

PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program Structure and Design

The program structure follows ASHP accreditation standards and the required competency areas, goals and objectives for PGY1 Pharmacy residency programs. These competency areas are Patient Care; Advancing Practice and Improving Patient Care; Leadership and Management; and Teaching, Education and Dissemination of Knowledge.

In addressing these competency areas, the PGY1 Pharmacy residency program is designed and anchored by a total of 16 – weeks of internal medicine-based learning experience per resident. The internal medicine learning experiences are conducted longitudinally and interspersed by the required non-internal medicine (specialty) learning experiences. The required specialty learning experiences include Emergency Medicine, Ambulatory Care, Critical Care, Infectious Diseases, and Pediatrics. Residents also choose ONE elective rotation from any of the following: Surgical Critical Care, Oncology/Hematology, Clinical Toxicology II, Emergency Medicine II, Geriatrics, Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Advance Pediatrics and Ambulatory Care HIV. A sample resident **schedule** is available to provide a more detailed depiction of the residency program structure.

PGY1 Pharmacy residents at Upstate are encouraged to pursue Post Graduate Year – 2 (PGY2) residencies and fellowship in their area of interest and are strategically trained to be successful in their pursuit. However, those who would like to join the workforce also stand tall wherever they go. The sequence of the learning experiences for each resident is individualized and primarily based on the resident's area(s) of interest. The resident's preferred two areas of interest are scheduled to be completed within the first six months of residency training and prior to ASHP Midyear clinical meeting. This is done to assist the resident's preparation for PGY2 pharmacy residency interviews during the ASHP Midyear clinical meeting or apply for a early commitment into one of our PGY2 Pharmacy residencies: Ambulatory Care, Geriatrics, Infectious Diseases, and Pediatrics. Longitudinal experiences include Staffing (Pharmacy Operations); Teaching, Education and dissemination of knowledge (TEDK); Clinical Toxicology; Pharmacy Administration; and Clinical Research.

The research intensity is driven by the resident's desire. However, all residents are required to complete at least ONE research project. These research projects are designed to be publishable in a peer review journal. To ensure that pharmacy residents gain fundamental knowledge in research and prepare for a successful residency research experience and future research endeavor, pharmacy residents at Upstate University Hospital are required to complete our innovative pharmacy clinical research microcredential program. This program includes 26 hours of didactic lectures in various subjects in the research process presented by experienced faculty. It is organized and hosted by the pharmacy residency research committee of the Department of Pharmacy, Upstate University Hospital. A certificate of completion and a digital badge are awarded to each resident at the end of the academic year after the successful completion of a research project and submission of an associated manuscript to a peer review journal for possible publication.

Training our PGY1 pharmacy residents to become proficient educators and teachers is also a major priority of our program. A Teaching and Learning Certificate (TLC) is required and offered to our residents by one of the affiliated colleges of pharmacy. PGY1 Pharmacy residents are required to co-precept and mentor Advance Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) students who rotate through our institution annually. The residents also participate in Inter-professional education during their internal medicine rotation where they contribute to the training of second year medical students. Our PGY1 pharmacy residents are afforded the opportunity to strengthen their writing skills through manuscript preparation and possible publication in a peer reviewed journal. Each PGY1 pharmacy resident is required and guided to complete and submit at least ONE manuscript by the end of the residency academic year for peer review and possible publication. Opportunities to publish a newsletter and complete written responses to drug information are additional outstanding examples designed to improve the writing skills of our residents. Honing residents' public speaking and presentation skills through presentations at the local, regional and national platforms organized by

pharmacy organizations, and required regular presentations to pharmacists and staff of the department and other healthcare professionals are also incorporated into the teaching experience.

The purpose statement for ASHP accredited PGY1 Pharmacy residency programs require graduates of such programs to be prepared for board certification in pharmacotherapy (I.e., BCPS) and encourages them to pursue this certification. To achieve this goal, the Upstate PGY1 pharmacy residency program has created a committee to supervise the offering of a BCPS certification preparatory program. The curriculum is designed using the BCPS review materials by ASHP/ACCP. PGY1 Pharmacy residents are required to lead the various diseases state topic discussions and associated questions. Each topic is assigned a mentor who is a clinical specialist and an expert in that subject area to mentor the resident to prepare and present the topic including leading the answering of the test questions associated with the topics/ subject area. The BCPS certification preparatory program starts in August through June of the academic year.

During weekends, two PGY1 pharmacy residents are scheduled every third weekend to support pharmaceutical care services; including clinical pharmacokinetics, drug information consults and pharmacy staffing. Residents earn a “pass day” on the Monday after the working weekend or the Friday before the working weekend. Residents are also scheduled to spend an additional 4 hours each sixth working day to help improve their pharmacy staffing knowledge and skills.

Our program design offers the PGY1 pharmacy resident an opportunity to practice independently and develop proficiency in all the four ASHP competency areas. This prepares our graduates to be competitive and preferred candidates when they pursue a career in academia, acute care, ambulatory care, or pursue PGY2 Pharmacy residency training in their area of interest.

PGY1 pharmacy residents at Upstate receive a competitive stipend plus fringe benefits which include health, dental insurance and paid travel for relevant meetings (ASHP Midyear clinical meeting and New York State Council of Health – System Pharmacists). Also, our comprehensive family, professional and sick leave policies make Upstate an attractive environment to train.

Finally, the collaborative relationship with our medical, nursing, and other professional colleagues and the family – like environment in the department of pharmacy allow our residents to be trained and become proficient pharmacist practitioners.