

University of Utah Health Care

University of Utah Health Care is the Intermountain West's only academic health care system and is committed to patient care, research, and teaching. The health care system provides care for patients in Utah and is a referral center for the five surrounding states, which encompass more than 10% of the continental United States. University of Utah Health Care is consistently ranked among *US News & World Report's* Best Hospitals and was recently ranked No. 1 nationally by Vizient in Quality and Accountability. The University of Utah College of Pharmacy is consistently ranked as a top 20 college of pharmacy.

The University of Utah's ambulatory care residency program is a unique postgraduate year two (PGY2) training program with concentrated experience in a family medicine residency program. One PGY2 resident position is available each year. The residency is built around a core experience in a family medicine residency clinic. This allows residents to gain continuity experiences with patients and providers over the entire year and makes up most of their clinical time. The program philosophy is to create in residents the ability to gain skills in leading and building teams and forming relationships in order to better prepare them for future careers on primary care teams. Residents have the opportunity to work with fantastic attending and resident physicians and advanced practice clinicians to provide care for common chronic disease states in diverse patient populations (e.g., refugees, transgender patients). At the University of Utah, a holistic, patient-centered, integrated, silo-free approach is taken to patient care.

The residency director is a full-time clinical faculty member of both the family medicine residency and the college of pharmacy, allowing for a richness in teaching experience (e.g., family medicine residents, physician assistant students, and pharmacy students). Moreover, the residency is uniquely funded by three entities—the college of pharmacy, the department of family and preventive medicine, and the department of pharmacy services, each of which is deeply supportive of and committed to the resident's success.

In addition to the core experience, residents participate in three longitudinal elective experiences (½ day/week for 12 weeks each) to meet their professional goals. These elective experiences include intensive diabetes, thrombosis, cardiology, gastroenterology, neurology, medication therapy management in the community setting, and others, depending on resident interest. Moreover, a longitudinal staffing component is split equally between discharge medication counseling/reconciliation shifts and the outpatient pharmacy at the University of Utah Hospital.

Unique experiences include the following:

1. Diverse and balanced clinical, academic, and research opportunities in a medical residency training and patient-centered medical home environment. Using extensive collaborative practice agreements and interdisciplinary care, residents learn and practice the skills necessary to develop a patient-centered pharmacy practice in order to advance family medicine pharmacotherapy practice in the state and throughout the country.
2. Extensive opportunities to provide education to pharmacy students, physician assistant students, family medicine residents, and other health care professionals. Residents co-precept and independently precept fourth-year pharmacy students throughout the year and facilitate weekly case presentations for a group of students on ambulatory care rotations. Additional teaching opportunities include daily informal medical resident education, monthly formal medical resident education, pharmacy continuing education (CE) presentation, medical CE presentation, and didactic lectures at the college of pharmacy. A teaching certificate is offered in which residents can receive formal education in teaching practices alongside other University of Utah pharmacy residents.
3. Tailored opportunities for scholarly activities, primarily focused around the resident's research

project. Residents gain experience and formal and informal training in project development, interdisciplinary planning, grant applications, outcomes research, and more.

4. Formal and informal mentoring programs. Residents can act as mentors for pharmacy students through the formal resident-student mentorship program and have many opportunities to informally mentor students while precepting fourth-year students on rotation. In addition, residents receive advice and mentoring throughout the year from a variety of sources (e.g., residency director, clinical services manager, outpatient pharmacy manager, physicians, and more).

In the beautiful Salt Lake City area, close to ski resorts and unlimited outdoor activities, residents work hard and can play even harder. All four residency program graduates so far, all from outside Utah, have elected to stay in the Salt Lake area—two as clinical faculty at the University of Utah and two as primary care specialists at Intermountain Healthcare. Salt Lake City is certainly difficult to leave once you have lived the outdoor life!

More information about the University of Utah PGY2 ambulatory care residency program can be found at pharmacyservices.utah.edu/residency_programs.