Emory Healthcare
Expanding Patient Care

In late 2012, ground was broken on what will become Emory University Hospital’s new tower. Dubbed “J wing”, the new tower is scheduled for completion in late 2016 with the doors opening for patients in the first quarter of 2017. During excavation over 20,000 truckloads of dirt and 65,000 tons of rock will be removed for the parking deck, to a depth of 50 to 55 feet. The new tower is across the street from the main hospital directly in front of Clinic Building B. It will be connected to the hospital by a two-level pedestrian bridge, with one level primarily used for patient transport. The building will also connect to The Emory Clinic Buildings A, B and C (Winship), as well as the Lowergate Parking Deck. The new tower will include state of the art patient care facilities including:

- 210 patient beds
- Operating rooms
- Diagnostic and treatment spaces
- ICU rooms
- General Med/Surg rooms
- 400-600 underground parking spaces
Pharmacy Director Recognized by Mercer University College of Pharmacy

Amir Emamifar, PharmD, M.B.A. is our associate administrator of Pharmaceutical Services here at Emory Healthcare. He oversees all pharmacy services for Emory hospitals and clinics, Winship Cancer Institute, investigational drug services, clinical research, and the retail ambulatory pharmacy. Additionally, Dr. Emamifar is the assistant dean for Clinical Education for Mercer University College of Pharmacy – Emory University Joint Initiative in Pharmacy Education and a member of our Board of Visitors.

Dr. Emamifar was the Keynote Speaker for the Mercer Class of 2014 pinning ceremony, an annual tradition at the College of Pharmacy that signifies new pharmacy students’ transition into the profession of pharmacy. He has recently been the recipient of several prestigious awards as well. Mercer University granted him the Dean’s award, which recognizes individuals who provide exceptional support to the Dean and College of Pharmacy. Mercer additionally granted him the Meritorious Service Award for his outstanding contributions to the enhancement of the College of Pharmacy. On the national stage, Dr. Emamifar was also awarded the Hospital Pharmacy Director of the Year from Health Connect Partners. This is a peer-nominated award, granted to one individual out of over 250 directors and administrators at healthcare institutions all across the country.

The demand for clinical pharmacy services is expanding in most areas of healthcare; however, the logistics of developing those services and providing them in the most efficient and cost-effective manner to a large health system like Emory continues to be a challenge. One of the best ways to accomplish this is with the expansion of residency positions in key clinical pharmacy specialties. This provides burgeoning clinicians the opportunity to train at a premier healthcare institution while extending the pharmacy presence and ability to provide necessary patient care services, all at a lower cost. The future looks very good for the profession of pharmacy and Dr. Emamifar is working diligently via the joint initiative with Mercer University to develop these programs and make sure that future becomes reality.

Saint Joseph’s Hospital Added Amid Emory Rebranding

In December 2012, Saint Joseph’s hospital of Atlanta became part of the Emory Healthcare system. Saint Joseph’s was founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1880 and is the oldest hospital in Atlanta. This 410-bed acute-care facility is recognized for its medical excellence in several specialties including cardiac, neurologic, vascular, orthopedic and cancer care.

Saint Joseph’s has received numerous awards including the Magnet Recognition for Nursing Excellence from the American Nurses Association Credentialing Center, a very prestigious accreditation that recognizes exemplary nursing services. Besides focusing on providing the most innovative, high quality level of care, Saint Joseph’s is also committed to providing patient care that focuses on each patient’s total needs. This is accomplished by providing patients with opportunities for counseling, pastoral care, specialized support groups, education and social services. We are excited to welcome Saint Joseph’s into the Emory Healthcare family!

Amid the addition of St Joseph’s, Emory Healthcare launched a new brand in September. Included in the launch was the tagline is “We’re all in this together,” which reflects Emory’s commitment to patients and families and the organization’s common goal of quality care. The branding campaign aligns with the Emory’s Care Transformation Model, an initiative based on continuous improvement that began in 2009.
ACCP Recognizes Previous Emory Resident as Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Resident of the Year

Meagan Barbee, PharmD recently received the 2012 Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Resident of the Year award by ACCP. After completing both her PGY1 and PGY2 residencies at Emory, she accepted a Hematology/Oncology Clinical Pharmacy Specialist position with Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City where she will specialize in neuro-oncology. Meagan's new position combines a rotating inpatient/outpatient role with a heavy emphasis on clinical research. She is responsible for reviewing all neuro-oncology study protocols before being submitted for IRB approval. In addition, she will be precepting residents and recently took on the role of the APPE coordinator for pharmacy students at Jefferson School of Pharmacy in an effort to expand student programs.

New Hematology/ Oncology Preceptor Elyse Panjic

Dr. Elyse Panjic is originally from Stone Mountain, Georgia. She completed her undergraduate and pharmacy school at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. She completed her PGY1 and PGY2 in Hematology/Oncology at Grady. Her primary interests are hematology, specifically lymphoma, followed by acute leukemia. She has been married for 3 years and has an adorable German shorthaired pointer dog, named Willow. In her free time she enjoys hiking and trying new restaurants. Her favorite type of food is seafood and her favorite restaurant is Miller Union. She enjoys watching the television show Psych and watching tennis. She enjoys reading SciFi books and some SciFi movies.

The PGY1 and PGY2 residents visited Medical University of South Carolina and Georgia Regents University on their annual Reach Trip with preceptors Mike Hurtik and Kelly Valla.
Emory Preceptors Receive Awards

Dr. Stacey Folse
PharmD, MPH, BCPS
Critical Care PGY2
Director and MICU preceptor was awarded the GSHP Outstanding Pharmacy Preceptor Award. The award is presented to a health-system pharmacy residency preceptor for outstanding service to the profession by serving as a preceptor to pharmacy residents.

Dr. Chris Paciullo
PharmD, BCPS
PGY1 Residency Director was awarded the 2013 GSHP Outstanding Pharmacy Practitioner Award. The award is presented to a health-system pharmacist employed in a staff position. The award recognizes outstanding service to the profession.

Derek Polly, PharmD
EUHM medical/pulmonary ICU clinical specialist and MICU preceptor was awarded the 2013 GSHP Outstanding Young Health System Pharmacist. The award is given to a health-system pharmacist that has graduated from pharmacy school in the past 5 years. The recipient is chosen based on exemplary service and dedication to the field of health-system pharmacy in this time period.

Congratulations to the 2012-2013 Preceptor of the Year Dan Griffith

Dan Griffith RPh, BCNSP, the Preceptor of the Year for the 2012-2013 year, is the Nutrition and Metabolic Support Service Clinical Coordinator and the Director of the PGY2 Nutrition Support Residency. He is originally from Winter Haven, Florida. He received his BA in Natural Science from the University of South Florida and BS in Pharmacy from the University of Georgia. He completed an internship at Emory in 1972 before going to Saudi Arabia from 1975-1985 where he was the Associate Director of Pharmacy and established a nutrition support and an IV team. He returned to Emory and started the nutrition service. Dan loves to teach and always has great stories to share. He is married with four daughters and is a certified tennis pro. Dan was also presented the GSHP 25-Year Practitioner Award for his 25 years of service in hospital pharmacy.

Congratulations Stacey, Chris, Dan and Derek! Thank you all for your dedication to pharmacy and the Emory residency program.
Meet the 2013-2014 PGY1 Pharmacy Residents

Dr. Christine Davis is originally from Millburn, NJ and graduated with a BS in Biochemistry and a BA in Chemistry from the College of Charleston in Charleston, SC. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy in Chicago, Illinois. Her professional interests include hematology/oncology and infectious disease. Following her PGY-1 residency, Christine will pursue a PGY-2 Specialty Residency in Oncology. In her free time, Christine enjoys spending time with her family and dogs as well as listening to music and playing tennis.

Dr. Spencer LeCorchick is from Cedar City, UT and attended Southern Utah University. He completed his Doctor of Pharmacy at Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Atlanta, GA. His professional interests include internal medicine, geriatrics, and solid organ transplant. Following completion of his PGY1 residency, he plans to pursue a PGY2 specialty residency in solid organ transplant as well as his BCPS certification. Outside of pharmacy, he enjoys shopping (especially for cars), NASCAR, playing video games, watching movies, and spending time with his family. In the future, Dr. LeCorchick hopes to work in an academic teaching center.

Dr. Jessica Rago is from Omaha, NE and graduated with a B.A. in Chemistry from Texas A&M University. She completed her Doctorate of Pharmacy at the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Pharmacy in Omaha, NE. Her professional interests include solid organ transplant and critical care. She plans to pursue a PGY2 in solid organ transplant. Outside of pharmacy, she enjoys reading, and spending time with her family and dogs. In the future, Dr. Rago hopes to practice in an academic medical center with opportunities for direct patient care and precepting of pharmacy students.

Dr. Kevin Sponsel is from Plato, MO and received his B.A. in Russian Studies and Biology from the University of Missouri. He completed his Doctorate of Pharmacy at the Mercer University in Atlanta, GA. His professional interests include critical care, infectious disease, and emergency medicine. Following the completion of his PGY-1 residency, he hopes to complete a PGY2 residency in one of his core interests and pursue board certification. Outside of pharmacy, he enjoys hiking, cooking, and reading. In the future, Dr. Sponsel hopes to practice in a medical center with opportunities for direct patient care, clinical research, and teaching responsibilities.

Dr. Britta Staubes is from Bolivar, Ohio and graduated with a B.S. in Chemistry from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. She completed her Doctorate of Pharmacy from Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Her professional interests include infectious diseases, internal medicine, and critical care. In her spare time, she enjoys playing with her rescue French bulldog, collecting nail polish, and snorkeling on tropical islands. In the future, she would like to practice in a teaching hospital with the ability to precept and mentor pharmacy students and residents.

Dr. Sarah Wheeler is from Plant City, FL and received her Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Florida College of Pharmacy. Her professional interests include oncology, transplant and pain management. Following the completion of her PGY-1 residency, she will seek a PGY-2 residency in oncology and pursue board certification. Outside of pharmacy, she enjoys camping, fishing, line dancing, watching college football games (roll tide!), and spending time with family and friends. In the future, Dr. Wheeler hopes to practice in a NCI designated cancer center with opportunities for direct patient care and precepting of pharmacy students.
Meet the 2013-2014 PGY2 Pharmacy Residents

Critical Care
Dr. Anthony Hawkins is from McDonough, GA and received his PharmD from the University of Georgia in Athens, GA and completed his PGY1 residency at Emory University Hospital. His professional interests include acid base disorders, hemodynamics, infectious disease, and academia. Following his PGY-2 residency, Anthony will pursue an ICU specialty position with educational responsibilities. Outside of pharmacy, his interests include church activities, archery, turkey hunting, and spending time with family.

Internal Medicine
Dr. Lydia Newsom is from Newnan, GA and graduated with a B.S. in Chemistry from Furman University in Greenville, SC. She completed her Doctorate of Pharmacy at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy in Athens, GA and her PGY1 at Emory University Hospital. Her professional interests include internal medicine, cardiology, and geriatrics. Dr. Newsom is the current Chief Pharmacy Resident for Emory's program. Outside of pharmacy, she enjoys playing tennis, attending football games, and spending time in the mountains. After completion of her PGY2 residency, Dr. Newsom hopes to pursue a clinical position with opportunities for direct patient care and education of pharmacy students.

Oncology
Dr. Caitlin Handler is from Niles, Illinois (near Chicago) and received her Doctorate of Pharmacy at Butler University School of Pharmacy in Indianapolis, Indiana. She completed her PGY-1 pharmacy practice residency at Franciscan St. Francis Health in Indianapolis, Indiana. Her professional interests include bone marrow transplant, hematology/oncology, and research. Following completion of her PGY-2 residency, she will pursue a clinical position as a hematology/oncology pharmacy specialist with responsibilities as a student and resident preceptor. Outside of pharmacy, she enjoys baking, running, going to the pool, and spending time with friends and family.

Nutrition Support
Dr. Kyle Hampson is originally from Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of the Duquesne University Mylan School of Pharmacy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and completed his PGY-1 residency at Emory University Hospital. His professional interests include vitamin and micronutrient deficiencies, gastrointestinal disorders, statistics, public health, and research. Upon completion of the nutrition support residency, he hopes to practice as a nutrition support clinical specialist while teaching students and conducting clinical research. In his spare time, he enjoys running, cooking, and spending time with his friends and family.
Pharmacy Resident Research at Emory

PGY1
Christine Davis, PharmD
Efficacy of Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma Treatments With or Without Anthracyclines in the Elderly

Spencer LeCorchick, PharmD
Comparison of Metabolic and Cardiovascular Parameters in Renal Transplant Patients Receiving Three Different Immunosuppression Regimens: Tacrolimus vs. Belatacept vs. Tacrolimus/Belatacept

Jessica Rago, PharmD
The Effect of Influenza Vaccination on Hospital Admission in Solid Organ Transplant Recipients

Kevin Sponsel, PharmD
Duration of Antibiotic Therapy for Pseudomonal Pneumonia

Britta Staubes, PharmD
Evaluation of Clinical Outcomes in Patients Using Extended Infusion Piperacillin-Tazobactam for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Bloodstream Infections

Sarah Wheeler, PharmD
Pharmacokinetic Analysis of High-Dose Methotrexate in Primary CNS Lymphoma

PGY2
Anthony Hawkins, PharmD
Point prevalence study on the practice patterns of using pharmacological VTE prophylaxis

Lydia Newsom, PharmD
Optimizing medication transitions: the role of pharmacy in structured interdisciplinary bedside rounds

Caitlin Handler, PharmD
Patterns of Care and Treatment Outcomes in MYC Positive Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma

Kyle Hampson, PharmD
Comparative Analysis of Energy Expenditure Equations in Overweight and Underweight Adult Hospitalized Patients
Where the 2013 Emory Residents are Now

Meagan Barbee  
Hematology/Oncology Clinical Specialist, Sloan Kettering Memorial Hospital (New York City, New York)

Katlynd Contrael  
Critical Care Clinical Specialist, Georgia Regents Hospital (Augusta, Georgia)

Kyle Hampson  
PGY-2 Nutrition, Emory University Hospital

Anthony Hawkins  
PGY-2 Critical Care, Emory University Hospital

Amir Kamel  
Nutrition Support/Critical Care Clinical Specialist, University of Florida Shands-Gainsville (Gainsville, Florida)

Nishat Khan  
Emergency Medicine Clinical Specialist, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta (Atlanta, Georgia)

Lydia Newsom  
PGY-2 Internal Medicine, Emory University Hospital

Kristen O’Brien  
PGY-2 Resident Infectious Diseases, Medical University of South Carolina (Charleston, South Carolina)

Still searching for…..

If you’re in contact with one of these missing Emory alumni please let us know. We would love to share the Emory Edition and other noteworthy information with them!

Priscilla L. Amos  
Donna S. Carr  
Claire Hope Economy

Kelly B. Brooks  
Marilyn H. Borges  
Judith B. Forio

Suzanne P. Dix  
Theresa A. Pollard  
Jennifer A. Nelson

Mary Jensen Camp  
Shawn R. Akkerman  
Marti A. Williams

Catherine A. Smith  
Angela L. Kicklighter Mathis  
L. David Carver

Linda Bullock  
Amanda Beth Cox  
W. Scott Chappell

Mary V. Littleton  
Brandi Opella Bishop  
Letty A. Gibson

Lois Dent Hoppstein  
Richard C. Capps  
Amy H. Matistic

Lori A. Hinzel  
Mary Ellen Bond  
Khanh Q. Bui

Cleve Tyre, Jr.  
Dianna Sue Mertl  
Kerri S. Keefe

Janet Fox  
C. Scott Schlesman  
Alison Kepple

Harold L. Nicks  
Catherine S. Wade  
Corrie J. Lotz

Rebecca J. Johnson  
Hang T. Nguyen  
Edo-abasi Umoh

Jack Y.C. Lee  
Elizabeth R. Collins  
Fiona Tran

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