A few words from the faculty:

“The COE Program’s approach in providing care is astounding for VA patients, while exemplifying educational training standards for the Primary care resident. This multidisciplinary approach to health-care improves inter-professional communication skills, while allowing practitioners from varying disciplines to share their knowledge. It is a true honor and pleasure working in the COE; being able to serve those whom have served our country is very rewarding.”

-Louis D’Onofrio, APRN, NP-C

"The COE is an innovation in health care delivery and training. The patient gets better care, because the team works together to meet the patient's needs. Regardless of the professional pathway you choose, a solid grounding in outpatient-based clinical medicine is essential. VACHS is a national leader in primary care."

- Anne Hyson, MD

Our academic affiliates:

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Our academic affiliates:

The primary training site for the VA COE is at the West Haven VA and the secondary site is located in Newington, CT.

VA CT Healthcare System
Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education (CoEPCE)

Nurse Practitioner Residency Program
Academic Year 2018-2019
The VA CT Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education (CoEPCE)
Postgraduate NP Residency Program

What is the COE?
The Center of Excellence (COE) is an innovative team-based primary care clinic that trains internal medicine residents from Yale University and University of CT Primary Care Residency Programs alongside post-graduate Nurse Practitioner (NP) residents, Pharmacy residents, Health Psychology residents, Physical Therapy residents, and Social Work trainees. Teams are led by interprofessional faculty and supported by registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs), and health technicians (HTs) who work collaboratively with residents within the patient-centered medical home (PCMH) model. Since 2010, the VA CT COE is one of seven national sites to champion interprofessional primary care in an academic setting. To date, more than 100 healthcare professionals have been trained at this site and close to 1000 residents have been trained across all sites.

NP Residency Goal: To prepare and facilitate the transition of new NPs through the interprofessional training program by providing education, role modeling and mentoring as NP residents develop advanced nursing practice, leadership and scholarly skills.

Advanced Nursing Practice:
Support the use of evidence-based knowledge in an Interprofessional practice environment to develop competent, confident and collaborative nurse practitioners capable of embracing new ideas, facilitating change.

Leadership:
Provide an environment where NP residents can receive mentoring in leadership strategies to lead and improve collaborative, interprofessional healthcare teams and provide highly-effective care to diverse and complex populations of patients.

Scholarship:
Promote scholarly opportunities in research, professional presentations and engagement in teaching and learning sessions designed to improve outcomes in primary care and other healthcare systems.

Advanced Clinical and Educational Experiences:
- Continuity clinics in Primary Care with expert NP and physician preceptors
- Assigned to Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACT) as associate primary care provider.
- Rotation through specialty clinics
- Continuous inter-professional training with COE/PACT model of high performance in an integrated, medical home system
- Weekly didactic sessions for common medical conditions seen in primary care

Nurse Practitioners: The COE offered the first interprofessional NP residency program in the country, which consists of a full-time 12-month post-graduate Adult Primary Care NP residency. NP residents receive a stipend and full-time benefits. Core NP faculty act as preceptors and educators.

Medical Doctors: The COE is one of several primary ambulatory sites for Yale Internal Medicine residents. Education consists of intensive two-to-four week immersion blocks for a total of 11 to 12 months over three years of residency training. Core MD faculty act as preceptors and educators.

Pharmacists: Pharmacy residents participate in one month rotations at the COE. They fully immerse with the interprofessional teams in clinic and education sessions. Pharmacy residents have the option for a longitudinal experience. A full-time COE faculty pharmacist precepts residents and teaches education sessions.

Health Psychologists: Clinical Health Psychology post-doctoral residents provide clinical support for psychological & behavioral health concerns, as well as help develop and teach interprofessional educational programs. A full-time faculty health psychologist supervises Health Psychology residents.

Physical Therapists: Physical therapy faculty and residents provide five half-day sessions every week to assist trainees with musculoskeletal exams, gait assessments, and issuing appropriate assistive devices during resident clinics. They also participate in education sessions and lead a musculoskeletal physical exam workshop.

Evaluation Team: The Research & Evaluation Team provides support and coordination for research & quality improvement projects for all residents and faculty.

Additionally:
- Competitive Salary for Residency Programs