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Important Dates

41st Annual ASHP Midyear Meeting
Anaheim, Calif.: December 3-7, 2006
Residency Showcase at Midyear
Monday, December 4, 2006: 1-4 PM
Pitt Reception at Midyear
Monday, December 4, 2006: 5:30-7:30 PM
Hilton Anaheim

Contact Information

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New Community Care Pharmacy Practice Residency

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Other residency learning experiences include teaching and research. Residents are appointed as clinical instructors in the School of Pharmacy and have the opportunity to be involved with both didactic and experiential teaching of PharmD students. Residents also participate in the School of Pharmacy's residency research series, which provides a structured environment to learn the processes involved in performing clinical research.

By combining these different experiences, the program offers a unique approach to community-based residency training. The residency provides a wide array of opportunities to learn from patients, students, and preceptors while allowing residents to have the flexibility to focus on specific areas of interest.

If you would like to learn more about the community pharmacy residency, please contact either Margie Snyder, PharmD, at snyderm@pitt.edu or Melissa Somma, PharmD, CDE, at somma@pitt.edu.



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University of Pittsburgh
School of Pharmacy

Residents' Roar

Fall 2006

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Resident Editors

Colleen (Cook) Tobia
Andrea Wilson

Faculty Advisors

Amy Calabrese Donihi
Kim Coley

Contributors

Margie Snyder
Robert Weber

The University of Pittsburgh
is an affirmative action,
equal opportunity
institution.



2006-07 Residency Class

School of Pharmacy Introduces New Community Care Pharmacy Practice Residency

The University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy, in conjunction with Rite Aid Corporation, is pleased to introduce a new pharmacy practice (PGY1) residency program with a focus on community-based care. The program is designed to meet the needs of patients in the community and to foster leadership in community pharmacy practice. During the year, residents are exposed to clinical experiences in both community practice and family medicine. Residents also participate in a research project and have teaching opportunities. At the end of the year, residents should have the knowledge and skills necessary to provide patient care and develop patient service clinics in the community setting.

The community practice component of the residency grew out of collaboration between the University of Pittsburgh and Rite Aid Corporation. Residents participate in the Rite Care Medication Therapy Management Services (MTMS) team. With the passage of Medicare Part D in January of this year, new opportunities exist for community pharmacists interested in providing patient care. In addition to prescription drug coverage, Part D plans are required to cover MTMS for Medicare

beneficiaries meeting certain criteria. Through Rite Care, pharmacists provide comprehensive MTMS in Rite Aid pharmacies. Specifically, pharmacists provide patients with one-on-one consultations during which the patients' medications are reviewed and specific recommendations are communicated to the patients' physicians. In addition, Rite Care pharmacists consult with patients at local senior centers and give presentations to community organizations.

The family medicine component of the residency is conducted as a longitudinal experience at the UPMC St. Margaret Lawrenceville Family Health Center. Community pharmacy residents work with family medicine physician residents who are completing a medication management rotation with pharmacist faculty. The physician residents also experience community pharmacy practice by accompanying the pharmacy residents to the community pharmacy during their medication management rotation. With an understanding of the community pharmacy practice environment, physicians can better serve patients' needs and more effectively communicate with pharmacists.

Continued on back cover

Where Are They Now? Residency Class of 2005-06

Cardiology Cory Murray

Clinical Pharmacy Specialist
Sentara Norfolk General Hospital

Cardiology/Critical Care Casey Sanner

Regional Medical Scientist
GlaxoSmithKline

Family Medicine Annette Sanford

Undecided

Infectious Diseases Patricia Saunders

Infectious Disease Clinical Specialist
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

Oncology Timothy George

Inpatient Hematology Pharmacist
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center

Brian Miller

Clinical Pharmacist
Hillman Cancer Center

Pharmacy Practice (UPMC) Jessica Bollinger

Critical Care Specialty Resident
Ohio State University Medical Center

Shrina Duggal

Oncology Specialty Resident
UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside

Pharmacy Practice (VAPHS) Melissa Benedict

Clinical Pharmacist
St. Clair Hospital

Jeanette Yoder

Outpatient Pharmacist
VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System

Pharmacy Practice Management Ozioma Ogbuokiri

Clinical Manager
Cook Children's Health System

Eunjin Yang

Director of Pharmacy
Graduate Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.

Primary Care Lauren Veltry

Analyst
Xcenda
(formerly Applied Health Outcomes)

EPITOME

In September 2005, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) implemented a house-wide medication education program with specific roles for nurses, pharmacists, and respiratory therapists. The program is called EPITOME (Enhanced Patient Safety Intervention To Optimize Medication Education). The goal of EPITOME is to reduce patient medication-related problems, reduce the number of medications prescribed and improve patient satisfaction with medication education.

The structure of EPITOME is based on the unique program designed and piloted on two medicine units at UPMC as part of a study led by Kerry Cholka, PharmD ('96), Amy Calabrese Donihi ('98), and others in 2000. Specifically, medication education is provided throughout the hospitalization at the time of each medication administration by nurses and respiratory therapists. Pharmacists provide additional medication education to patients who have a complex medication regimen and are therefore at high risk for non-adherence. For these patients, pharmacists also make recommendations to simplify dosage regimens, eliminate medication duplication, optimize drug selection and dosage, treat untreated conditions and discontinue unnecessary drugs.

To facilitate pharmacist consults, a list of patients receiving a complex medication regimen (defined as 10 or more scheduled medications) is electronically generated each day. Pharmacists review the discharge plan for each patient on the list and educate patients who will be responsible for their own medication administration after discharge. To staff the program, unit-based pharmacists provide medication education for patients on their units, and four pharmacists (equivalent to one full-time employee) provide medication education to patients admitted to units without a unit-based pharmacist. Pharmacy practice residents provide medication education to patients on their service during their two internal medicine rotations.

In summary, EPITOME provides staff and resident pharmacists at UPMC with the opportunity for direct patient interaction. This pharmacist-patient interaction provides a mechanism not only to improve patient knowledge and adherence, but also to optimize a patient's medication regimen. Studies of the outcomes related to the implementation of this new program are underway.

Alumni Updates

Future Residents:

Andrew Joseph Dormarunno, born on 10/5/05, son of Catherine (Eckard) Dormarunno ('01).

Logan Kent Slivko, born on 7/29/06, son of Jessica (Neely) Slivko ('01).

Newly Wed:

Colleen Cook ('07) and Stephen Tobia on June 3, 2006.

Jonathan Ference ('04) and Kim Hritzak October 1, 2005.

Heather Kudis ('05) and Craig Sakely on October 1, 2005.

Beth Wise ('04) and Frank Chen on June 24, 2006.

Kristin Zerumsky ('04, '05) and Brian Watson ('04) on June 24, 2006.

Professional Updates

Jeffrey Brewer ('00), the immediate past president of the Maryland Society of Health-System Pharmacists, received the Advanced Practice Preceptor of the Year Award at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy.

Beth (Wise) Chen ('04) recently passed the BCOP exam. She is leaving Wake Forest to take an oncology clinical specialist position at University of North Carolina Hospitals.

Shelby Corman ('04), Umbreen Idress ('02), and Paul Juang ('04) recently passed the BCPS exam.

Melissa Crawford ('99) recently earned her CDE certification.

Molly Englert ('05) was accepted for the ASHP Foundation diabetes traineeship.

Karen Laughlin ('00,'01) left her position as clinical pharmacist in the intestinal rehabilitation and transplant center of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and has assumed a position as a medical information liaison for Mylan Laboratories in Morgantown, W.Va.

Lanre Okusanya ('03) finished his fellowship and earned a master's degree in pharmacometrics from SUNY at Buffalo in June 2006. He has accepted a position as a scientist at ICPD-Ordway Research Institute in Albany, N.Y.

Rowena Schwartz resigned her position as associate professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy in July 2006. Moe served the University of Pittsburgh and the Medical Center for almost 20 years and contributed to the quality of life of our patients, students, residents and fellow co-workers. She accepted a position at Johns Hopkins University Hospital.

Melissa Somma ('99) received the Distinguished Young Pharmacist award. It was presented by the Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association in recognition of individual excellence and outstanding service to the profession of pharmacy.

Recent Publications by Resident Alumni

Ansani N, Branch R, Fedutes-Henderson B, Smitherman T, Weber R, Skledar S, Zgheib N, Sirio C. United States medical practice summary: innovative off-label medication use. *Am J Med Quality* 2006; 21:255-268.

Ansani NT, Fedutes-Henderson BA, Weber RJ, Smith R, Dean J, Vogt M, Gold K, Kwok CK, Osial T, Starz TW. The Drug Information Center (DIC) arthritis project: providing patients with interactive and reliable arthritis internet education. *Drug Inf J* 2006; 40:39-49.

Ansani N, Sirio C, Smitherman T, Fedutes-Henderson B, Skledar S, Weber R, Zgheib N, Branch R. Designing a strategy to promote safe innovative off-label use of medications. *Am J Med Quality* 2006; 21:246-254.

Coons JC, Seybert AL, Saul MI, Kirisci L, Kane-Gill SL. Outcomes and costs of abciximab versus eptifibatid for percutaneous coronary intervention. *Ann Pharmacother* 2005; 39(10):1621-6.

Donihi AC, DiNardo MM, DeVita MA, Korytkowski MT. Use of a standardized protocol to decrease medication errors and adverse events related to sliding scale insulin. *Qual Saf Health Care* 2006; 15:89-91.

Donihi AC, Raval D, Saul M, Korytkowski M, DeVita MA. Prevalence and predictors of corticosteroid-related hyperglycemia in hospitalized patients. *Endocr Pract* 2006; 12:358-362.

Juang P, Page RL, Zolty R. Probable loop diuretic-induced pancreatitis in a sulfonamide-allergic patient. *Ann Pharmacother* 2006; 40(1):128-34.

Miller BM, Patel SM, Sokos DR. Combining bisphosphonates with raloxifene to treat osteoporosis: a review of the evidence. *J Pharm Technol* 2005; 22:215-20.

Rea RS, Kane-Gill SL, Rudis MI, Seybert AL, Oyen LJ, Ou NN, Stauss JL, Kirisci L, Idrees U, Henderson SO. Comparing intravenous amiodarone or lidocaine, or both, outcomes for inpatients with pulseless ventricular arrhythmias. *Crit Care Med* 2006; 34(6):1617-23.

Seybert AL, Coons JC, Zerumsky K. Treatment of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia: is there a role for bivalirudin? *Pharmacotherapy* 2006; 6(2):229-41.

Zerumsky K, Maxwell RA, Ansani NT. To abruptly cross over or not: that is the question in SSRI conversion. *P&T Journal* 2006; 30:740-7.

Meet the Class of 2006–07



Cassandra Bellamy
Critical Care
(UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside)

Cassie earned her PharmD at the University of Utah in 2005 and completed a pharmacy practice residency at The Ohio State University Medical Center in 2006. After this year, she hopes to obtain a clinical position in critical care in an academic medical center. When not at work she enjoys reading, road biking, finding delicious vegetarian cuisine and watching movies.



Saira Choudry
Infectious Diseases
(UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside)

Saira graduated from Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 2005. She then completed a pharmacy practice residency with emphasis in ambulatory care at The Brooklyn Hospital Center in New York where she developed an interest in infectious diseases. After this year, Saira hopes to pursue an infectious diseases position in an academic teaching hospital setting. Her outside interests include tennis, table tennis and traveling.



David Deen
Pharmacy Practice
(UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside)

David received his BS in pharmacy at The University of Texas at Austin in 1987. After a number of years of practice, he earned his PharmD at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill in 2005. David plans to pursue a specialty residency or fellowship in solid organ transplantation. His outside interests are numerous and include hanging out with his two labs, Gunner and Gabby.



Shrina Duggal
Oncology
(UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside)

Shrina received her PharmD from West Virginia University in 2005 and completed her pharmacy practice residency at the University of Pittsburgh in 2006. Following this residency, Shrina hopes to pursue a position that enables her to balance her clinical interests in oncology with those of teaching. Outside of pharmacy, Shrina's interests include spending time with friends and family, playing tennis, traveling and traditional Indian dancing.



Lauren Fields
Pharmacy Practice/Family Medicine
(UPMC St. Margaret)

Lauren grew up in Bethlehem, Pa. After an incredible experience working in a family health center pharmacy as a microbiology student, she changed majors and received her PharmD from the University of Pittsburgh in 2006. Her current interests include family medicine, community-oriented primary care, care to the underserved and international health. Her interests outside of pharmacy include reading and watching the Pittsburgh Pirates.



Joedell Gonzaga
Pharmacy Practice Management
(UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside)

Joe was raised in Milwaukee and received a Bachelor of Science degree in political science from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. He earned his PharmD from Northeastern University in 2006. Joe is an active member of both APhA and ASHP. His professional interests include systems management, informatics, and quality improvement. In his spare time, Joe enjoys golf, tennis, cooking and chess.



Bethany L. Heasley
Pharmacy Benefit Management
(PharmaCare)

Bethany received her PharmD from Duquesne University Mylan School of Pharmacy in 2006. She became interested in pharmacy benefits management after completing a rotation at PharmaCare. In the future, Bethany would like to continue to work in pharmacy benefits management as well as teach at a school of pharmacy. She enjoys shopping, traveling, and spending time with her friends and family.



Katie McMillen
Pharmacy Practice Management
(UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside)

Katie is from Pittsburgh, Pa., and received her PharmD from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy in 2005. She is excited to be one of the first residents of the two-year program that includes a Master of Science degree in hospital pharmacy administration. Her goal is to obtain a solid clinical background while developing her leadership and management skills. Katie's interests include shopping and watching Pitt men's basketball.

Meet the Class of 2006-07



Lindsay Palkovic
Pharmacy Practice
(UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside)

Lindsay graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy in 2005. Her current clinical interests include oncology, critical care, and infectious diseases. She is looking forward to broadening her experience during her residency. After this year, she plans to seek a specialized residency and ultimately work in a university hospital setting. Outside of pharmacy she loves cooking Italian meals and going to concerts.



Margie Snyder
Community Care Pharmacy Practice
(RiteAid)

Margie graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy in 2006. Her professional interests are in community/primary care practice, academia, public health, and working with underserved populations. After her residency, Margie plans to complete a fellowship focused on teaching and research development. As the youngest of seven children, Margie spends as much time as possible with family and traveling.



Jason Pogue
Pharmacy Practice
(UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside)

Jason graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy in 2006. Through his various internships and clinical rotations, he became interested in critical care and infectious diseases. After completing this residency, Jason plans to pursue a specialty residency in infectious diseases. Outside of the pharmacy world, Jason is completely devoted to his sports teams: the Steelers, Chelsea FC and the Pittsburgh Penguins.



Colleen (Cook) Tobia
Pharmacy Practice
(VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System)

Colleen is from Satellite Beach, Fla., and received her PharmD at the University of Florida in 2006. She chose the VA for her residency because of her interest in ambulatory care and the variety of other rotations. Colleen is interested in doing a specialty residency and continuing to work directly with patients. She enjoys traveling, exploring Pittsburgh and spending time with friends and family.



Radhika Polisetty
Pharmacy Practice
(UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside)

Radhika received her PharmD from the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy in 2006. She chose a residency to enhance her skills as a clinician, teacher and researcher. Her areas of interest include infectious disease and diabetes. After her pharmacy practice residency, she hopes to pursue a specialty residency in infectious disease. Outside of work Radhika likes reading, basketball, music and traveling.



Andrea Wilson
Pharmacy Practice
(VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System)

Andrea received her PharmD from Duquesne University in 2006 and is absolutely thrilled to be expanding her learning at VAPHS. She is devoted to helping both inpatients and outpatients by creating individualized, efficient and appropriate medication regimens. In her free time, Andrea loves being outdoors, exercising, martial arts, and watching kung fu and UFC (Ultimate Fighting Championship).



Christin Snyder
Primary Care
(UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside)

Christin graduated with her PharmD from Ohio Northern University in 2005. She then completed a pharmacy practice residency at West Virginia University Hospitals in 2006. She enjoys working with patients and healthcare providers in the ambulatory setting and is excited to join the healthcare team at UPMC. Christin spends much of her spare time playing with her puppy Maddie, reading and cooking.