Emory Healthcare is making history! This year, Emory Healthcare made University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC) quality hospital ranking history, as it was the first time that two facilities from the same organization placed in the top 10 rankings of hospital quality. For the 2012 scorecard, Emory University Hospital/Emory University Orthopedic and Spine Hospital ranked 2nd and Emory University Hospital Midtown ranked 6th!

In addition to increasing in quality, Emory Healthcare is also increasing in size! Recent building expansions include the $270 million renovation and redevelopment of Emory University Hospital Midtown, the $84 million renovation of Winship Cancer Institute, and additional changes at Orthopedics and Spine Center, the Medicare Unit at Budd Terrace, and the Wound Therapy Center at Wesley Woods. Future building plans even include a new ICU tower at the main campus of Emory University Hospital. The Emory Healthcare Affiliate Network now comprises 45 hospitals serving 65 communities with 6,000 physicians throughout Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, and North Carolina with new additions of Emory John’s Creek Hospital and Saint Joseph’s hospital of Atlanta.

One thing that has remained the same at Emory is the reputation of Winship Cancer Institute as a leader in oncology. WCI is not only the largest facility dedicated to head and neck cancer in the Southeast, but also the first and only NCI-designated cancer center in the state of Georgia. It has been rated “Outstanding” by the National Cancer Institute and has been renewed as an NCI-Designated Cancer Center for five years.

Emory Healthcare is continually improving in our quality of patient care, education of health professionals, and research addressing health and illness. Emory Healthcare is continually striving to advance the possibilities!
Chesson Honored by Georgia Society of Health-System Pharmacists

Melissa Chesson, PharmD, BCPS received GSHP’s Young Health-System Pharmacist Award in 2012. This award is given to a practitioner who is has shown outstanding dedication and service to health-system pharmacy and has graduated from pharmacy school in the past five years. Dr. Chesson is currently a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice at MUCOPHS with her practice site at Emory University Hospital as a clinical specialist in Internal Medicine.

ACCP Critical Care PRN Recognizes Emory Clinical Specialist

Dr. Alley Killian, PharmD, BCPS received the 2012 ACCP Clinical Practitioner Award for the Critical Care PRN at this year’s ACCP Fall Meeting in Hollywood, Florida. Dr. Killian is a clinical specialist in surgical critical care at Emory University Hospital and is actively involved in both PGY1 and PGY2 Critical Care residency training.

Congratulations to the 2011—2012 Preceptor of the Year!

Nicole Metzger, PharmD, BCPS was chosen by the 2011-2012 residency class as the preceptor of the year. Dr. Metzger is a clinical specialist in Internal Medicine at EUH and is a Clinical Assistant Professor at Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. She is the program director for the PGY2 Internal Medicine Residency program that is new for 2013—2014 year.

New Clinical Specialists in Medical Oncology and Heart/Lung Transplant

Due to ever increasing volume in solid organ transplantation and oncology, Emory University Hospital created two new clinical specialist positions in Medical Oncology and Heart/Lung Transplant. Maurice Alexander, PharmD, will join his outpatient counterpart, Trevor McKibbin, PharmD, MS, BCPS as the first inpatient Medical Oncology specialist at Emory. Maurice completed his Doctor of Pharmacy, PGY1 and PGY2 oncology residency at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Michael Hurtik, PharmD, BCPS becomes the fourth solid organ transplantation clinical specialist, and first dedicated to Heart and Lung transplantation at Emory. He graduated from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and completed his PGY1 and PGY2 Transplant residencies at Duke University Hospital. Welcome Maurice and Mike!
Over the past year, the Emory University Hospital (EUH) Pharmacy Residency program has grown exponentially with new leadership, new residents, new programs, and new opportunities. Christopher Paciullo, PharmD, BCPS is the new PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program Director at EUH. He also serves as the clinical specialist in the cardiothoracic surgery ICU at EUH and has been a part of the residency program since 2009. For the upcoming 2013-2014 year, there will be 6 PGY1 resident positions in addition to 4 PGY2 residency positions in critical care, nutrition support, oncology, and internal medicine. New rotations are now being offered in areas such as outpatient medical oncology, cardiology, and thoracic transplant. The residency program has also developed new opportunities for their residents through opportunities such as the REACH program and a 24 hour Clinical Pharmacy On Call service.

New PGY2 in Internal Medicine

A new PGY2 in Internal Medicine will be offered for the first time in 2013-2014. This program was developed by the new Residency Program Director, Nicole Metzger, PharmD, BCPS. Lydia Newsom, current PGY1 resident at Emory will be this new program’s first resident. Congratulations to Nicole and Lydia! For more information visit http://www.rxresidency.emory.edu/programs/Medicine.html

PGY2 in Critical Care receives ASHP accreditation

Started in 2010 and currently in its third year, the PGY2 Critical Care residency at Emory has its first site visit by ASHP in March of 2012. Stacey Folse, PharmD, MPH, BCPS and the critical care preceptors worked tirelessly to prepare. Over the summer, ASHP granted the program a 6 year accreditation, the longest accreditation period possible. One of the surveyors remarked that the program was “…in the top 5% of new programs…” that he had ever visited.

New Residency Office

With more PGY1’s and PGY2’s than ever before, the residents were forced to find a new place to call home. Fortunately, the new residency office is across the hall from their old one. The residents moved into their new office in March, complete with more desks, more space and…(gasp) windows!

...Apply Online?!

New for 2013, all residency programs nationwide will have the option of using PhORCAS (Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application), a web-based tool that streamlines the residency recruitment process for applicants, programs and reference writers. No more paper letters, applications or transcripts!
Emory Residency Alumni: What’s New?

REACH Program 2012-2013

The REACH program, which stands for Resident Enrichment and Communication with Health Systems, allows the residents to travel to other residency sites to learn more about their program philosophy, hospital system, and the role of pharmacy at their institution. This year, Emory residents traveled to Duke University Medical Center and University of North Carolina Health Care. Emory residents also hosted the residency program from Saint Joseph’s Hospital in Lexington, KY. Following the visits, Emory residents will give a presentation about their experiences providing recommendations for growth of Emory’s residency program based on their experiences.

The 2012-2013 Emory Residency class also had the opportunity to spend the afternoon touring the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, GA. They plan to return to the CDC in December to be able to experience a classified laboratory.

Emory Residency Alumni: Where are they now?

Jennifer Austin
Internal Medicine Clinical Specialist
University of Chicago Medical Center
Chicago, IL

Timothy Poole
Chair of Pharmacy Practice
Philadelphia college of Osteopathic Medicine
Atlanta, GA

Elisabeth Donahey
Neurosciences ICU Clinical Specialist
Loyola University Health System
Chicago, IL

Allison Provine
Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice in Pediatrics
Lipscomb University
Nashville, TN

Rola Franks
Critical Care Clinical Specialist
James H. Quillen VAMC
Mountain Home, TN

Matt Saylor
Outpatient Oncology Clinical Specialist
Wake Forest Baptist Health
Winston-Salem, NC

Shauntrell Johnson
Emergency Department Clinical Specialist
Grady Health System
Atlanta, GA

Michael Wright
PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Resident
Baylor Health Care System
Dallas, TX

Ifeanyi Onor
Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice
Xavier University
New Orleans, LA

Ishaq Lat
Awarded Fellowship from the American College of Clinical Pharmacy in 2012
Congrats!
Meet the 2012–2013 PGY1 Pharmacy Residents

Anthony Hawkins, PharmD is from McDonough, GA and received his Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Georgia in Athens, GA. His professional interests include critical care, transplant, and infectious disease. Following his PGY-1 residency, Anthony is pursuing a PGY-2 specialty residency in Critical Care Medicine at Emory. Outside of pharmacy, his interests include archery, hunting, church activities, and spending time with family. In the future, Anthony would like to obtain a position as a clinical specialist with educational responsibilities that include teaching students.

Nishat Khan, PharmD is from Atlanta, GA and graduated with a B.S. in Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology with a minor in Philosophy from Emory University. She completed her Doctorate of Pharmacy at Mercer University in Atlanta, GA. Her professional interests include internal medicine, cardiology, and infectious diseases. Following the completion of her PGY-1 residency, Dr. Khan would like to become a board certified pharmacotherapy specialist and serve as an adjunct clinical professor. Outside of pharmacy, Dr. Khan enjoys traveling abroad with her husband, spending time with family, cooking, and photography.

Kristen O’Brien, PharmD graduated with a B.S. in Biochemistry from Virginia Tech and completed her Doctorate of Pharmacy at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. Her professional interests include infectious diseases, critical care, and solid organ transplant. Outside of pharmacy, her interests include watching college football [go Hokies!] and spending time with family and friends. In the future, she hopes to pursue a specialty residency in an area of interest and obtain a clinical position in an academic medical center where she can take an active role in patient care and be involved in the education of student pharmacists.

Lydia Newsom, PharmD is from Newnan, GA and graduated with a B.S. in Chemistry from Furman University in Greenville, SC and completed her Doctorate of Pharmacy at the University of Georgia in Athens, GA. Her professional interests include internal medicine, cardiology, and critical care. Lydia is pursuing a PGY2 specialty residency in Internal Medicine at Emory. Outside of pharmacy, she enjoys tennis, football, and the outdoors. In the future, she hopes to practice in a medical center with opportunities for direct patient care and precepting of pharmacy students.

Kyle Hampson, PharmD is from Lancaster, Pennsylvania and is a graduate of the Duquesne University School of Pharmacy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His professional interests include nutrition support, infectious diseases, critical care, public health, and research. Kyle is pursuing a PGY2 specialty residency in Nutrition Support at Emory and hopes to practice in a clinical specialist or academic position. In his spare time, he enjoys running, cooking, and spending time with friends and family.
Meet the 2012–2013 PGY2 Pharmacy Residents

Critical Care

Katlynd Contrael, PharmD is from Erie, Pennsylvania and received her Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Georgia. She completed her PGY 1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at Emory University Hospital and is currently completing a PGY 2 in Critical Care. She serves as an Adjunct Clinical Instructor at Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences where she has lectured to pharmacy students regarding the importance of the continuity of medication management across the continuum of care and diseases of the pancreas. Additionally, she has facilitated introductory pharmacy practice experiences as well as co-precepted pharmacy students on advanced pharmacy practice experiences. Katlynd has completed research on the prescribing patterns of intravenous hydrocortisone in septic shock under the Emory Center for Critical Care during her PGY 1 year. As a PGY 2 she will be completing research on the effect of appropriate initial antifungal therapy for candidemia on mortality within the intensive care unit. Outside of pharmacy, her interests include traveling, hiking, cooking and spending time with her friends and family. After completing her PGY 2, Katlynd would like to obtain a position at a medical center where she can provide patient care and be involved in the education of student pharmacists through teaching and precepting.

Oncology

Meagan Barbee, PharmD is from Peachtree City, GA and graduated with a B.S. in Biochemistry from Georgia Institute of Technology. She completed her Doctorate of Pharmacy at Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Atlanta, GA and her PGY 1 residency at Emory Healthcare. Her professional interests include hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, GVHD, mechanisms of resistance, B-cell disorders, and early-phase clinical trials. Following the completion of her PGY 2 residency, Dr. Barbee will pursue a position as a hematology/oncology clinical pharmacy specialist at an NCI designated treatment center in an academic setting. In the future, Dr. Barbee would like to become a board certified oncology pharmacist. Outside of pharmacy, Meagan enjoys playing sand volleyball, running, leisure reading, and traveling abroad with her husband. Dr. Barbee is grateful for the perpetual support and encouragement from her family, friends, and mentors.

Nutrition Support

Amir Y. Kamel, PharmD is from Brooklyn, New York. He graduated from Arnold and Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy, Long Island University in Brooklyn, NY. He completed his general practice residency at The Mount Sinai School of Medicine and Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, NY. His professional interests include Nutrition in Critical care and Oncology patients, Infectious Diseases, and Clinical Research. In the future, Dr. Kamel would like to become a board certified in Nutrition and practice in an academic setting. Outside of pharmacy, Amir enjoys traveling and reading.
Pharmacy Resident Research at Emory

Kyle Hampson, PharmD will be researching risk factors associated with vitamin B6 deficiency. Vitamin B6 deficiency is widely underappreciated in the medical community but can be associated with inflammatory disease and venothromboembolism (VTE).

Anthony Hawkins, PharmD will be investigating the incidence of ICU delirium based on antipsychotic exposure. This acute brain dysfunction is associated with increased mortality, prolonged ICU and hospital length of stay, increased healthcare costs, and long-term cognitive dysfunction. ICU delirium is very common amongst critically ill patients and evidence of pharmacological prevention is both limited and controversial.

Lydia Newsom, PharmD will be researching factors related to INR stability in patients with left ventricular assist devices (LVAD) anticoagulated with warfarin. LVAD patients have a device-induced complex hemodynamic profile and little guidance exists in the literature with respect to appropriate anticoagulation in this patient population.

Nishat Khan, PharmD will be evaluating the incidence of venothromboembolism (VTE) with or without pharmacologic prevention in end stage liver disease (ESLD) patients. VTE prophylaxis in ESLD patients is controversial as many clinicians believe that these patients are protected from developing VTE due to their “auto-anticoagulated” state and clinical guidelines on VTE prophylaxis do not specifically address patients with ESLD.

Kristen O’Brien, PharmD will be evaluating the impact of a newly implemented vancomycin nomogram at Emory University Hospital (EUH) and Emory University Hospital Midtown (EUHM) on the incidence of nephrotoxicity, vancomycin trough concentrations, and time to achieve target trough.

Katlynd Contrael, PharmD will be researching the mortality rate of ICU patients with candidemia receiving appropriate initial antifungal therapy compared with those who receive inappropriate initial antifungal therapy. Additional goals of the research are to determine the azole-resistance rate of *Candida* spp. from blood culture isolates in the ICUs at Emory University Hospital (EUH) and EUH-Midtown (EUHM), and identification of risk factors that correlate with azole-resistant candidemia in ICUs at EUH and EUHM.

Meagan Barbee, PharmD will be evaluating pharmacodynamic markers of outcomes in phase I relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma patients. As treatment of malignancies moves from cytotoxic therapy to targeted therapy, dosing approaches are moving from a "maximum tolerable dose" to an "optimal biologic dose" perpetuating the need for pharmacodynamic markers of response and survival. Thus, this research could be pivotal in confirming such a marker, validating the utilization of the IMWG criteria in early phase myeloma clinical trials, and in supporting development decisions of new therapies.

Amir Kamel, PharmD will be researching the incidence of copper, zinc, selenium, L-carnitine, vitamin B6, vitamin B1, and vitamin C deficiencies in critically ill patients on Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT) that were referred to the Nutrition Support Service (NSS).
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!*

Peter M. Suresky     Shawn R. Akkerman
Priscilla L. Amos    Elizabeth R. Collins
Kelly B. Brooks      Claire Hope Economy
Suzanne P. Dix       Timothy E. Moore
Donna L. Topping     Robert A. Perallon
Mary Jensen Camp     Noreen T. Coady
Cynthia L. Osowski   Judith B. Forio
Helen Leather        Jennifer A. Nelson
Catherine A. Smith   Marti A. Williams
Maureen Haas         L. David Carver
Amy M. Barreras      W. Scott Chappell
Stephen Strickler    Letty A. Gibson
Amber Ng             Amy H. Matistic
Linda Bullock        Joseph R. Walker
Michael A. Hooks     Khanh Q. Bui
Mary V. Littleton    Robin R. Feuge
Lois Dent Hoppstein  Jill Ellen Michels
James Warren Atkens  Kerri S. Keefe
Lori A. Hinzl        Alison Kepple
Clev Tyre, Jr.       Joanne J. Orrick
Denise A. Bojarski Li Angela L. Kicklighter Mathis
Janet Fox            Corrie J. Lotz
Harold L. Nicks      Suzanne Nichols
Rebecca J. Johnson   Michael D. Westmoreland
Linda J. Pine        Amanda Beth Cox
Jack Y.C. Lee        Janet Cook
Donna S. Carr        Gara L. Coffey
Marilyn H. Borges    Jennifer L. Frederick
Daniel E. Buffington Brandi Opella Bishop
Richard C. Capps     Dedra D. Burns
Joyce M. Longley     Jason J. Everly
Mary Ellen Bond      Edo-abasi Umoh
Dianna Sue Merl      Fiona Tran
C. Scott Schlesman
Catherine S. Wade
Hang T. Nguyen
Robert L. Wilbur
Theresa A. Pollard

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