

PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Learning Experiences

Four to six week block experiences:

- Orientation
- Antibiotic Stewardship
- Cardiology
- Critical Care I
- Critical Care II
- Emergency Medicine
- General Medicine I
- General Medicine II
- Practice Management
- Psychiatry
- Outpatient

Longitudinal experiences:

- Drug information (12 months)
- Leadership (monthly workshop)
- Hope Dispensary (half day weekly x 12 weeks)
- Project (12 months)
- Staffing (12 months)
 - Every 2nd weekend
 - The Monday after a scheduled weekend will be a scheduled day off
 - Two holidays

Learning Experiences Descriptions

Antibiotic Stewardship

The antibiotic stewardship learning experience exposes the resident to the practice of antibiotic stewardship in hospitalized patients. The pharmacy resident will develop and strengthen clinical skills by performing antibiotic stewardship activities such as review of restricted antibiotics, automatic pharmacist antibiotic dosing and IV to PO conversions, restricted antibiotic request reviews, and antibiotic de-escalation. The resident will gain experience with running the vancomycin/gentamicin pharmacokinetic dosing and monitoring service. The preceptor will provide side-by-side instruction, modeling, and coaching during this rotation.

Cardiology

The cardiology rotation is a direct patient care learning experience exposing the resident to many cardiac disease states commonly seen in hospitalized patients. The pharmacy resident will develop clinical skills as a competent practitioner by rounding with an interdisciplinary team on patients admitted to the cardiac units, with an emphasis on patients admitted with heart failure and/or

myocardial infarctions. Other responsibilities include performing daily patient review of medication regimens, drug interactions and monitoring of drug therapy, and providing patient counseling. The resident will gain experience through both independent practice and structured learning activities. The resident will also improve written and verbal communication skills by leading topic discussions, journal clubs, in-service or patient case presentations, participating in multi-disciplinary disease-specific meetings and researching drug information questions.

Critical Care I

During the Critical Care 4 week learning block, the PGY1 resident shall work with the multi-disciplinary medical team in the intensive care units (both Medical/Surgical and Progressive Care Unit) to optimize pharmacotherapy provided to patients. The resident will participate in daily rounds, perform clinical collaborative activities such as pharmacotherapeutic drug dosing and monitoring, renal dosing, and dose optimization, and research and answer drug information questions. The resident will respond to patient emergency calls (Code 99/MET calls) while on duty.

Critical Care II

The Critical Care II learning experience builds upon the Critical Care I learning experience. During this 6-week learning block, the PGY1 resident shall work more independently with the multi-disciplinary medical team in the intensive care units (both Medical and Surgical) to optimize pharmacotherapy provided to patients. The resident will participate in daily rounds, perform clinical collaborative activities such as pharmacotherapeutic drug dosing and monitoring, renal dosing, and dose optimization, and research and answer drug information questions. The resident will respond to patient emergency calls (Code 99/MET calls) while on duty.

Drug information

Drug information rotation is a longitudinal learning experience which encompasses the longitudinal drug information needs of the Medical Center as well as activities related to functioning of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics committee. There are two basic components of this experience: 1) in-depth understanding, evaluation, and manipulation of the medication use system and related safety components, and 2) education of health-care professionals and patients. The resident will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the medication use system, demonstrate tracking and trending of medication errors and present this at the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee meetings, and identify potential improvements in the medication use system. The resident will construct and lead journal club presentations, author articles for the hospital newsletter, and prepare and present a formal seminar (see manual, Page 12). The resident may elect to precept pharmacy students and participate in a Teaching and Learning Certificate program offered through the University of Connecticut.

Seminar (part of Drug Information)

A formal seminar presentation is required as part of the Drug Information learning experience. The formal seminar is an opportunity to develop speaking skills and a presentation that may be used in future job interviews. The resident may choose a topic in any clinical or professional practice area based

on a needs assessment of the practice site. Topics are preferred to be in a clinical area where a current controversial issue exists and must be approved in advance by the residency program director.

The resident will prepare a 45-50 minute PowerPoint presentation, which will be followed by a 10-15 minute period of questions and answers. Prepared handouts are required.

Residents should plan ahead and allow appropriate time for the following:

1. Selection of seminar topic
2. Research using Medline and other resources
3. Preparation of handout and PowerPoint slide presentation

At least two weeks prior to the scheduled date of the presentation, the resident must show his/her formal seminar to the preceptor(s) for feedback. Revisions and subsequent presentations are at the discretion of the program director, resident's advisor and resident.

Emergency Medicine

The Emergency Department at St. Vincent's is a Level 2 trauma center comprised of 60 beds with a "Fast Track" emergency care area, critical care suite and separate behavioral health area. An average of 7000 patients are seen and treated each month by Emergency Medicine staff physicians, nurses and nursing students, internal medicine residents, medical students, respiratory therapists, psychologists, social workers, and pharmacists. The resident will work with the preceptor and multi-disciplinary team to design, implement, and monitor optimal therapeutic medication regimens for patients and facilitate safe transfer to the next caregiver or home.

General Medicine I

The general medicine rotation is a direct patient care learning experience exposing the resident to many disease states commonly seen in hospitalized patients. The pharmacy resident will work along-side the preceptor and attend morning sign-out; participate in daily teaching rounds, as well as multi-disciplinary discharge rounds on the appropriate floor to optimize pharmacotherapy provided to patients. During this rotation, the resident will develop clinical skills as a competent practitioner allowing the resident to perform all essential tasks related to therapeutic drug dosing, monitoring, renal dosage adjustments, and patient counseling, as well as responding to any drug information questions. Sign out will be provided to the preceptor every morning prior to the start of rounds, and discussions about specific patient-cases will occur after daily rounds. Afternoons will be reserved for patient case reviews and/or topic discussions relevant to general medicine. The resident will gain experience through both independent practice and structured learning activities. The resident will also improve written and verbal communication skills by leading topic discussions, journal clubs, in-service or patient case presentations, participating in multi-disciplinary disease-specific meetings and researching drug information questions.

General Medicine II

The general medicine rotation II is a direct patient care learning experience building directly upon the concepts and tactics learned in the general medicine I rotation. The pharmacy resident will work along-side the preceptor with some independent facilitated practice when participating in morning sign-out, daily teaching rounds, and multi-disciplinary discharge rounds. During this rotation, the resident will continue to develop clinical skills as a competent practitioner with more independent practice expected

in therapeutic drug dosing, monitoring, renal dosage adjustments, and patient counseling, as well as responding to any drug information questions. Sign out will be provided to the preceptor every morning prior to the start of rounds, and discussions about specific patient-cases will occur after daily rounds. Resident teaching of any students on rotation is expected. Afternoons will be reserved for patient case reviews and/or topic discussions relevant to general medicine. The resident will gain experience mainly through independent practice with facilitation of the preceptor. Structured learning activities will occur if necessary, directed by the resident. The resident will also improve written and verbal communication skills by leading topic discussions, journal clubs, in-service or patient case presentations, participating in multi-disciplinary disease-specific meetings and researching drug information questions.

HOPE Dispensary

The main focus of this rotation is for the pharmacy resident to develop clinical skills as a competent practitioner in a charitable pharmacy serving low income, uninsured patients. Activities will include obtaining current medication history and evaluation for access and evidence based therapies. A medication therapy plan will be developed involving health care providers and the patient. Education of the patient, family and care-givers will include the disease states, medications, and tools to achieve the patient's health goals.

The resident will gain experience through both independent practice and structured learning activities. The resident will also enhance written and verbal communication skills by communicating with various health care providers as well as patients of many languages, cultures, and literacy levels.

Leadership

The Leadership rotation is a longitudinal learning experience that occurs over the course of the 12-month residency year. Meetings with the preceptor will occur once or twice monthly, as needed for each learning activity. During these meetings, the resident will learn about various issues pertaining to leadership in health care through direct instruction or hands-on application of case studies. Some activities will require preparation prior to the meeting, including but not limited to reading articles, completing self-evaluations, or surveys, and some activities will be completed after the meeting with the preceptor.

Oncology

The Hematology/Oncology (Hem/Onc) rotation is an elective rotation offered to the Pharmacy Practice resident as a 1 month rotation. The overall goal of this rotation is to provide the resident with learning activities that will allow him/her to build upon a basic understanding of oncologic therapeutics and to begin to develop expertise in the overall management of patients with malignancies. In order to accomplish this goal in this short time period, a substantial amount of time outside of rotation time will be required for completion of reading materials.

Outpatient

Outpatient pharmacy is a direct patient care learning experience that will take place in the discharge pharmacy located within the hospital. This rotation will expose the resident to the medication challenges patients face following discharge from the hospital. The resident will be involved in

performing medication therapy reviews by assessing prescriptions the patients present with, as well as additional home medications that will be obtained through patient interviews. Patient education will be a critical aspect of this rotation, and the resident will be expected to provide patients with a personal medication record when needed and counsel patients on the purpose, administration, side effects, and monitoring parameters for their medications. The resident will develop clinical skills by assessing patients' medication regimens for appropriateness and making interventions when needed. Communication skills will also be enhanced by providing education to patients and caregivers, as well as communicating with other healthcare professionals. A portion of this learning experience may be completed in an ambulatory setting with a pharmacist performing annual well medication visits in an emerging practice.

Practice Management

The Pharmacy Practice Management rotation is a 4 week rotation designed to educate residents in the areas of Pharmacy operations, human resources, fiscal responsibility, quality monitoring, and safety. The Practice Management Rotation utilizes a combination of case study, management scenarios and real-time practice examples. The primary goal is to gain an understanding of the Pharmacy enterprise and then to apply this knowledge in both hypothetical and real life situations. A key objective is to realize the "big picture," recognize the forces that affect Pharmacy and to be able to build ideas that motivate and benefit all parties involved.

Project

The residency research project is a required, longitudinal learning experience for all Pharmacy Residents. This rotation offers the learner the opportunity to conduct practice-related investigations using effective project management skills, as well as design and implement quality improvement changes to the organization's medication-use system. See Pharmacy Residency Project Timeline document for more detailed deadlines.

Psychiatry

The psychiatry rotation will provide an introduction to the field of psychiatry in an acute inpatient hospital setting. The pharmacy resident will have the opportunity to be a part of a multidisciplinary team consisting of psychiatrists, nurses, treatment coordinators, and mental health workers. The resident will have direct exposure to patient care and will observe and evaluate various mental health conditions. The resident will provide medication regimens including monitoring plans, document clinical activities, evaluate patients' progress, and lead patient education classes including patient one on one consultation. The resident will also provide educational feedback to providers upon request and lead an educational classroom type session with nursing involving a selected medication topic.

Staffing

The resident will perform the clinical and operational duties of a clinical staff pharmacist. Departmental workflow and day to day issues as well as teamwork and cooperation among the professional and support staff will be practiced.