

VASNHS PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency Rotation Description

Ambulatory Care:

Main focus of this rotation is chronic disease (diabetes, hypertension, and lipid) management and polypharmacy review. Resident will develop therapeutic plans including dosing regimen, length of therapy, monitoring parameters and adverse effects. Resident will also order appropriate medications, counsel patients and caregivers on new medications and disease management as well as provide follow-up based on labs and/or side effects. He/she must be able to complete non-formulary requests and present on current diabetes/lipid/hypertension topics. The resident will evaluate medication regimens for polypharmacy issues and provide evidence based recommendations to providers. He/she will present in-services to providers and pharmacy staff as well as collaborate with various healthcare providers to minimize unnecessary use of medications and enhance patient safety.

Advanced Ambulatory Care:

This rotation includes all of the activities and requirements performed during the Ambulatory Care rotation. The resident will be expected to efficiently manage the Chronic Disease Management clinic with minimal preceptor intervention.

Anticoagulation:

The resident will help manage patients on anticoagulation therapy. Resident will provide medication therapy education to patients and caregivers, assess laboratory data, as well as conduct verbal interview and physical assessment to determine the patient's anticoagulation state. He/she will also perform adverse event reporting, dose titrations, and prescription processing duties.

Advanced Anticoagulation:

The resident will expand on the concepts learned during the required anticoagulation rotation. He/she will work primarily with the Anticoagulation Clinic Program Director. He/she will be directly involved with precepting pharmacy students, analyze and perform anticoagulation quality management. The resident will also be expected to be fully functional in the role of an anticoagulation pharmacist.

Cardiology:

The resident will participate in the provision of pharmaceutical care to outpatient cardiology patients at the VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System. The rotation allows the resident the opportunity to apply pharmacy-related concepts to patient care as a member of the adult cardiology consultation service. The resident is responsible for identifying, preventing and resolving medication therapy issues for patients and serving as a drug information resource for the team.

Chief Resident:

While working with the Residency Program Director, resident will take an active role in facilitating and coordinating essential pharmacy events including Residency Committee Meetings, Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee Meetings and National Pharmacy Month. The resident will also be in charge of coordinating research paperwork for all residents, residency conference related activities as well as future resident recruitment process.

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Drug Information:

The resident will be responsible for answering medication-related questions from providers, nurses, pharmacists or other healthcare professionals at VASNHS. At least one response to these questions will be provided in a formal, written format by the end of each required and elective learning experience. Resident responses to drug information queries will be posted on the VASNHS Drug Information website for staff education and future reference.

Education:

The resident will be responsible for coordinating training experiences for the incoming pharmacy students and residents; facilitate new employee orientation and training for pharmacists, physicians, medical, nursing and other staff. He/she will be responsible for providing in-services to medical, pharmacy and nursing staff on assigned topics. He/she will also be required to facilitate patient group classes, health events and other training/education that come up throughout the course of this rotation.

Geriatrics:

The resident is responsible for identifying and resolving medication therapy issues for patients in the Geriatric Primary Clinics, GEM and Falls Clinic. He/she will recommend monitoring plans, necessary therapeutic changes and follow-up on the patients in the clinic. He/she will complete non-formulary requests and precept students. He/she will provide effective communication with patients and providers on a daily basis. The resident will also provide in-services to the staff as required.

Advanced Geriatrics:

The resident will expand on the experiences gained from the geriatric primary care rotation. In addition he/she will be required to complete a mini research project.

Home Based Primary Care:

The resident is responsible for identifying and resolving medication therapy related issues by conducting 90-day and annual medication therapy management reviews for Home Based Primary Care patients.

Inpatient Services:

This rotation allows the resident the opportunity to apply pharmacy-related concepts to patient care as a member of a multi-disciplinary health care team. The resident is responsible for identifying, preventing and resolving medication therapy issues for patients and serving as a drug information resource. This will include, but is not limited to, developing pharmaceutical care plans for patients, performing pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic assessments, screening medications for appropriate indications and dosing, and proactively identifying drug interactions.

Pharmacy Operations:

The resident is responsible for identifying, preventing and resolving medication therapy issues for patients and serving as a drug information resource. The resident will utilize the system's formulary process to evaluate use of restricted medications and perform medication use evaluation. Resident will also develop monograph and criteria for use of new drug products.

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Practice Management Rotation:

While working the Associate Chief of Pharmacy, the resident is expected to understand the mission, vision, short and long-term goals and management philosophy of the pharmacy. He/she will attend a variety of pharmacy/hospital/VISN meetings, in-services and staff development projects. The resident will learn to present different concerns to different audiences, record minutes and agendas for meetings and write or revise policies. This rotation will provide the resident with an understanding of human resource management, medication resource management as well as the leadership role a pharmacist must take when working with other disciplines.

Presentations:

Each resident will be required to give a minimum of 6 presentations throughout the residency year. This includes 2 journal clubs, 2 management conferences and 2 patient cases. Each resident will provide real-life examples of his or her textbook knowledge foundation and practice educating others about the management of complex patient cases. He/she should be able to evaluate published medical literature which may impact current standards of care. He/she will also delve further into pharmacotherapy-related issues that may be encountered in a clinical practice setting.

Psychiatry:

The resident will be taking an active role in the outpatient Mental Health Clinic, the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Program and the Addiction Treatment Program. He/she will be responsible in identifying, preventing and resolving medication therapy issues; recommending psychiatric medication regimens based on current evidence; and providing patient education about psychiatric medications. The resident may also provide in-services to staff and/or patients.

Quality Management:

This is a broad program encompassing all aspects of the health care system. The objective of this rotation is to align with the mission of the Office of Quality and Performance to support clinicians, managers, and employees in improving care to veterans.

Research Project:

This is an ASHP required activity for all PGY-1 residents. Each resident will select a research topic in the area he/she is interested. The proposed endeavor and methods will be presented at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Midyear Meeting. Upon completion of the study, the findings will be presented at the Western States Conference. Each resident will work with a preceptor on his/her research project throughout the course of the year.

Resident Piloted Clinic:

The resident will work alongside a preceptor/provider to develop a clinic.

Service Commitment (aka staffing):

This rotation allows the residents a crucial learning opportunity to develop professional practice skills. Each resident is required to staff at various outpatient pharmacy clinics for four hours every Friday. From this experience, the residents will gain proficiency in patient care and interaction, operational and personal management as well as clinical skills. The residents will be responsible for verifying, preparing and dispensing medications; answering drug information questions; and making medication recommendations to the primary care and mental health teams.