Contact Us

This residency program participates in the Pharmacy Online Residency Central Application Service (PhORCAS).

For more information regarding the PGY2 residency in critical care, please visit our website at: http://www.uic.edu/pharmacy/residency/ and select the PGY2 link followed by Critical Care

The residency is under the direction of:
Eljim P. Tesoro, PharmD, BCPS
Clinical Associate Professor
College of Pharmacy
Department of Pharmacy Practice (MC 886) 833 South Wood Street, Room 164
Chicago, IL 60612-7230
Phone: (312) 355-1415
Fax: (312) 996-0379
Email: etesoro@uic.edu

Residency training programs in Pharmacy are held within the College of Pharmacy at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and the University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System (UIHHSS). The Department of Pharmacy Practice, home department of all residency trainees, is the most comprehensive unit of its type in the United States and continues a tradition of exemplary service through its mission of providing quality education, research, and patient care. The department educates and trains students, residents, and fellows as well as practicing pharmacists to become nationally recognized for their leadership, knowledge and competence in practice, research, and teaching.

The University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System and the College of Pharmacy are pleased to offer a one-year specialized residency in Critical Care Pharmacy. This ASHP-accredited PGY2 residency will give you extensive training in didactic and clinical teaching as well as formulating and implementing clinical research. You can choose from a wide variety of intensive training sites to gain individualized, hands-on experience as a critical care clinician. Specific areas of critical care include cardiology/ cardiothoracic surgery, medicine/surgery, neurosciences, solid organ transplant, emergency medicine/toxicology, and trauma. Elective experiences are offered to enhance your area of interest and include infectious diseases, solid organ transplant, anesthesia/pain, bone marrow transplant, and burn ICU. Our faculty serves as one of the largest clinical groups in the medical center and provides a wealth of knowledge and experience in their respective fields. As an integrated member of the multidisciplinary ICU team, you will learn to collect and analyze data in order to provide patient-specific and evidence-based pharmacotherapy. You will also gain valuable leadership and personal management skills to help you advance your career in this dynamic and rewarding field.

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This residency site agrees that no person at this site will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any residency applicant.
General Information

CLINICAL
- Three required 2-month rotations (Cardiology, Neuroscience, Med/Surg ICU)
- Remainder are electives based on interest
- Member of Code Blue and Stroke Teams
- Participates in PharmD On-Call program

TEACHING
- Academic appointment at the College of Pharmacy
- Didactic lectures (2) in Critical Care elective
- Precept pharmacy students and PGY1 residents on rotation
- Student rotation sections in Therapeutics series
- ACPE-accredited seminar (1)
- Teaching certification program
- Role of Chief of Residents
- Assists in coordinating weekly Critical Care Conference

RESEARCH
- At least one main research project to be presented at Great Lakes Residency conference or equivalent
- Participation in ongoing clinical research as desired
- Manuscript development and submission

REQUIREMENTS
- Doctor of Pharmacy degree
- Completion of an ASHP-accredited PGY1 residency
- Licensure in Illinois
- Able to start residency on July 1

Training Site and Faculty

CARDIOLOGY/CARDIOTHORACIC ICU
Robert J. DiDomenico, PharmD

MEDICAL/SURGICAL ICU
Scott T. Benken, PharmD, BCPS

NEUROSCIENCES ICU
Eljim P. Tesoro, PharmD, BCPS
Jeffrey J. Mucksavage, PharmD, BCPS
Keri S. Kim, PharmD, BCPS

EMERGENCY MEDICINE
Renee Petzel-Gimbar, PharmD

INFECTION DISEASE
Alan Gross, PharmD, BCPS

TOXICOLOGY
Frank Paloucek, PharmD, ABAT

ANESTHESIA/OR
Julie Golembiewski, PharmD

MEDICAL ICU
John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County
Renee Xamplas, PharmD, BCPS

BURN/TRAUMA ICU
John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County
Natasa Stevkovic, PharmD, BCPS

CORE SERVICE UNITS

The Neurosciences ICU has 22 beds with the primary area of practice being vascular neurosurgery/stroke. Other specialties include neuro-ontology, nerve/pain disorders, and epilepsy and Parkinson's disease surgery. UIHHSS is also a JCAHO-certified Primary Stroke Center. Under a collaborative agreement, the clinical pharmacists provide comprehensive drug management, assuming responsibility of initiating medical therapy, dosing, and pharmacokinetic/toxicity monitoring.

The Coronary Care Unit (CCU) is a 10 bed ICU; patients are also followed on a 20 bed step-down unit. Cardiothoracic surgery patients are covered on a consult basis only. The Clinical Pharmacist on this service provides traditional clinical services, including work rounds, admission interviews, daily monitoring including pharmacokinetics, with clinical pharmacy interventions, and discharge counseling. The service is an active pharmacy student clerkship site with many opportunities to involve allied health care personnel.

The 19-bed combined Medical/Surgical Intensive Care Unit is operated by two ICU teams with an average daily census of 6-10 patients per team. The population seen includes: poisonings/drug overdose, respiratory failure, sepsis, liver, kidney, or bone marrow transplant, and oncologic diseases. The clinical pharmacist on service provides pharmacotherapeutic management, including pharmacokinetic monitoring, nutritional management, infectious disease management, and continuous veno-venous hemodialfiltration (CVVH) management decisions. Critical pathways, ICU-specific dosing guidelines and protocols have been and continue to be established.

History

Since 1969, over 300 pharmacists have successfully trained in our ASHP-accredited first-year post-graduate residency program. In addition, we have graduated over 100 individuals in our various specialized pharmacy residencies that encompass a wide range of fields that is second to none. Our diverse faculty, in combination with the numerous progressive practice sites, provides our residents with an experience like no other. Our residency alumni hold prominent nationwide positions in academia, industry, and professional organizations and are leaders in the world of pharmacy practice. We are proud of our tradition, our outcomes and our graduates and with the increasing expectations of the public and other health professionals to improve the lives of patients, we are confident that our residency programs will grow and develop to meet this challenge.

The PGY2 Residency in Critical Care was started in 2000 and has since been one of our most popular specialty residencies. The individuals chosen for this program have all provided mentorship and leadership to about a dozen PGY1 residents every year through their role as chief of residents. They have played an integral part in the training of our pharmacy students and helped in our efforts to launch research in the treatment of the critically ill. Some of our past residents have received large grants for their research and presented at national meetings such as the Society of Critical Care Medicine Annual Congress. In 2004, the program received accreditation by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. We have expanded our program rotation sites via collaboration with other local medical centers to provide a more global experience to our trainees. Our graduates have all found successful careers as academicians, clinicians, and researchers across the country.