



## Samuel S. Stratton VAMC PGY1 Pharmacy Residency

113 Holland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208

The Samuel S. Stratton VAMC is a 150 bed tertiary care facility located in the heart of New York's capitol. Along with 10 community based outpatient clinics, this institution works to provide comprehensive healthcare to more than 25,000 Veterans each year. The VA medical center provides a full range of outpatient and inpatient services, including services for those residing in our community living center (CLC). The Stratton VAMC is dedicated to teaching and educating future healthcare professionals, and maintains affiliations with Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (ACPHS); Western New England College of Pharmacy; Binghamton University; and Albany Medical College. This allows for a variety of didactic teaching and precepting opportunities that can be tailored to the resident's clinical interests. The ASHP Accreditation Standard for Postgraduate Year One (PGY1) Pharmacy Residency Programs establishes criteria for residency programs building upon Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) education and outcomes to contribute to the development of clinical pharmacists responsible for medication-related care of patients with a wide range of conditions, eligible for board certification, and eligible for Postgraduate Year Two (PGY2) pharmacy residency training.

### Application Requirements

- ✚ Apply through PhORCAS
- ✚ Letter of intent
- ✚ Curriculum vitae
- ✚ Official college transcript
- ✚ Three (3) recommendations (at least 1 APPE preceptor and 1 past/current employer)
- ✚ VA form #10-2850c and #OF-306 available at [www.va.gov/vaforms](http://www.va.gov/vaforms)
- ✚ Supplemental questionnaire which can be accessed from the ASHP residency listing

### Benefits:

- ✚ Stipend: \$48,408 (approximate)
- ✚ Leave:
  - 13 days paid annual leave
  - 13 days paid sick leave
  - 10 paid federal holiday
- ✚ Health/life insurance, free parking, lab coats & scrubs, dual appointment

### Learning Experiences

Required Core Block Rotations	Elective Block Rotations	Longitudinal Experiences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Outpatient (3 weeks)</li> <li>✚ Transitional Care (2 weeks)</li> <li>✚ Primary care (two 6 week rotations)</li> <li>✚ Pain management</li> <li>✚ Behavioral health</li> <li>✚ Pharmacy Administration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Inpatient</li> <li>✚ Anticoagulation</li> <li>✚ Nephrology/dialysis</li> <li>✚ Medication Safety</li> <li>✚ Rheumatology</li> <li>✚ Additional primary care rotations</li> <li>✚ Optional teaching certificate program</li> </ul> <p>*Elective rotations are 4 weeks long</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Community Living Center</li> <li>✚ Adverse Drug Reaction Monitoring</li> </ul>

### Contact Information

#### PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Director

Amy Murdico, PharmD, BCPS  
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 518-626-5731

#### Current Residents

Brittany Henault: [Brittany.Henault@va.gov](mailto:Brittany.Henault@va.gov)  
 Lucy Keers: [Lucy.Keers@va.gov](mailto:Lucy.Keers@va.gov)



**Primary Care [REQUIRED/ELECTIVE]**

Red Team, Blue Team, Rural Health, Silver Team

The resident will take part in management of diabetes, HTN, asthma/COPD, tobacco use disorder, HLD, and others as they relate to the ambulatory care setting. Silver team serves patients 75 and older. Rural health is completed at off-campus clinics. The resident will interact with providers to resolve drug-related problems, answer drug information questions, and recommend formulary alternatives.

**Outpatient Pharmacy [REQUIRED]**

This rotation provides the resident opportunities to become proficient in analyzing and processing electronic prescription orders while having the ability to access computerized patient information including progress notes and labs. The resident will communicate with prescribers to rectify drug-related problems. Additionally, the resident will gain experience in outpatient dispensing, checking prescriptions, and counseling patients in the outpatient pharmacy.

**Inpatient ; Transitional Care Pharmacy [ELECTIVE & REQUIRED]**

This rotation provides the resident opportunities to become proficient in analyzing and processing electronic prescription orders while having the ability to access labs & progress notes. The resident will communicate with prescribers to rectify drug-related problems. The resident will get experience in antimicrobial stewardship, anticoagulation monitoring, critical care rounds, medication reconciliation services, and discharge counseling while working within a multidisciplinary health care team.

**ADR Monitoring [LONGITUDINAL]**

This rotation is designed to have the resident evaluate reported adverse drug reactions.

**Community Living Center (CLC) [LONGITUDINAL]**

The Stratton VA Community Living Center (CLC) provides long-term skilled nursing care, as well as short-term restorative and rehabilitative care to the veteran population. The resident will be responsible for conducting comprehensive medication reviews for CLC patients and communicating any patient care needs to a multi-disciplinary team.

**Pain Management [REQUIRED]**

This rotation is focused on chronic, non-cancer pain management with some opportunity for acute pain intervention. Conditions such as anxiety disorder, PTSD, and depression offer daily occasions to spotlight drug-drug interactions and psychopharmacology. Serum monitoring and UDS interpretation are important PK parameters requiring daily input. The resident will be part of an IDT that includes specialty providers and will serve as a mentor for P4 pharmacy students.

**Anticoagulation Clinic [ELECTIVE]**

This rotation allows residents to develop skills as independent practitioners in a pharmacist-run outpatient Anticoagulation Clinic ± an emphasis in CHF clinic. Residents will actively participate in various aspects of anticoagulation management, including but not limited to, therapeutic drug monitoring of warfarin, DOACs, and periprocedural anticoagulation management.

**Nephrology & Dialysis [ELECTIVE]**

The pharmacy resident will participate in identifying and resolving medication therapy issues for the nephrology/dialysis population. The pharmacy resident will also participate in reviews of patient profiles for appropriateness of drug dosing and will gain confidence in adjusting medication regimens in the renal population, specifically in anemia management.

**Pharmacy Administration [REQUIRED]**

The resident will experience various administrative aspects of the Pharmacy Service to include global management of pharmacy services. The resident will also be able to assist with the residency application and interview process.

**Behavioral Health [REQUIRED]**

This rotation exposes the resident to various mental health conditions (PTSD, Depression, Anxiety, Bipolar Disorder, Schizophrenia, Substance Use Disorders, etc.) and allows the resident to develop skills in the assessment and management of these conditions. Residents will participate in the following: patient interviews, substance abuse and medication education group, mental status exams, assessments (Suicide Risk Assessment, AIMS, etc.), therapeutic drug monitoring of psychotropic medications (lithium, valproic acid, etc.), and side effect management.

**Rheumatology [ELECTIVE]**

The clinic is staffed by physicians and other clinicians (medical residents, fellows, and students) who specialize in rheumatology. The resident will interact with Rheumatologists, Fellows, Residents and Nurses. The resident will be responsible for designing, implementing, assessing, monitoring, and documenting therapeutic plans utilizing the most effective, least toxic and most economical medication treatments in order to achieve positive patient centric outcomes through direct and indirect interactions with patients, providers, and interdisciplinary teams.

**Medication Safety [ELECTIVE]**

This elective rotation will provide the resident with an opportunity to participate in a learning experience with exposure to medication and patient safety. The pharmacist is an integral member of the healthcare team who works closely with the patient safety office to investigate near miss and patient errors that took place in the pharmacy department and works closely with the patient safety manager.