

Psychiatric Pharmacy

The primary purpose of the Psychiatric Specialty Residency is to provide training to become a psychiatric clinical pharmacy specialist. The resident will develop clinical skills in the areas of Integrated Care (IC), Outpatient Mental Health, Inpatient Mental Health, and Addictions while treating the veteran population.



Residents provide patient care as members of interdisciplinary teams. They assume responsibility for the care of patients and take an active, direct role in patient care. In addition, they write progress notes for patients they assess and are granted prescribing authority under protocol. Residents also have privileges to order laboratory and other diagnostic tests, consult other services when indicated, and develop therapeutic and monitoring plans for patient follow-up.

The program has been accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists since 2008, according to the ASHP Accreditation Standards for PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residencies.

PGY-2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Specialty Residency Application

Applicants must be a graduate of an American Council of Pharmaceutical Education accredited School of Pharmacy with a Pharm.D. degree, must be a U.S. citizen, and participate in an on-site interview. They must also have completed or currently be enrolled in a PGY-1 residency. Applicants must have an aptitude and motivation for mental health patient care. Some of the criteria considered in choosing residents include knowledge of professional practice, communication skills and ability to apply theory to practice, leadership ability, interest in the program, confidence, and maturity.

Pharmacists interested in applying for this residency program are required to complete their application through PhORCAS and include the below attachments:

- Submit a personal letter of intent
- Submit (3) PhORCAS References
- Submit a copy of their curriculum vitae
- Submit an official copy of their pharmacy transcript(s)

"I enjoyed learning from many skilled preceptors in this residency. The variety of experiences helped prepare me for clinical practice as a psychiatric pharmacy specialist"
- Former PGY-2



Learn more about our program and the city of Madison, WI online at:

<http://www.madison.va.gov/pharmacyresidency/>



See ASHP website for application deadlines.
Address inquiries to:

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Pharmacy Residency Learning Experiences

Integrated Care (IC)

Residents will have a core rotation focusing on the delivery of IC services as a member of an interdisciplinary team. The IC service is located in the primary care West Annex clinic which is affiliated with the William S. Middleton VA. Residents will have the opportunity to serve as a member of an interprofessional training team consisting of psychiatry residents, pharmacy residents, psychology interns, and social work interns. In addition to day to day patient care activities, the interprofessional training program meets weekly for seminar focusing on the treatment of mental health disorders within primary care, motivational interviewing, and professional development.

Outpatient Mental Health Care

During the mental health ambulatory care experience, residents will be expected to establish professional relationships with patients. Residents will be given responsibility for direct patient care, progressively increasing toward independence at a pace determined by both the resident and preceptors. Residents will learn how to prioritize delivery of patient centered care, effectively triage ambulatory care patients, collect and analyze patient information, and document patient care activities. They will recommend and communicate drug therapy and monitoring plans and provide counseling to effectively implement the plan. Residents will provide evidence-based, patient-centered treatment for chronic mental illness in all degrees of complexity. Residents will have the opportunity to work with a variety of pharmacist and psychiatrist preceptors in this setting which helps to model different patient interviewing styles. Residents also rotate through the geropsych clinic where they learn about assessment tools and treatments in veterans of advanced age.

Inpatient Psychiatry

For the inpatient experience, the residents will serve as members of the interdisciplinary team, working directly with medical residents and medical students. Residents will participate in rounds, contribute to the development of treatment plans, and provide medication expertise. Residents will also facilitate a medication education group on the inpatient unit. Additionally, residents will participate in Transitions Clinic, providing medication and education to patients who are transitioning from inpatient to outpatient care with frequent and intensive follow-up.

Addiction Treatment

Residents will provide ambulatory medication management services (including primary care chronic disease state management) for residential addiction treatment patients. Residents will serve as medication experts during the Addiction Disorders Treatment Program (ADTP) team meetings, and participate as active contributors to treatment plans for patients. Residents can also take part in the buprenorphine clinic, tobacco cessation group and individual visits, aid in the proactive prescribing of anti-alcohol abuse agents, and help lead group education for addiction treatment patients.

Residency Research Project

Completion of a project of the resident's choosing is required. Residents work with a pharmacy or psychiatry staff mentor to plan, carry out, and evaluate the results of these projects. Projects are presented as posters at College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists Annual Meeting in April of each year.

Other Experiences

Additional opportunities exist in community support program, epilepsy, pain, psychotherapy groups, and Community Outreach events. The residency is affiliated with the University of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy. Teaching opportunities exist at UW-Madison in the pharmacotherapy lab, pharmacotherapy lecture, and mental health elective. Residents can receive academic appointments as clinical instructors. Residents will participate in journal club, and will have opportunities to attend workshops and lectures at the VA. Residents can attend the ASHP Mid-Year Conference as well as the CPNP (College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists) Annual Meeting.