Dear Residency Applicant,

We appreciate your sincere interest in the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System (VALLHCS) Pharmacy Residency Programs. We are delighted you are considering our programs to enhance your professional career. In this pamphlet, you will find beneficial information about our medical center, pharmacy preceptors, clinical practice experiences, and our residency program application process.

At VA Loma Linda, we take pride in serving those who serve and protect our country, and we are dedicated to providing them with the best patient care possible. Pharmacy services at VA Loma Linda have made significant progress in health care delivery for our veterans. Our pharmacists serve as crucial members of the healthcare team and the demand for clinical pharmacy services is ever increasing. New opportunities for clinical pharmacy providers are continually being established, and we are excited that you would like to be a part of our program.

Pharmacy residents are also essential members of our team as they provide patient-centered care and education to our patients, students, and staff. We offer exceptional clinical training through our pharmacy practice curriculum for our pharmacy residents to develop their skills and become highly competent and confident health care providers.

The residency programs available at VA Loma Linda include the PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency and PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency. Thank you for considering the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System. We strongly encourage you to consider our programs. We wish you the best on your important decision and future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Wong, Pharm.D.  
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency Program Director

Risa Ishino, Pharm.D., BCPP, BCPS  
PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency Program Director
The Training Site

The VA Loma Linda Healthcare System is part of the Desert Pacific Healthcare Network, providing services to Veterans in Southern California and Southern Nevada. Opened in 1977, this modern facility fulfills the agency's threefold mission of patient care, research and teaching. It is located in San Bernardino County approximately 60 miles east of Los Angeles, about an hour’s drive to beaches, mountains, and desert resorts, and less than a mile from its major affiliate, Loma Linda University. The Medical Center is named in the memory of Congressman Jerry L. Pettis, who worked diligently to locate the facility in Loma Linda. The Medical Center provides a wide variety of services through inpatient, outpatient and home care programs. The major bed services are Medicine, Surgery, Psychiatry, and Neurology. The facility has 169 acute care beds and 96 Community Living Center beds. The Medical Center, in partnership with its affiliate Loma Linda University, provides primary care at VA Community Based Clinics located in Blythe, Corona, Murrieta, Palm Desert, Rancho Cucamonga, and Victorville.

Residency Training Program and Pharmacy Service

The training and education of residents are important components of the VALLHCS Pharmacy Service. The services provided by the resident will complement existing clinical pharmaceutical care. The resident will be directly involved in and have responsibility for providing patient oriented pharmaceutical services. The resident will also actively participate in other pharmacy operations including management and assigned projects. Furthermore, the resident will develop the knowledge and skills required to become a competent, clinical practitioner.

Licensure

- The PGY1 pharmacy resident is required to obtain a pharmacist license in one of the States of the United States. The pharmacy resident will be licensed upon entry into the program or at the earliest possible date. The applicant is highly encouraged to take the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) and the California or Multistate Pharmacist Jurisprudence Examination (CPJE or MPJE) prior to entering the residency program (July 1st) and must be licensed in any state by October 1st.
- The PGY2 pharmacy resident is required to have a valid pharmacist license in any state in the United States.

Applicant Qualifications

- Possess a Doctor of Pharmacy Degree from an accredited school or college of pharmacy, or a B.S. or M.S. degree and equivalent training or experience.
- Have licensure to practice pharmacy in any state
- Have United States citizenship with proof of naturalization if naturalized
- Participate in the ASHP Residency Matching Program
- Complete a professional curriculum, which includes significant clinical clerkship experience (required for PGY1 program applicants only)
- Previous ASHP-accredited PGY1 Pharmacy residency (required for PGY2 program applicants only)

Application Procedure (Submit to PHORCAS)

- Curriculum Vitae
- OFFICIAL school of pharmacy transcript
- Three (3) letters of recommendation
- Letter of intent indicating career goals and objectives for seeking a residency
Benefits

• Participation in Skills Development Series
• Salary: $47,005 (PGY1 program), $50,992 (PGY2 program)
• Health/ Life Insurance (employee contribution)
• Authorized Absence to attend the following professional meetings:
  ▪ ASHP Midyear
  ▪ CSHP Annual Seminar
  ▪ VISN 22 Preceptor, Fellow, Research Conference
  ▪ Respective specialty area meeting (e.g., CPNP)
• Thirteen (13) days annual leave accrued (4 hours every two weeks)
• Thirteen (13) days sick leave accrued (4 hours every two weeks)
• Ten (10) paid holidays
• Centralized office work space with access to a personal computer
• Uniform allotment and laundry service
• Free Parking
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency

Purpose
The Pharmacy Practice Post Graduate Year 1 (PGY1) Residency at VA Loma Linda Healthcare System is designed to provide a comprehensive educational and practical experience intended to introduce the resident to all phases of pharmacy practice. Pharmacists completing the program will be competent to provide direct pharmaceutical care including prescribing and managing drug therapies. An exposure to a wide variety of health care specialty areas will ensure a marketable result with additional experience in education and professional development. Residents will demonstrate professional maturity by developing a personal philosophy of practice excellence, effective management of time, projects, interpersonal relationships and a commitment to professional competency. At the conclusion of the residency, the resident will be eligible for board certification and will be eligible for postgraduate year two (PGY2) pharmacy residency training.

Required Rotations (six 4- or 6-week rotations)

- Transitional Care (6 weeks)
  - General Internal Medicine
- Formulary Management (6 weeks)
- Subspecialty Clinic (6 weeks)
  - Cholesterol Clinic
  - Women's Tele-health Pharmacy
  - Anticoagulation
  - Geriatric Outpatient Clinic
  - Pain management
  - Hepatitis C
- Primary Care (4 weeks)
- Anticoagulation (4 weeks)
- Inpatient Distribution (4 weeks)
- Administration (4 weeks)

Longitudinal Rotations (year-round as assigned)

- Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) medication management – one day per week

Elective Rotations (two 6-week rotations)

- Anticoagulation Clinic
- Antimicrobial Stewardship Program
- Geriatric/ Long Term Care (Community Living Center)
- Health Information Technology
- Inpatient*/ Outpatient Oncology
- Medicine ICU/ Surgical ICU/ Nutritional Support
- Psychiatry
- Transgender
- Pain management
- Women's Tele-Health Pharmacy
- Emergency Medicine
In addition, several ongoing activities throughout the year require resident participation and contribute to resident development. These include:

- **Research project**
  - Background preparation, protocol, design, IRB, data collection and analysis
  - Presentation at VISN 22 Conference
  - Manuscript submission to a professional journal
- **Journal Club** – participation and/or presentation
- **Disease State Presentation** – participation and/or presentation
- **Adverse Drug Reaction reporting**
- **Multidisciplinary committee participation**
- **Non-formulary and prior authorization consultations**
- **Drug summaries**
- **Student preceptorship and training**
- **Criteria for use, patient newsletters, bulletins**
- **Code Blue Team**
- **Weekend inpatient staffing (2 weekend days/month)**

Interviews will be scheduled based on evaluation of the submitted application. Applicants will be ranked for selection based on qualifications and a personal interview. Four positions are available beginning July 1st.

Please go online to the following website to access application materials: http://www.lomalinda.va.gov/clinical_training/pharmacy/Pharmacy_Residency_Program.asp

All required application materials for the residency program must be submitted to PHORCAS by **January 5, 2019**. If you have any questions, please contact:

Christine Miller, Pharm.D., BCACP
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency Program Coordinator
VA Loma Linda Healthcare System
11201 Benton Street (119)
Loma Linda, CA 92357

Email: Christine.Miller4@va.gov
PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency

Purpose
The PGY-2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency at VA Loma Linda Healthcare System is designed to provide a comprehensive educational and practical experience in behavioral health pharmacy practice. Pharmacists completing the program will be competent to serve as an authoritative resource on the optimal use of medications used to treat individuals with psychiatric and neuropsychiatric disorders with emphasis in the geriatric population. Pharmacists will be able to optimize outcomes of diverse populations of inpatients and outpatients with a variety of psychiatric and neuropsychiatric disorders and a range of complex problems by providing evidence-based, patient-centered medication therapy as an integral part of the interdisciplinary team. Residents will establish collaborative professional relationships with healthcare team members along with prioritizing delivery of care to individuals with psychiatric and neuropsychiatric disorders. Residents will demonstrate leadership and practice management skills, demonstrate excellence in the provision of training and educational activities for health care professionals, health care professionals in training, and the public, and evaluate and improve the medication-use process in mental health patient care areas.

Longitudinal Experiences
❖ Psychiatric Pharmacy Research
❖ Formulary Management
❖ Mental Health Intensive Case Management (MHICM)

Required Rotations (8-week rotations)
❖ Adult Inpatient Psychiatry
❖ Outpatient Mental Health Clinic
❖ Geriatric Psychiatry in Long Term Care (Community Living Center)

Selected Learning Experiences* (4-week rotations)
❖ Substance Use Disorder Treatment
❖ Consultation Liaison Psychiatry
❖ Neurology

Elective Rotations (4-week rotations)
❖ Academic Detailing/Administration
❖ Geriatric Evaluation and Management Clinic
❖ Hospice/Palliative Care
❖ Pain Management
❖ Specialty Clinics (Hepatitis, HIV/ID, Oncology, Women’s Health, etc.)

*Note: Residents will choose a total of four electives; at least one of electives must be from the selected learning experiences.

In addition, several ongoing activities throughout the year require resident participation and contribute to resident development. These include:

- Research project
  - Background preparation, protocol, design, IRB, data collection and analysis
  - Presentation at College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP) Annual Meeting and/or VISN 22 Pharmacy Residents and Preceptor Conference
  - Poster presentation at a professional meeting
  - Manuscript submission to a professional journal
• Journal Club – participation and/or presentation
• Disease State Presentation – participation and/or presentation
• Quarterly newsletter
• Participation in departmental and committee meetings
• Education of pharmacy students, PGY-1 residents, and other healthcare professionals

Interviews will be scheduled based on evaluation of the submitted application. Applicants will be ranked for selection based on qualifications and a personal interview. Two positions will be available for the 2019 – 2020 residency year.

Please go online to the following website to access application materials:
http://www.lomalinda.va.gov/clinical_training/pharmacy/Psychiatric_Pharmacy_Residency.asp

All required application materials for the 2019-2020 residency program must be submitted to PHORCAS by January 7, 2019. If you have any questions, please contact:

Bosun Chung, Pharm.D.
PGY-2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency Program Coordinator
VA Loma Linda Healthcare System
11201 Benton Street (119)
Loma Linda, CA 92357

Email: Bosun.Chung@va.gov
Phone: (909) 825-7084, ext. 5157
Pharmacy Preceptors

Kenneth Wong, Pharm.D. received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of the Pacific Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy. He then completed a residency in Pharmacy Practice with an emphasis in Primary Care at the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center. Dr. Wong currently is the Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Operations Supervisor and is the PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency Program Director. He has been instrumental in fostering clinical pharmacy programs for primary care including group medical appointments, geriatric clinic, intensive diabetes management, and hypertension clinic. Dr. Wong helped initiate the Pharmacist-Managed Lipid Optimization Clinic at the VA Loma Linda facility. He is a member of CSHP and ASHP and holds academic appointments with UOP, Western University of Health Sciences, and USC Schools of Pharmacy. Areas of interest include hyperlipidemia, ambulatory care practice, and geriatric pharmacy.

Christine Miller, Pharm.D., BCACP is a Board-Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacist who received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Florida, College of Pharmacy in 2001. She then completed a primary care residency at the North Florida/South Georgia VA. Dr. Miller currently works as a primary care clinical pharmacist specialist in the VA Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) model and is the PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency Program Coordinator. She provides disease management and therapy optimization for diabetes, hypertension, and dyslipidemia. Dr. Miller is an active member of CSHP/ASHP and is interested in student and resident development.

Risa Ishino, Pharm.D., BCPP, BCPS received her Doctorate of Pharmacy degree from the University of Southern California in 2007. She then completed a PGY1 general pharmacy practice residency at VA Greater Los Angeles and a PGY2 psychiatric pharmacy residency at VA San Diego. After residency training, she worked at the VA Central California Healthcare System as a psychiatric pharmacist in both inpatient and outpatient settings until she came to the VA Loma Linda in 2013. She is one of the clinical pharmacists in the outpatient mental health clinic and works as a member of the Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Program (BHIP) teams to provide a team-based direct pharmaceutical care to the veterans with mental illness. She is also the director of the PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency Program. Dr. Ishino holds BCPP and BCPS certifications and is a member of the CPNP.

Bosun Chung, Pharm.D. received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from Loma Linda University in 2007. She then completed a PGY1 general practice residency with an emphasis in psychiatry from USC in addition to completing a PGY2 residency in Psychiatry at USC. After completing her residency training, she worked at VA West Los Angeles in outpatient behavioral health. Dr. Chung currently works as a clinical pharmacist in the inpatient behavioral health unit. She is working on becoming Board-Certified in Psychiatry Pharmacy and is an active member of CPNP. Dr. Chung is an adjunct professor at Loma Linda University. Her areas of interest include psychiatric pharmacy and teaching residents/students. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and traveling.
Vanessa Ardon, Pharm.D., BCPS is a Board-Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist who received her Doctorate of Pharmacy in 2014 from Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy. She completed a PGY1 pharmacy practice residency and an Academic Certificate Program with VA Caribbean Healthcare System and the University of Puerto Rico School of Pharmacy. After completing her residency, Dr. Ardon worked as an inpatient clinical pharmacist at the VA Caribbean Healthcare System. Subsequently, she transferred to VA Loma Linda to work as an outpatient clinical pharmacist and then transitioned to a clinical pharmacy specialist within the VA Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) model. She provides disease management and therapy optimization primarily for diabetes, hypertension and dyslipidemia. She is passionate about the impact pharmacists can make as an integral part of a health care team, as well as utilizing pharmacists to aid underserved populations in need of medical care. During her free time, she enjoys kickboxing, traveling internationally, trying new restaurants and watching health and crime investigation documentaries.

Gregory Aung, Pharm.D., BCPS, AAHIVP received a Doctorate of Pharmacy in 2010 from University of the Pacific, Board Certification in Pharmacotherapy in 2012 and is the Outpatient Infectious Disease Clinical Pharmacist. Following graduation, he completed a PGY1 General Pharmacy Practice Residency at Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital and then a PGY2 Infectious Disease Pharmacy Residency at VA San Diego. He then worked as the Infectious Disease Pharmacist at the Salisbury, NC before joining the VA Loma Linda family. He currently holds an academic appointment with Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy and has interests in sports, cooking, concerts, and church.

Linh Chan, Pharm.D., CACP received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University Of Southern California School Of Pharmacy in 2004 and went on to complete a residency in Pharmacy Practice at the VA Long Beach. She is a Certified Anticoagulation Care Provider, managing target specific oral anticoagulants, warfarin, outpatient LMWH/fondaparinux, graduated compression stockings, and the peri-operative management of anticoagulants. Dr. Chan is currently the Anticoagulation Program Manager where she has co-authored the Anticoagulation Therapy Management policy for our facility, as well as implemented anticoagulation services through tele-health. Dr. Chan is actively involved in anticoagulation research at VA Loma Linda. In her spare time, she enjoys spending quality time with her husband and two children.

Tony Chau, Pharm.D., AAHIVP received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Florida A&M, College of Pharmacy in 1995. He then went on to complete a fellowship in Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research at Southern California Kaiser Permanente. Dr. Chau has several years of experience as a clinical pharmacist in Ambulatory Care, Infectious Disease, HIV, and Outcomes Research at the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System. He has also served as an IRB and R&D member for many years. Dr. Chau currently works as the Antibiotic Stewardship Pharmacy Program Manager. In addition to enjoying his interactions with the veterans, he has been heavily involved in mentoring students and residents, and serves as the pharmacy resident research coordinator. Outside of work, he enjoys eating good food with family and friends, playing golf, skiing, and watching sports.
**Walter Crumpler, Pharm.D., CACP** received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2009. Following graduation, he completed his Pharmacy Practice Residency at VA Loma Linda. Dr. Crumpler is a Certified Anticoagulation Care Provider, managing target specific oral anticoagulants, warfarin, outpatient LMWH/fondaparinux, graduated compression stockings, and the peri-operative management of anticoagulants. He enjoys baseball, football, and reading.

**Ranya Garcia, Pharm.D.** received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of the Pacific, Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy in 2002. She completed a residency in Primary Care at the VA West Los Angeles and USC School of Pharmacy. She worked previously at Walgreens, Northridge Hospital as an inpatient clinical pharmacist, VA WLA Sepulveda Division in ambulatory care, and as a Kaiser Permanente Fontana drug education coordinator. At VA Loma Linda, she is currently an ambulatory care clinical pharmacist, and lead pharmacist in the education innovation program that promotes and supports the inter-professional training of medical residents, pharmacy residents, and clinical psychology post-doctoral fellows. She is an expert in transgender medicine and lead pharmacist on the national transgender care team that oversees the development and training of providers in transgender health care. She provides national consultation on cross-sex hormone therapy. She provides a great deal of advocacy and support for LGBT Veterans beyond healthcare their needs and is facility’s LGBT Veteran Care Coordinator. Dr. García’s interests include developing resident driven education programs, promoting and participating in scholarly activities, and improving the Veteran experience with a focus on LGBT health care. She enjoys Olympic style weightlifting, functional strength training, aerobic activity, and revels in cooking and creating new recipes, and spending time with family.

**Sevana Ghazarian, Pharm.D.** received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the Western University College of Pharmacy in 2010. Following graduation, she completed a residency in Pharmacy Practice at the VA Loma Linda. Dr. Ghazarian is currently working as a Surgical Services/SICU Clinical Pharmacist. She is interested in research and critical care, and is an active member of CSHP and ASHP. Dr. Ghazarian holds appointments with Western University and precepts students throughout the year. When she’s not working, she enjoys traveling.

**Alice Hsu, Pharm.D., MBA, BCACP** is a Board-Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacist who received her joint degrees Doctorate of Pharmacy and Master of Business Administration from the University Of Maryland School Of Pharmacy at Baltimore and University of Baltimore in 2003. She completed a post graduate ambulatory care residency with an emphasis in managed care at the University of Maryland School Of Pharmacy Baltimore. After completion of her residency, she worked as a clinical inpatient pharmacist at Kindred Hospital. Currently, Dr. Hsu works as a primary care clinical pharmacist specialist within the VA Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) model. She provides disease management and therapy optimization primarily for diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia and smoking cessation. She has a special interest in resident/student development. In her free time, Dr. Hsu enjoys spending time with her kids, traveling, trying unique/new food and going to see musicals/plays.
Emily Ishikawa, Pharm.D., BCGP, FASCP received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of California San Francisco in 2001, followed by completing a residency in Pharmacy Practice at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. She worked at the VA Loma Linda in Ambulatory Care for 6 years, prior to her current position as the Geriatric Program Manager, where she oversees policies related to the Community Living Center/Long Term Care and is an integral member of the interprofessional team. Some of her clinical responsibilities include comprehensive medication regimen reviews, antimicrobial dosing/monitoring, pain and diabetes management. Dr. Ishikawa is a Board-Certified Geriatric Pharmacist, a Fellow of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, and an Assistant Clinical Professor at Loma Linda University SOP. She has served on both Residency Advisory Committees for PGY1 Pharmacy Practice and PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residencies and enjoys teaching and mentoring future pharmacists.

Gina D. Jacob, Pharm.D. received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of the Pacific, Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy in 1994. Following graduation, she began working at VA Loma Linda (following in her mother's footsteps). She started as an outpatient pharmacist then shortly thereafter transitioned to a primary care clinical pharmacist specialist. She currently provides disease management and therapy optimization for diabetes, hypertension, and dyslipidemia in the VA Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) model. Dr. Jacob enjoys spending time with her husband and son, traveling, and playing tennis.

Allie Kaigle, Pharm.D., BCPP received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences located in Boston, MA in 2013. She completed both a PGY1 general practice residency and a PGY2 psychiatry pharmacy residency here at VA Loma Linda. Dr. Kaigle is one of the outpatient clinical pharmacists in the Behavioral Health Outpatient Services Team (BHOST). In BHOST, she works as a member of the Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Program (BHIP) teams to provide care to the veterans with mental illness. She also serves as a preceptor for the PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy residency program at VA Loma Linda. She is an active member of CPNP. Her areas of interest include substance use disorders, research and student/resident development. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, going to concerts, spending quality time with family and friends.

Kimberly Kwan, Pharm.D. is a former VA Loma Linda PGY1 pharmacy resident who came on board after receiving her Doctorate of Pharmacy in 2012 from the University of the Pacific. After completing her pharmacy residency year, she continued working at VA Loma Linda as an inpatient pharmacist. In early 2014, she implemented a Women’s Health Tele-Pharmacy Clinic and currently serves as the Women's Health Clinical Pharmacist to provide women veterans with chronic disease state management, maternity care counseling, and other gender-specific services. As a pharmacist, Dr. Kwan strives to promote health, not just through medications, but by encouraging healthy eating, exercise, and positive activities for a healthier and happier life. Dr. Kwan enjoys mentoring pharmacy interns and residents, embarking on fun adventures, and making people laugh.
Tammie Lee, Pharm.D., BCPP is a Board-Certified Psychiatry Pharmacist who received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from University of Southern California in 1993. She then completed a PGY1 general practice residency at USC. She worked at Riverside Regional Medical Center as a clinical pharmacist before joining VA Loma Linda in 2001. Dr. Lee currently works as a clinical pharmacist in the behavioral health unit and is a current member of the Residency Advisory Board. She is an active member of CPNP. Her areas of interest include psychiatric pharmacy and development of residents/students. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, baking bread, and reading.

Grace Ly, Pharm.D., BCPS is a Board-Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist who received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of California San Francisco in 2002. After completing a residency in Pharmacy Practice at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center, she became the Clinical Coordinator at Riverside County Regional Medical Center where she practiced as the Critical Care Pharmacy Specialist. Dr. Ly is currently an Inpatient Clinical Pharmacist here at VA Loma Linda. Dr. Ly is also an Assistant Clinical Professor in Pharmacy Practice at Loma Linda University. Her areas of interest include student/resident development and working as part of a multidisciplinary team. In her free time, she enjoys traveling and trying new foods.

Shamshad Muscati, Pharm.D., BCGP received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from Western University of Health Sciences in 2002. She joined VA Loma Linda as an ambulatory care pharmacist in primary care after completing a Pharmacy Practice Residency at VA Long Beach in 2003. Dr. Muscati currently works as a clinical pharmacy specialist in the outpatient geriatric clinic. The geriatric clinic is a primary care clinic utilizing the Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) model, as well as a consulting clinic for geriatric syndromes. Dr. Muscati is part of an interdisciplinary team and helps manage the elderly veteran population with dementia, falls, polypharmacy, medication adherence challenges, and chronic disease management. She is an active member of ASCP and ASHP, serves on the Residency Advisory Board, and on the Education Board Committee. Dr. Muscati has a passion for developing and mentoring pharmacy residents and students. She enjoys spending her free time with her family, knitting, and reading.

Phillip Ng, Pharm.D. received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of the Pacific, Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy in 1999. Following graduation, he completed a residency in Pharmacy Practice with an emphasis in Primary Care and Anticoagulation at the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center. Upon completion of his residency, Dr. Ng worked as an Ambulatory Care Clinical Pharmacist and is currently the Informatics Pharmacist and a member of the Residency Advisory Board. His areas of interest include resident development, data mining and informatics. Dr. Ng spends his free time with his family, coaching soccer, playing music and camping.

Howard K. Nguyen, Pharm.D., BCNSP is a Board-Certified Nutrition Support Pharmacist (BCNSP) who received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from the Western University College of Pharmacy in 2006. Following graduation, he completed a residency in Pharmacy Practice at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. Dr. Nguyen worked as an Inpatient Clinical Pharmacist (Medicine/Surgical ICU and Nutritional Support) for 5 years, prior to current position as the Pharmacy Pain Manager at VA Loma Linda. He enjoys basketball, football, and coaching his son’s basketball team.
Nhu Nguyen, Pharm.D., BCACP is a Board-Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacist and Advanced Practice Pharmacist who received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from Loma Linda University in 2006. She completed a PGY1 pharmacy practice residency at VA Loma Linda. Dr. Nguyen works in the ambulatory care specialty clinics where she assists with formulary management. She also runs the Cholesterol Clinic, Secondary Stroke Prevention Clinic and provides a Bariatric Pharmacy Service. She precepts students, PGY1 residents and PGY2 residents. She enjoys spending every spare moment having adventures with her little girls, including visiting the happiest place on earth!

Joyce Dineros Nieves, Pharm.D., BCPS received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Colorado, Denver in 2009. She completed a PGY1 residency in Pharmacy Practice at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and continued working there in the anticoagulation clinic, inpatient pharmacy, emergency department, MICU, and SICU. Dr. Nieves is currently an Inpatient Clinical Pharmacist here at VA Loma Linda. She performs MTM, medication reconciliation, and enjoys empowering veterans with knowledge about their medications through counseling. Her areas of interest include infectious disease and student/resident development. In her free time, she also enjoys reading, exercising, fine arts & crafts, Netflix, traveling, and visiting family and friends.

Hamideh Tavakoli-Ahmady, Pharm.D., BCOP received her Doctorate of Pharmacy degree from Western University of Health Sciences in 2000. She is currently the Hematology/Oncology Clinical Pharmacy Program Manager. She completed a hospital practice residency with an emphasis on acute care at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. She is involved in the implementation and enhancement of clinical activities including medication therapy management services in hematology and medical oncology. She holds academic appointments at USC, WesternU, and Loma Linda Schools of Pharmacy. She works closely with the research pharmacist to promote excellent collaboration for administration of investigational chemotherapy and other drugs.

Daniel Patuszynski, Pharm.D. received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2003. He then completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency with an emphasis in ambulatory care at the VA Loma Linda Medical Center. His past experience includes inpatient pharmacy, drug information, and critical care. Currently, Dr. Patuszynski is a Heart Failure PACT Pharmacist. His activities involve optimizing medication regimens for cardiac patients including ACE inhibitors, ARBs, adrenergic blockers, spironolactone, digoxin, nitrates/hydralazine, diuretics and electrolyte replacement. He also monitors response to medications and suggests adjustments as necessary, processes outpatient orders to increase efficiency of medication delivery to patients, processes non-formulary requests, and counsels patients on medications. Recently, he was involved in an NIH grant for Interprofessional Team management of heart failure patients with diabetes. Dr. Patuszynski’s hobbies include running and running after his toddler.

Jennifer Patuszynski, Pharm.D., BCACP is a Board-Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacist who received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from Northeastern University Bouve College of Health Sciences in 2003. Following graduation, she completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency with an emphasis in Ambulatory Care at VA Chicago Healthcare System. Dr. Patuszynski is currently a primary care clinical pharmacist specialist within the VA Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) model. On a comprehensive team with doctors and nurses, she specializes in medication therapy management in diabetes, hypertension, and dyslipidemia. Her pharmacy areas of interest include pharmacy workload capturing and coding. Dr. Patuszynski enjoys spending time with her husband and two daughters visiting the local Southern California attractions.
Minh Tang, Pharm.D. received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from University of Southern California in 2009. Following graduation, he completed a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at VA Long Beach Healthcare System. Dr. Tang is currently a primary care clinical pharmacist for the longitudinal Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) education module. His interests include traveling around the world and eating different cuisine.

Aaron Tran, Pharm.D., BCPP, BCPS received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of the Pacific, Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy in 2014. He completed his PGY1 General Pharmacy Practice residency at VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System and a PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy residency at VA Loma Linda Healthcare System. He currently works as one of the Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Team (BHIP) pharmacists providing direct patient care to veterans. He enjoys precepting trainees and developing the next generation of pharmacists. In his spare time, he enjoys hiking, fishing, and catching up with family and friends.

Trang Tran, Pharm.D., MPA, BCPP received her Doctorate of Pharmacy degree from the University of Houston College of Pharmacy in 2014. She completed her PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at Parkland Health & Hospital System in Dallas, TX and a PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency at VA Loma Linda Healthcare System. She currently works as one of the Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Team (BHIP) pharmacists providing direct patient care to veterans in the outpatient setting. She enjoys traveling, hiking, playing tennis, and exploring different cuisines.

Stefan Ta Duc, Pharm.D., BCPS received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of the Pacific, Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy in 2015. He completed his PGY1 General Pharmacy Practice residency here at VA Loma Linda and has been working as an Inpatient Pharmacist. He has a special interest in training and helping residents get the most out of their Inpatient Operations and staffing experiences. Outside of work, he enjoys playing tennis, Fantasy Basketball, video games, KBBQ and spending quality time with his friends.
2018-2019 Postgraduate Year One
Pharmacy Practice Residents

Van Pham, Pharm.D. received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from Western University of Health Sciences in 2018. Dr. Pham hopes to obtain his BCPS certification and to practice as an ambulatory care pharmacist after the completion of his PGY-1 pharmacy residency. He chose VA Loma Linda for his PGY-1 pharmacy residency because of his experience there during his APPE rotation. He felt that his rotation at VA Loma Linda gave him an ideal model of pharmacy practice and he was impressed by the wide range of clinical activities that both pharmacy residents and students can participate in. During his residency, he hopes to provide the highest level of care to veterans and to mentor pharmacy students. In his free time, he enjoys watching Lakers basketball, playing tennis, and fishing.

Mercy Tang, Pharm.D. received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of California, San Francisco in 2018. Mercy's positive experiences working with veterans and VA staff as an intern at SFVAMC motivated her to apply for VA residencies. VA Loma Linda stood out to her during residency interview season, since everyone was kind, genuine, and welcoming. She is thankful to be here as a PGY-1 pharmacy resident, and is looking forward to expanding her interest in different clinical settings. Mercy is interested in ambulatory care and psychiatry. In addition, Mercy is passionate about serving homeless and underserved populations and mentoring students. She hopes to continue serving these populations in her community and abroad. In her free time, she enjoys hanging out with family and friends, traveling, taking pictures, eating, playing instruments, and singing.

Billy Tjitrajadi, Pharm.D. received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from Western University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy in 2018. Dr. Tjitrajadi plans to obtain his BCPS after the completion of the PGY-1 pharmacy residency and practice as an ambulatory care pharmacist. He chose VA Loma Linda Healthcare System because of the knowledgeable and passionate pharmacy staff, the teaching environment, and the diverse clinical rotations that provide a comprehensive experience. He has a strong interest in the geriatric community as well as teaching opportunities to work as a preceptor and a lecturer. When he isn't working, he enjoys his free time by building computers, playing basketball, and discovering new places to eat.

Lily Yu, Pharm.D. received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of California, San Diego in 2017. After graduation, she worked as a community and medication therapy management pharmacist before deciding to pursue a pharmacy residency. She chose VA Loma Linda for her PGY-1 pharmacy training because of the wide-variety of ambulatory care clinics offered and the many learning opportunities to work with dedicated preceptors, other healthcare professionals, and students. Her pharmacy interests include: primary care, HIV, hepatitis C, and psychiatry. After completion of her residency, she hopes to obtain her board certification and practice as an ambulatory care pharmacist. During her free time, she enjoys practicing yoga, reading, exploring new cafes, and playing with her pet rabbit, Max!
Tina Chov, Pharm.D. received her Doctorate of Pharmacy degree in 2017 from Creighton University School of Pharmacy and Health Professions in Omaha, Nebraska after obtaining her Bachelor of Science in both Biology and Biotechnology from South Dakota State University. She completed her PGY1 Pharmacy Practice at the Veterans Affairs Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System in Lincoln, Nebraska. Dr. Chov is currently completing her PGY2 in Psychiatric Pharmacy at VA Loma Linda Health Care System to further expand her knowledge of psychiatric disorders. Her areas of interests include mood disorders, pain management, and geriatrics. Upon completion of her PGY2, Dr. Chov plans to become a Board-Certified Psychiatric Pharmacist and continue her career within the VA. During her free time, she enjoys exploring California (especially new restaurants), going to the beach, and spending time with family and friends.

Richard Duong, Pharm.D. received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) School of Pharmacy in 2017 after obtaining a B.S. in physiological science from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). He completed his PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency training at the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System while concurrently earning his teaching certificate from the University of Southern California (USC) School of Pharmacy. He is currently completing a PGY2 residency in psychiatric pharmacy with a focus in pain management at the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System. Upon completion of his training, he plans to become a Board-Certified Psychiatric Pharmacist (BCPP). During his free time, he enjoys rock climbing, going to music shows, visiting local cafes & breweries, and exploring new cities.

Susan Lee, Pharm.D. received her Doctorate of Pharmacy degree from Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy in 2017 after finishing her undergraduate studies at University of California, Irvine. She went on to complete her PGY1 Pharmacy Practice residency training with Loma Linda University Health System, adding a wide variety of educational encounters to her collection of learning experiences. Her experiences soon led her to pursue PGY2 residency training in psychiatric pharmacy at the VA Loma Linda Health System as her interest in psychiatric and neurologic disorders began to grow, particularly in the veteran and geriatric population. Upon completion of her PGY2 residency program, Dr. Lee hopes to obtain board certification in psychiatric pharmacy and continue to be an advocate for mental health. In her free time, she enjoys playing doubles tennis, hiking new trails, reading bestsellers, and watching all genres of television.