PGY2 INFECTIOUS DISEASE RESIDENCY (PEDIATRIC)

Program Overview
This residency program is a PGY2 residency in Infectious Diseases in a pediatric hospital. The program is a one-year commitment beginning around July 1, 2020. Over this year the PGY2 ID resident will be actively involved in clinical, research, and academic activities pertaining to antimicrobial stewardship and infectious diseases activities at Connecticut Children’s and UCONN. Additional information can be found at: https://pharmacy.uconn.edu/residencies-fellowships/

UCONN

UCONN School of Pharmacy is located in Storrs CT, which is about 30 minutes from Hartford. The school is a top ranked school by US News & World Reports and is #1 in New England. The school also has more than half of pharmacy students go on to residency training and is #1 in pharmacy residency matching in New England.

CT Children’s

CT Children’s is a 187 bed freestanding children’s hospital (located next door to Hartford Hospital). The hospital includes PICU and NICU patients, which make up almost 50% of its beds. CT Children’s is consistently named among the best in the nation for several of its pediatric specialties in the annual US News & World Report “Best Children’s Hospitals” rankings. The hospital provides care in many pediatric subspecialties including: hematology/oncology, cardiology, gastroenterology, nephrology, pulmonology, neurology, infectious disease, endocrinology, rheumatology, rehabilitation, child psychiatry, human genetics, orthopedics, and surgical subspecialties to provide comprehensive.
Infectious Diseases Service

The infectious diseases team at CT Children’s includes attending physicians, pediatric medical residents, a pharmacist, an APRN, the pharmacy ID residents, and often medical and/or pharmacy students. The service manages a wide array of inpatients and outpatients with acute and chronic infectious diseases. Some common infections that are seen include chronic and severe skin infections, bone and joint infections, Lyme disease and other tick borne infections, HIV/AIDS, travel related diseases, pulmonary infectious in Cystic Fibrosis, as well as infections in immunocompromised patients. In addition to the patients with infectious diseases, the team also provides evaluations and treatments for immunodeficiencies and travel medicine.

Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP)

The ASP at CT Children’s was created in 2009 and has been expanding ever since. The ASP practices continuous quality improvement as a method to improve antimicrobial therapy for our patients. Additionally, daily practices include patient antimicrobial design, assessment, review and monitoring. Review for all restricted medications. The ASP is also involved in designing and monitoring of antimicrobial usage in clinical pathways well as creation and monitoring of antimicrobial protocols to continue to optimize hospital wide antimicrobial usage. The ASP provides education to physicians, nurses, and pharmacists on appropriate antimicrobial usage. The ASP also provides hospital staff with a monthly newsletter. Over the years, the ASP has demonstrated an impact in improving appropriate usage of antimicrobials based on indication as well as reducing the use of broad spectrum antibiotics and total antibiotics usage, as measured by days of therapy per 1000 patient days.

Pharmacy

The CT Children’s pharmacy department includes about 20 pharmacist FTEs to provide 24/7 coverage for the Hartford campus. The pharmacy department has clinical pharmacists assigned to each of the following floors: PICU, NICU, Med/Surg, and Hematology/Oncology.

Technology

The use of technology for efficiency includes: EPIC/Willow as the electronic medical record, Theradoc for ASP review and reporting, PHIS for antibiotic benchmarking, a bar-code enabled carousel to optimize space in the pharmacy, the use of Dose Edge for IV verification, Omni-Cell for drug distribution.
Rotations

**Required Experiences:**

- Orientation
- Clinical Pediatric Infectious Diseases (3 months)
- Pediatric Antimicrobial Stewardship (6 months)
- Hospital Administration (11 months)
- Pharmacy Practice Management (staffing, 12 months)
- Microbiology (6 months)
- Research Project
- Outpatient Pediatric Infectious Disease (6 months)
- Academia (11 months)

**Elective Experiences:**

- Solid organ transplant
- Emergency medicine
- Critical care (NICU or PICU)
- Hematology/Oncology
- Focused Academia
- Adult antimicrobial stewardship

**Other Experiences**

Pharmacist education, case presentations, journal clubs, medication monograph(s), ASP Newsletter, drug use evaluation/quality improvement project(s), major research project, clinical protocol/pathway development, review article(s)

**Application & Process**

To apply you must:

- have graduated from an ACPE accredited school of pharmacy & completed a PGY1 accredited pharmacy residency,
- be able to be licensed in Connecticut as a pharmacist by July 1, 2020,
- adhere to the rules of the resident matching program process including utilize the PHORCAS (Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application),
- submitted all material by January 1, 2020,

Applicants with experience in pediatrics and infectious diseases / antimicrobial stewardship on rotation, research, and/or job experiences will be preferred. In addition to specific knowledge, significant clinical experience participating as part of an inter-professional healthcare team is also preferred.
The application process:

• Interested candidates will complete the application via PHORCAS: including letter of intent, curriculum vitae, official transcripts, and three letters of recommendations. At least 2 of the letters of recommendation should be from clinical preceptors at PGY1 program. All reference writers are requested to provide comments on the candidate’s clinical knowledge, experiences working with other healthcare providers, ability to multi-task and willingness to accept constructive criticism, and strength of communication skills.

• The residency advisory committee (RAC) will review and rank all applications that are complete by the application deadline, using a predetermined process.

• Applicants will be invited to an in-person interview (at their own expense).

• All candidates who completed the in-person interview will be evaluated and considered for ranking by the RAC. After the RAC meeting the ranked candidates will be submitted to the residency matching program.

Benefits

Benefits include: Salary, Health Insurance, Parking for the hospital, Time off and Tuition/travel costs to meetings to present research and/or recruit future residents

Residency Preceptors for 2019-2020 Residency Year

Jennifer Girotto, PharmD, BCPPS, BCIDP
Residency Program Director; Co-Director Antimicrobial Stewardship, Connecticut Children’s Associate Clinical Professor of Pharmacy Practice & Pediatrics, University of Connecticut
Email: jgirotto@connecticutchildrens.org  Phone: 860-837-5589

Melissa Held, MD
Pediatric Infectious Disease Physician, CT Children’s Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Assistant Dean for Medical Education, University of Connecticut

Femi Felix-Ukwu, PharmD
Pediatric Critical Care Pharmacy Specialist
Connecticut Children’s

Kristin Linder, PharmD, BCPS
Infectious Diseases Specialist
Hartford Hospital

Heather Kutzler, PharmD
Solid Organ Transplant Specialist
Hartford Hospital

Joanna Young, PharmD, BCPS
Pediatric Clinical Pharmacy Specialist
Connecticut Children’s
Current Residents

Betool Al-Mazraawy, PharmD
Email: BAlmazraawy@connecitcutchildrens.org
Education and Post Graduate Training:
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency, Yale New Haven Hospital (2019)
Doctor of Pharmacy, University of St. Joseph (2018); Bachelor of Science, Molecular and Cell Biology, University of Connecticut (2015)

Lauren Puckett, PharmD
Email: LPuckett@connecitcutchildrens.org
Education and Post Graduate Training:
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency, Medical University of South Carolina (2019)
Doctor of Pharmacy, University of Houston (2018); Bachelor of Science, Biochemistry, Texas A&M University (2013)

Past Residents

Grant Stimes, PharmD, MPA, BCPS
Current Position: Antimicrobial Stewardship Pharmacist, Texas Children’s Hospital
Education and Post Graduate Training:
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency, Iowa Hospital and Clinic (2018)
Doctor of Pharmacy & Masters of Public Administration, Drake University (2017)

Kailynn DeRonde, PharmD, BCIDP
Current Position: Infectious Diseases Clinical Pharmacist, Holtz Women and Children’s Hospital / Jackson Memorial Hospital
Education and Post Graduate Training:
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency, Children’s Hospital Colorado (2017); Doctor of Pharmacy, University of Colorado Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (2016)

Brittany Rodriguez, PharmD, BCIDP
Current Position: Antimicrobial Stewardship Pharmacist, Texas Children’s Hospital
Education and Post Graduate Training:
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency, Children’s Hospital of San Antonio, CHRIST’S Santa Rosa Healthcare System (2016); Doctor of Pharmacy, Feik School of Pharmacy (2015)

Aimee Dassner, PharmD, BCIDP
Current Position: Antimicrobial Stewardship Pharmacist, Dallas Children’s Medical Center
Education and Post Graduate Training:
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency, Atlantic Health System (2015); Doctor of Pharmacy, Creighton University (2014); Bachelors of Science, Biology, Lafayette College (2010)
Heather Magsarili, PharmD
Current Position: Drug Information Pharmacist, MedImpact, San Diego California
Education and Post Graduate Training:
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency, Children’s Medical Center Dallas (2014); Doctor of Pharmacy, University of Arizona (2013)

Past Trainee’s of Dr. Girotto’s from another Program
Joshua Courter, PharmD
Current Position: Antimicrobial Stewardship Pharmacist, Cincinnati Children’s Medical Center
Education: Doctor of Pharmacy, The Ohio State University (2007)

Renee Fallon, PharmD
Current Position: Director of Pharmacy Clinical Services, Maine Medical Center
Education: Doctor of Pharmacy, University of Rhode Island (2005)