

VA Pharmacy Pocatello Residency Rotation Description

The Pocatello, Idaho is a unique ambulatory care practice environment. The resident will be stationed in a VA community based outreach clinic (CBOC) providing primary care to Veterans living in Pocatello and the surrounding area. The resident will have pharmacists and providers as preceptors. Resident activities are longitudinal and may be tailored to experience and interest but center on primary care experiences. Successful residents develop communication, interpersonal, and clinical skills with time and experience until they function as an independent practitioner. The core rotations listed below describe the foundation for the Pocatello PGY1 experience.

Pocatello, Idaho PGY1 Core Rotations/experiences:

1. **Disease State Management:** This longitudinal experience provides the resident with daily opportunities to participate in the management of a variety of chronic and acute disease states. The resident will develop a panel of patients and follow them closely for the duration of the residency. While diabetes, hypertension and hyperlipidemia are very commonly encountered, the resident will gain experience with anti-coagulation, pain, COPD, CHF, gout, mental health and a variety of cancers are also frequently encountered. The resident will gain confidence in assessment of the encountered diseases and development of complete care plans for each patient. Efforts will be made to tailor this experience to the resident's interests and needs.
2. **Medication Use Systems:** The resident will learn the medication use systems used within the VA Healthcare system. This longitudinal experience will allow the resident to become fluent in the role of the staff pharmacist in the VA including activities such as processing orders, dispensing medication for immediate needs, counseling and responding to patient phone calls. The resident will have the opportunity to contribute significantly to this process and identify and institute improvements when the need arises.
3. **Teaching and Education:** The resident will have the opportunity to become affiliate faculty at Idaho State University. This experience allows the resident to facilitate case study discussions and present therapeutics lectures to ISU students. In addition, there is also an opportunity to earn a teaching certificate through ISU.
4. **Medication Information:** The resident is responsible for providing timely and accurate drug information to patients and providers as requested. The opportunity to provide journal club and presentations to clinic staff will also be provided.
5. **Management:** Various aspects of health system management will be explored through a variety of activities and experiences. The resident will gain valuable insight, skills and experience that will help them develop management oriented decision making skills.
6. **Adult Medicine:** This experience is designed to be a 4-8 week rotation and offers the resident the chance to gain acute care, in-patient experience. The resident will participate in a multidisciplinary health care team to deliver pharmaceutical care and provide recommendations to the appropriate team members. Participation in this rotation is meant to provide the resident with a well rounded education and to provide insight into continuity of care issues. This rotation may take place in Salt Lake City, it is highly recommended though not required.
7. **Staffing:** The staffing component of this residency will be accomplished through significant contributions to direct patient care and the staff pharmacist work load throughout the regular work week for the CBOC, hours for the clinic are 8:00-4:30 Monday-Friday. It is expected that the resident will work late when necessary to complete patient care and staffing tasks.