality improvement learning activities and to facilitate writing and literature evaluation skills, residents will complete both a formulary (*or class*) review and a medication-use evaluation. In addition, residents will prepare a manuscript of their research project suitable for contribution to a peer-reviewed journal. Residents will also engage in several less formal case presentations and inservices throughout the year as determined by the rotation preceptors.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Allegheny General Hospital

Allegheny General Hospital is an 829-bed academic health center serving Pittsburgh and the surrounding five-state area. Offering a wide array of medical and surgical services, the hospital is recognized for its expertise in cardiology, cardiothoracic surgery, diagnostic radiology, gastroenterology, general surgery, nephrology, neurology, neurosurgery, obstetrics/gynecology, oncology, ophthalmology, orthopedic surgery, pediatrics, psychiatry, pulmonary medicine and transplant surgery. Allegheny General also is designated as a Regional Resource (*Level I*) Trauma Center.

Located in the North Side section of Pittsburgh, Allegheny General Hospital annually admits more than 32,000 patients and logs approximately 450,000 outpatient visits. More than 1,250 physicians and 4,600 employees share the hospital's commitment to excellence in patient care, medical education and research.

Department of Pharmacy

The Department of Pharmacy provides 24-hour comprehensive services, utilizing a decentralized, computerized unit-dose drug distribution system, and intravenous admixture programs. Services include: drug information, computerized inventory control and procurement systems, integrated

drug use review, and quality improvement. Extensive inservice education and staff development programs are also available.

Pharmacists assume direct patient care responsibilities for ensuring the safe and effective use of medications, in addition to supervising supportive pharmacy personnel. Pharmacists with specialized training provide expertise in advanced principles of pharmaceutical care in areas including critical care, infectious diseases, cardiology, internal medicine, hematology/oncology, ambulatory care, drug information, transplantation, and emergency medicine.

The health care setting at AGH offers an ideal environment for the training and education of pharmacists and supportive pharmacy personnel. Affiliations with Duquesne University and University of Pittsburgh Schools of Pharmacy, as well as other academic centers and professional organizations, are fostered in an effort to provide formal educational programs through clerkships, externships, internships, and residencies.

Drug Information Center

The purpose of the Drug Information Center (DIC) of the Department of Pharmacy is to provide pharmaceutical and drug therapy information to the medical, nursing and pharmacy staffs at AGH, as well as other healthcare professionals. The DIC maintains a drug library with the latest pharmacological texts, pharmaceutical and medical journals, abstracting services and other references on drug therapy. The DIC also has the capability to search many on-line and computerized databases. Information is available on drug therapy, adverse reactions, pharmacokinetics, IV compatibility and drug interactions as well as tablet identification.

Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

The Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee is a multidisciplinary committee comprised of physicians, pharmacists, nurses, a risk manager and a representative from administration. The Committee is responsible for the formulation of hospital policies and procedures for the evaluation, selection, distribution, and administration of drugs in the hospital. In addition, it is responsible for reviewing reports of medication errors and adverse drug reactions, developing and conducting drug use reviews, antibiotic surveillance programs, developing drug monitors, and maintaining the drug formulary.

Consultation Services

The Department of Pharmacy routinely monitors aminoglycoside and vancomycin therapy providing dosage adjustments as necessary. Consultations for therapeutic monitoring of selected medications will be provided upon request. A clinical pharmacist may be consulted to assist in any medication-related problem or for patient education. A physician may request a consultation by calling the DIC. When such a request is received, a clinical pharmacist will review the patient's medications and provide specific dosage, drug serum level analysis and follow-up information to the requesting physician. Ongoing evaluation and adjustment of dosage will be provided as needed.

Clinical and Administrative On-Call

Pharmacy residents participate in an On-Call service which provides first-hand experience in developing problem-solving skills through exposure to various clinical and administrative situations. The Clinical On-Call program includes, but is not limited to, a Pharmacokinetics Consult Service in which residents prospectively evaluate and monitor patients receiving aminoglycosides and vancomycin. Residents will participate in a rotating on-call schedule for coverage of these services. Residents

will be assigned a preceptor as their “back-up” for any questions or issues. A comprehensive overview of these services will occur during orientation.

Staffing Obligations

In order to provide a complete educational experience, residents will be assigned staffing duties on a rotating basis and selected holidays. This requirement will consist of three shifts per three-week period. It is the intent of this requirement to provide the resident with model pharmacy practice experience.

BENEFITS

General

- Interview transportation
- Resident office
- Personal computer, phone
- Free on-site parking
- Library services
- Pharmacy continuing education
- Complementary ASHP membership
- ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting registration
- Reimbursement for *ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting* and *Eastern States Conference*
- Business cards
- ACLS certification
- Residency class trip
- Fitness facilities access

Travel

Appropriate reimbursement for travel expenditures, hotel accommodations (*double occupancy*), and meals at professional meetings (*ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting, Eastern States Conference*) are provided.

Compensation

Stipend - \$33,000 (*PGY1*)

\$34,100 (*PGY2*)

Leave-Holidays

Residents are required to work two holidays per year. The holiday schedule will be distributed during orientation. When the resident works a holiday, they will be granted another day off. The resident must use the holiday time 60 days prior to or after the holiday. When requesting to use the holiday time off, the procedures for requesting vacation days shall be followed.

Leave-Paid Days Off (Vacation/Personal/Sick Days)

Each resident is provided twelve paid days off during the residency (*includes vacation/personal/sick / interview days*). Time away from the hospital related to the residency (*i.e., ASHP Midyear Meeting and Eastern States Conference*), as approved by the Director, do not count toward this time. Days off should be scheduled in advance when possible. Paid days off must be used by June 1st.

Health

Residents are entitled to full employee insurance benefits, including:

- Medical
- Dental
- Vision
- Prescription drug
- Disability
- Life

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applicants to the Program must have graduated from an accredited School of Pharmacy, exhibit a keen interest in pursuing a career in patient-focused pharmacy practice, and be licensed or eligible for licensure in the state of Pennsylvania.

Applications will be accepted through January 16th of each year. Candidates interested in the program should submit:

- Letter of intent
- Residency Interest Form
- *Curriculum vitae*
- Three professional letters of recommendation
- Academic transcript

Curriculum vitae should include:

- Work experience
- Leadership experience
- Organization membership
- Publications
- Presentations
- Rotation experience

An on-site interview is also required. Applicants must participate in the ASHP residency matching program. The residency commences on July 1.

To apply for consideration, please forward all requested materials to:

PGY1 Residency Program

James Coons, Pharm.D., BCPS, *Residency Program Director*

Allegheny General Hospital

320 East North Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15212-4772

Phone: 412-359-3500

Fax: 412-359-8332

E-mail: jcoons@wpahs.org

PGY2 Critical Care Residency Program

Edward Seidl, Pharm.D., *Residency Program Director*

Allegheny General Hospital

320 East North Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15212-4772

Phone: 412-359-3500

Fax: 412-359-8332

E-mail: eseidl@wpahs.org

PGY2 Hematology-Oncology Residency Program

Rickey Miller, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP, *Residency Program Director*

Allegheny General Hospital

320 East North Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15212-4772

Phone: 412-359-3500

Fax: 412-359-8332

E-mail: rmiller2@wpahs.org

PRECEPTORS

● **Noreen H. Chan Tompkins, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

Infectious Diseases and Pharmacokinetics

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, University of Southern California School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Clinical Pharmacy Practice Residency, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Specialty Residency in Anti-Infective Therapy, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

● **James Coons, Pharm.D., BCPS**

Specialty

Cardiology

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Pharmacy Practice Residency, University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville, VA
Cardiology Specialty Residency, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA

● **Tucker Freedy, Pharm.D., BCPS**

Specialty

Drug Information, Nutrition Support

Education

B.S. Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy
Doctor of Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Residency, Nutrition Support, University of Maryland Medical System, Baltimore, MD

● **Stephanie Gallagher, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

Pharmacy Operations

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

PRECEPTORS (*continued*)

● **Edward Horn, Pharm.D., BCPS**

Specialty

Transplant

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Pharmacy Practice Residency, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia, PA

Critical Care Residency, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA

● **Paula Horn, Pharm.D., BCPS**

Specialty

Anticoagulation

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Primary Care Pharmacy Practice Residency, VA Maryland Healthcare System, Baltimore, MD

● **Rhonda Horton, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

50/50 in Internal Medicine

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, Purdue University School of Pharmacy and Pharmacal Sciences

Post-Graduate Training

Pharmacy Practice Residency, Methodist Healthcare – Memphis Hospitals, Memphis, TN

Pharmacotherapy Research Fellowship in Nephrology, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR

● **Leslie Gingo, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

50/50 in Cardiology

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, University of Toledo College of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Pharmacy Practice Residency, The Medical Center of Aurora, Aurora, CO

PRECEPTORS (*continued*)

● **Michael Korczynski, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

Ambulatory Care

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Pharmacy Practice Residency, Pittsburgh VA, Pittsburgh, PA

● **Jodi Lech, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

Medical Oncology

Education

B.S. Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

Doctor of Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Clinical Fellowship in Transplant Pharmacy Practice, The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH

● **Laura Mark, MS, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

Administration

Education

B.S. Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

Doctor of Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

Master of Science, Ohio State University

Post-Graduate Training

Pharmacy Practice Management Residency, Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus, OH

● **Rick Miller, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP**

Specialty

Hematology/Oncology

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Pharmacy Practice Residency, SHANDS Jacksonville (University of Florida Health Sciences Center), Jacksonville, FL

Hematology/Oncology Residency, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL

PRECEPTORS (*continued*)

● **David Pavlik, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

Critical Care/Trauma

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Pharmacy Practice Residency, Hamot Medical Center, Erie, PA

Critical Care Specialty Residency, Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA

● **Cindy Powers, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

50/50 in Internal Medicine

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Non-Traditional Pharmacy Practice Residency, Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA

● **Edward Seidl, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

Critical Care

Education

B.S. Biochemistry, University of Pittsburgh

B.S. Pharmacy, University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy

Doctor of Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Pharmacy Practice Residency, Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA

Critical Care Residency, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA

● **Robert Simpson, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

Critical Care

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Pharmacy Practice Residency, University Hospital of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH

Critical Care Residency, University Hospital of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH

PRECEPTORS (*continued*)

● **Jillian Szczesiul, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

Emergency Medicine

Education

Biochemistry Major, Michigan State University

Bachelor of Science in Allied Health Sciences, Wayne State University

Doctor of Pharmacy, Wayne State University

Post-Graduate Training

Pharmacy Practice Residency, The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD

Emergency Medicine/Critical Care Pharmacy Specialty Residency, University of Rochester

Medical Center, Shrong Memorial Hospital, Rochester, NY

● **Sarah Young, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

50/50 in Critical Care

Education

Doctor of Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy

Post-Graduate Training

Non-Traditional Pharmacy Practice Residency, Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA

● **Michael Zawoyski, Pharm.D.**

Specialty

50/50 in Cardiology

Education

B.A. Arts and Science, University of Pittsburgh

B.S. Pharmacy, Temple University

Doctor of Pharmacy, Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy