

ASHP-Accredited PGY2 Residency in Geriatric Pharmacy Practice
Program Director: Amie Taggart Blaszczyk, Pharm.D., BCGP, BCPS, FASCP
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy &
North Texas Veterans Health Care System
Dallas, Texas

Philosophy:

The specialty residency in Geriatrics at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy Dallas/Ft. Worth Regional Campus is designed to produce practitioners who exhibit excellence in pharmaceutical care in the geriatric population. A Geriatric Pharmacotherapy Specialist should possess a mastery of clinical skills needed to practice in a wide range of patient care settings and a solid knowledge base in the special pharmacotherapeutic needs of the geriatric patient. The residency provides the environment necessary to achieve the knowledge and skills needed to care for patients with a wide range of disease states. The program will foster the development of an independent, versatile practitioner. The program is also designed to produce well rounded, independent professionals through experiences in teaching, research, and professional activities.

General Description:

The 12-month program is designed to lead the resident through a variety of block and longitudinal practice experiences. By the end of the program, the resident should feel competent practicing in inpatient and outpatient settings involving geriatric pharmacotherapy. The residency includes core rotations that are chosen to establish a strong base in Geriatrics. Core Geriatric disease states within the residency include dementia and related disorders, Parkinson's disease, depression & hospice/palliative care, among others. The resident may choose electives based on his/her career goals. Although the residency is designed around core and elective block or longitudinal rotations, the focus of the training will be to master each of the disease states established within the ASHP Postgraduate Year Two (PGY2) Geriatric Pharmacy Residencies.

Program Goals:

- **Practice Excellence**
 - Develop a mastery of knowledge base in Geriatric pharmacotherapy
 - Develop solid geriatric patient care skills in both acute and chronic care settings
 - Develop a sound understanding of pharmacy practice management
 - Establish oneself as an integral member of a health care team

- **Scholastic Excellence**
 - Demonstrate proficiency in teaching in both didactic and small group learning environments
 - Develop effective precepting skills
 - Generate new knowledge in Geriatric Pharmacotherapy
 - Interpret and disseminate knowledge in Geriatric Pharmacotherapy

- **Individual Excellence**

- Develop a system of self assessment and development
- Demonstrate exemplary verbal and written communication skills
- Utilize a system for balancing multiple work-related and personal responsibilities
- Understand the importance of professionalism through participation in pharmacy

For additional information, please refer to the *ASHP Required Competency Areas, Goals, and Objectives for Postgraduate Year Two (PGY2) Geriatric Pharmacy Residencies*

Program Activities:

Residency Rotations

Longitudinal Required Rotations:

Long-term care patient management (5% time)

Community Outreach (<5% time)

Required Rotations: (75% time)

Geriatric Psychiatry

Inpatient Rehab Service

Pain Management/Palliative Care/Hospice

Home-based Primary Care

Long-term Care Consulting

Research Project Development

Elective Rotations: (~20% time)

Drug Information

Geriatric Ambulatory Care Clinics (General)

Alzheimer's Clinic

Parkinson's Disease Clinic

National organization management (1 – 2 weeks' time)

ASCP Traineeship (1 week)

Other learning opportunities which assist resident in career development

Teaching Activities:

Residents are appointed as Assistant Instructors with Texas Tech University HSC School of Pharmacy. Teaching activities for residents are designed to complement practice activities while allowing the resident to experience a variety of teaching methods.

Clinician-Educator Training Program

Structured throughout the residency, this program provides training for residents who are interested in developing their academic skills. The major goal of the training program is to supplement a strong clinical background with the skills needed to become a successful educator. The program includes didactic and web-based teaching models, mentored facilitator training for small-group problem-based learning, and precepting of third and fourth-year Doctor of Pharmacy students. Residents also receive instruction in grant writing, statistics, and clinical trial design; submit a project proposal to the institutional review board; and collect, interpret, and publish their results. Additional activities to enhance discovery, integration, and writing skills are described. The program also includes innovative discussion topics based upon needs previously identified by new faculty members. Examples include

handling difficult students, writing test questions, developing consistent evaluation methods and balancing life outside of career.

Didactic Teaching

One to two hours of formal didactic lecturing within the school of pharmacy programs is required of the PGY2 resident. The courses that are to be taught will be based on availability and resident interest.

Problem-Based Learning

One semester equivalent as a group facilitator in case studies (P3 class). The case studies course is a student-directed exercise which focuses on pharmaceutical care for an individual patient or patient population. It is designed to be a problem-based learning experience and the facilitator's role is not to teach the students, but rather to facilitate their discussion. During the semester, this course meets twice a week for two hours.

Experiential Teaching

Clerkship teaching (involving both P3 and P4 students) is integrated into the resident practice model. Early in the program, the resident will observe faculty clerkship preceptors and become integrated into various aspects of clerkship teaching. Within the residency program, residents have the opportunity to independently precept clerkship students.

Residency Project:

Residency Project: Residents will complete one project per year. Residents may choose any type of research project or quality improvement program, provided that the project:

- 1) includes generation of original data;
- 2) is suitable for publication or presentation at a national pharmacy meeting;
- 3) can reasonably be completed within the residency year.

Additional Activities:

Medication-use Evaluation

Residents are required to complete at least one medication-use evaluation during the residency year.

Manuscript Preparation

Residents are required to submit one manuscript per year for publication in a refereed journal.

Southwestern Leadership Conference (ALCALDE)

Residents participate in this regional residents meeting, also known as ALCALDE, in the Spring. Residents have the opportunity to present their project results for evaluation. It is also a great opportunity to interact with residents from other programs throughout the region.

Research Days

Each Spring, TTUHSC holds Research Days in Amarillo. This invited conference is another opportunity for the resident to showcase their residency research project, and holds the potential of cash and other prizes for Best Poster, Best Platform and Best Research.

Program Leadership:



Amie Taggart Blaszczyk, Pharm.D., BCGP, BCPS, FASCP
Associate Professor and Division Head – Geriatrics
PGY2 Geriatric Pharmacotherapy Residency Director

Dr. Blaszczyk is an Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice specializing in the unique pharmacotherapeutic needs of older individuals. She is also Division Head of Geriatrics, given the priority of geriatrics education at Texas Tech. She earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She completed a pharmacy practice residency at the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as well as a Specialty Residency in Geriatric Pharmacotherapy at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in Baltimore, Maryland. She earned her Certified Geriatric Pharmacist (CGP) certification in November 2005 and became a Fellow of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists in December 2006. She earned her BCPS in 2007.

Dr. Blaszczyk currently practices in geriatrics in the Dallas/Fort Worth area with Advanced Healthcare Solutions, a nursing home corporation responsible for ~40 long-term care facilities and over 4000 lives across the state of Texas. Her primary focus is on research and outcomes within this practice, however, she also practices as a clinical pharmacist within a few selected nursing homes in the DFW area. She also participates in community outreach, speaking to older individuals on varied topics, throughout the DFW Metroplex. For her educational endeavors with the North Texas American Parkinson Disease Association, Dr. Blaszczyk won the chapter's Marvin Marks Volunteer of the Year Award in 2009, and the ASCP Leadership in Education Award in 2010.

Dr. Blaszczyk developed the Advanced Geriatrics elective course for the School of Pharmacy, and team lead this course for several years. She continues to innovate in the area of geriatric education, most recently with her jellybean polypharmacy simulation and its impact on empathy in 3rd year pharmacy students. She is the author of several peer-reviewed manuscripts, as well as the Central Nervous System chapter in *Fundamentals of Geriatric Pharmacotherapy*. Dr. Blaszczyk's research interests include neurodegenerative diseases affecting older individuals, senior education and the impact of a clinical pharmacist working in the long-term care setting.

With regard to service, Dr. Blaszczyk is an active member of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, and has served on several important national committees in this organization, as well as serving as Chair of the newest revision of the *ASCP Geriatric Curriculum Guide*. She is also the current president of the Texas chapter of ASCP. She has given platform presentations at the ASCP Annual and ASHP Midyear meetings, and provides review presentations for both the ASHP BCPS and BCGP pre courses. Dr. Blaszczyk is also a member of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, and the American Medical Director's Association. She serves on the Editorial Review Board of *The Consultant Pharmacist* and also provides geriatrics programming development assistance to ASHP.

Preceptors:



Kalin Clifford, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCGP

Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice - Geriatrics

Dr. Clifford is an Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Division of Geriatrics at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy in Dallas, Texas. He currently teaches in Case Studies II, Case Studies III, and the Advanced Patient Communication elective for 3rd year students. His current practice site is within the North Texas Veterans Affairs Hospital within the Community Living Center (CLC-A), a sub-acute rehab facility. Dr. Clifford also precepts students on the required Geriatric Clerkship rotation during their Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE) year. Prior to beginning his career at Texas Tech, Dr. Clifford received his degree from Butler University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Indianapolis, Indiana in 2011. He also completed a PGY-1 in Pharmacy Practice from Columbus Regional Hospital in Columbus, Indiana in 2012 and a PGY-2 in Geriatric Pharmacy Practice from the University of Maryland, School of Pharmacy in Baltimore, Maryland in 2013. He also became a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist in 2014 and Certified Geriatrics Pharmacist in 2016. His research interests include geriatric infectious diseases, geriatric cardiology, geriatric nephrology and outcomes post-hospitalization and surgery.



Nakia Duncan, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCGP

Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice - Geriatrics

Dr. Duncan is an Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice specializing in geriatric pharmacotherapy. She currently practices with UT Southwestern Medical Center's Palliative Care service. She is responsible for inpatient rounding, outpatient palliative care visits, transitions of care, and opioid stewardship.

Dr. Duncan earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia. Dr. Duncan has since completed a pharmacy practice residency at Xavier University College of Pharmacy in New Orleans, Louisiana, as well as a Specialty Residency in Geriatric Pharmacotherapy from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in Baltimore, Maryland. Completed an advanced pain/palliative care traineeship in 2012, earned BCGP in 2013, and BCPS in 2016. She actively participates in professional societies including the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, and

American College of Clinical Pharmacy. Her research interests include pain management, palliative care, hospice, transitions of care and opioid stewardship within the older adult population.



Brittany Johansen, Pharm.D., BCPS
Advanced Practice Pharmacist, Geriatrics
VA North Texas Health Care System

Dr. Johansen is an Outpatient Clinical Pharmacist with the Home Based Primary Care program at the Dallas VA Medical Center. She is originally from Austin, but graduated from the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy as a Doctor of Pharmacy in 2006. She then completed an ASHP accredited Pharmacy PGY1 Residency at the Dallas VA Medical Center & Texas Tech Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy in 2007. Her practice interests include Geriatrics, Ambulatory Care and Mental Health. Dr. Johansen is appointed as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy and precepts pharmacy students in their 4th professional year, along with PGY1s from the Dallas VA on their Geriatrics rotation and PGY2s specializing in Geriatrics.



Monica Mathys, Pharm.D., BCGP, BCPP
Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice Specializing in Psychiatric
Pharmacotherapy

Dr. Monica Mathys is an associate professor for Texas Tech School of Pharmacy. Her clinical practice site is the Dallas VA Medical Center where she serves as the clinical pharmacy specialist for the geriatric psychiatry team. Dr. Mathys is a faculty preceptor for third and fourth year students. She is also involved in the neurology and psychiatry courses, case studies, and grand rounds. Dr. Mathys received her Pharm.D. degree from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. After graduation, she completed a geriatric specialty residency at Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System in Little Rock, Arkansas. Dr. Mathys' research interests include geriatric and general neurology/psychiatry.

Past Residents:

2016 – 2017



Jordan Light, PharmD, BCPS
Internal Medicine Clinical Pharmacist
John Peter Smith Hospital
Fort Worth, TX

Jordan Light is a clinical pharmacist at JPS Hospital in Fort Worth. She is currently working on the internal medicine units, as well as collaborating with the geriatric trauma team. Prior to completing her PGY2 in Geriatrics in 2017, she graduated from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy in 2015, and then went on to complete her PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in beautiful Boise, Idaho in 2016. Her practice interests include geriatric neurology, cardiology, pain management, and chronic kidney disease.

2015 – 2016



Whitney Zentgraf, Pharm.D.
Geriatric Clinical Pharmacy Specialist
Wesley Medical Center
Wichita, KS

Whitney Zentgraf is taking on the challenge of developing the geriatric pharmacy services for Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas. She consults at several long term care and is the liaison for transitions of care between the facilities and the major hospital. In addition to taking APPE students from the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy, she also takes pharmacy residents and provides lectures for family medicine residents at the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Before her PGY-2 in Geriatric Pharmacotherapy, she received her Pharm.D. from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2014 and completed her PGY-1 pharmacy practice residency with Campbell University College of Pharmacy/East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina.

2014 – 2015



Belinda Hong Mang, Pharm.D., BCPS
Transitions of Care Pharmacist
Parkland Health & Hospital System
Dallas, TX

Belinda C. Hong, Pharm.D. is currently a transitions of care pharmacist for Parkland Health & Hospital System in Dallas. Prior to completing a PGY-2 in Geriatric Pharmacotherapy at the Texas Tech University School of Pharmacy, she finished a PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at the North Texas Veterans Affairs Health Care System. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Belmont University in 2013. Her passions include geriatric psychiatry, ambulatory care, and reducing polypharmacy.

2013 – 2014



Rebecca J. Mahan, Pharm.D., CGP, BCACP
Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice – Geriatrics
Abilene, TX

Becky Mahan is an assistant professor of pharmacy practice, geriatrics division, for TTUHSC SOP at the Abilene campus. She maintains a clinical practice site at Hendrick Housecalls, the home health agency for Hendrick Medical Center, focused on improving patient safety through the care transitions process and in the home. In addition to precepting fourth year pharmacy students on their geriatric clerkship, she also takes pharmacy residents on their geriatric elective rotation. Her practice interests include expanding the role of pharmacists in geriatrics outside of inpatient/long term care settings, evaluating ways to decrease polypharmacy, and advocating for caregivers. Prior to the Geriatric Pharmacotherapy residency, she received her Pharm.D. from Butler University in 2012. Upon graduation, she completed a PGY1 community practice residency with Penobscot Community Health Care in Bangor, ME.

2012 – 2013



Courtney Duval, Pharm.D., BCACP

Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice – Ambulatory Care
Texas Tech University HSC School of Pharmacy – Dallas/Fort Worth

Dr. Duval received her Pharm.D. from Texas Tech University School of Pharmacy. She completed a PGY1 residency in pharmacy practice at the North Texas VA Health Care System in Dallas, TX and then completed a PGY2 residency in Geriatrics at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy in Dallas, TX. She is currently a member of the Pharmacy Practice department with Texas Tech School of Pharmacy and practices as a clinical pharmacy specialist at the Fort Worth VA outpatient clinic. Dr. Duval has practiced in home based primary care and transitional care settings prior to returning to Texas Tech School of Pharmacy. Her practice interests include polypharmacy reduction, quality of care among the geriatric population in the outpatient setting, and pain management.

2010 – 2011



Scott Martin Vouri, Pharm.D., MSCI, BCPS, CGP, FASCP

Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice
Assistant Director, Center for Health Outcomes Research and Education
St. Louis College of Pharmacy

Scott Martin Vouri, Pharm.D., MSCI, BCPS, CGP, FASCP earned his Pharm.D. at Butler University in 2009 and Master of Science in Clinical Investigation (MSCI) at Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine in 2015. He completed a PGY-1 residency in Ambulatory Care at the Iowa City VA Medical Center in Iowa City, Iowa before completing the PGY-2 residency in Geriatrics at Texas Tech. Dr. Vouri is an associate professor at the St. Louis College of Pharmacy where he has been employed since 2011 and serves as a clinical pharmacist for the Older Adult Assessment Clinic at Washington University School of Medicine. At St. Louis College of Pharmacy, he lectures in a variety of classes which include geriatrics, urology, and dementia, and coordinates the Evidence-Based Medicine course. His research interests include pharmacoepidemiology, drug safety, and improving resident research. He is the outgoing Chair for the ACCP Geriatric PRN and is the faculty advisor for the ASCP student chapter.

Information for Applicants:

Qualifications: Residency applicants must have a Pharm.D. degree, be eligible for licensure in Texas, and be eligible for enrollment in Texas Tech University HSC School of Pharmacy. A PGY-1 residency is also required.

Amie Taggart Blaszczyk, Pharm.D., CGP, BCPS, FASCP
Associate Professor & Division Head - Geriatrics
TTUHSC School of Pharmacy
5920 Forest Park Road, Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75235

Phone : (214) 358-9023

Fax : (214) 372-5020

E-mail: amie.blaszczyk@ttuhsc.edu