Pharmacy Residency Programs:

1. Barnabas Health Behavioral Health Center
2. Clara Maass Medical Center
3. Community Medical Center
4. Jersey City Medical Center
5. Monmouth Medical Center
6. Newark Beth Israel Medical Center
7. RWJ University Hospital New Brunswick
8. RWJ University Hospital Somerset
9. Saint Barnabas Medical Center
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Pharmacy Residency Program Information

RWJBarnabas Health offers American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)-accredited PGY-1 and PGY-2 pharmacy residency programs. Through these programs, residents are given the opportunity to work in interdisciplinary care teams to enhance their skills in evidence-based, patient-centered medication management, and to perform pharmacy practice research that is presented at ASHP’s Midyear Meeting and at the Eastern States Conference for Pharmacy Residents and Preceptors.

The purpose of a pharmacy residency is to train highly motivated, team-oriented pharmacy residents on advanced patient care skills, teaching techniques, and practice-based research methods, preparing them to be leaders of change in the medical and academic communities. The residency provides residents the opportunity to participate in multidisciplinary practice and has been designed to meet all standards and requirements of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. Learning experiences are offered in the following areas:

- Administration
- Ambulatory care
- Cardiology
- Community outreach
- Corporate Administration
- Critical care
- Drug information
- Emergency medicine
- General hospital pharmacy
- Hospital dispensing/staffing
- Infectious disease
- Internal medicine
- Oncology
- Pediatrics
- Pharmacy Informatics
- Pharmacy Reimbursement
- Transplant

As of 2017, each RWJBarnabas Health facility offers the following number of PGY-1 pharmacy residency positions per year:

1. Barnabas Health Behavioral Health: Two
2. Clara Maass Medical Center: Two
3. Community Medical Center: One
4. Jersey City Medical Center: Two
5. Monmouth Medical Center: Two
6. Newark Beth Israel Medical Center: Two
7. RWJ—New Brunswick: Two
8. RWJ—Somerset: Two
9. Saint Barnabas Medical Center: Four

As of 2017, RWJBarnabas Health offers the following number of PGY-2 pharmacy residency positions per year:

- Community Medical Center: One; Critical Care

In addition, RWJBarnabas has partnered with the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers, The State University to serve as practice sites for several PGY-2 pharmacy residency positions per year:

1. Monmouth Medical Center: One; Neuro-Psychopharmacology
2. RWJ—New Brunswick: Two; both in Emergency Medicine
3. RWJ—New Brunswick: Two; both in Drug Information
4. Saint Barnabas Medical Center: One; Pediatrics Pharmacotherapy

Over the course of the past 5 years, The Pharmacy Enterprise has retained more than 33 residents, representing a 44% retention rate. The RWJBarnabas Health residency programs started with one resident in 1993 and has grown to 26 residents in 2017.
“Pharmacy graduates who take the additional step of residency have the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills learned in school to real patients, situations, and settings. Our residents, provide research that has a legacy of providing patient safety, outcomes and education to all of our practitioners.”

- Robert Adamson

“You have all had varied experiences over the last year, which continues to mold and influence how you are as a person. As you embark on different journeys this July, remember to embrace the “3 P’s”: Align your passion with purpose on the foundation of a plan and you will find fulfillment in whatever you choose in life. I wish you all the greatest success.”

- Indu Lew
Barnabas Health Behavioral Health Center (BHBH) is a 100-bed inpatient acute care psychiatric facility located in Toms River, NJ. It also has partial hospitalization and intensive outpatient programs for adults. The hospital offers specialized psychiatric pharmacy rotations to pharmacy students and residents.

What advice do you have for this year’s residents as they embark on their careers?

This residency offers numerous opportunities and encourages autonomy. I strongly encourage new residents to take advantage of every opportunity and get involved as much as possible. The primary goal is to have you graduate this residency with a better understanding of pharmacy practice in general, as well as a specialized focus in behavioral health.
Nicole grew up in New Jersey, went to pharmacy school at Rutgers, and remained in New Jersey after graduation. She had always had a prior interest in psychiatric pharmacy, having the opportunity to have a rotation at Monmouth Medical Center as a student. Following PGY-1 residency, Nicole will be pursuing a PGY-2 neuropsychiatric residency through Rutgers.

Poster/presentations:
- Implementation of a QTc interval protocol by pharmacists to decrease cardiac risk in at-risk patients in an acute care inpatient psychiatric facility
- Neuropsychiatric Pharmacy Overview Presentation
- Drugs of Abuse Presentation

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?
Nicole’s favorite thing about residency has been the level of support she has received from her colleagues. Her pharmacy director and clinical coordinator have offered her every opportunity to succeed and advance her career, and are always supportive of different interests and ideas she has had to further her education and practice in the field. This residency has shown Nicole just how many different available paths exist for pharmacists and the impact a pharmacist can have on healthcare and she plans to utilize that going forward.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?
Nicole’s most memorable experience was ASHP Midyear. It was such a massive congregation of pharmacists sharing ideas and networking and displaying research. It definitely was an enjoyable experience.

Gary was born and raised in Toms River, NJ. He graduated from Temple University School of Pharmacy in 2017. During his time in pharmacy school, he worked as a pharmacy technician at Barnabas Health Behavioral Health Center. Upon graduation, he transitioned into the role of pharmacy resident. After completing his PGY-1 residency, Gary will be pursuing a PGY-2 psychiatric pharmacy residency at Nova Southeastern University in Davie, Florida. Gary’s pharmacy interests include psychopharmacology, long-acting injectable antipsychotics, addiction and substance use disorder treatment, and neurology. Outside of pharmacy, Gary loves to play and watch ice hockey, spend time outdoors and attend concerts.

Poster/presentations:
- Ziconotide-Induced Psychosis: A Case Report and Literature Review. CPNP Annual Meeting. April 2018
- Increasing compliance of metabolic monitoring of patients taking scheduled antipsychotics in an acute care inpatient psychiatric hospital. CPNP Annual Meeting. April 2018
- Increasing compliance of metabolic monitoring of patients taking scheduled antipsychotics in an acute care inpatient psychiatric hospital. ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting. December 2017

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?
Gary’s favorite aspect of residency at RWJBH is the friendships formed with other residents and clinical staff around the system. The opportunity to complete a residency allows him to continually learn from the excellent staff at RWJBH.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?
Gary’s most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH was the trip to Orlando for ASHP’s Mid-Year Clinical Meeting.

Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:
Gary has been able to complete rotations at Community Medical Center, Jersey City Medical Center and the Corporate Pharmacy Office. These rotations exposed him to a wide range of pharmacy practice which has helped him develop as a pharmacy clinician.
Clara Maass Medical Center (CMMC) is a 469-bed acute care hospital located in Belleville, NJ. The pharmacy department is affiliated with the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, and Farleigh Dickinson University. The pharmacy offers a variety of patient care services, including patient medication and disease state counseling for those most at risk for readmission, pharmacy managed dosing for high-risk medications, and pharmacy involvement in rapid response teams and all medical emergencies. The pharmacy residency program includes a robust number of rotations in acute care that will prepare the residents to practice in a variety of situations as an independent member of the health care team.

What advice do you have for this year’s residents as they embark on their careers?

Our advice for this year’s residents include a mindset for self-directed learning, to keep an open mind to different experiences (especially those not covered in a rotation syllabus), and to learn as much as possible from your colleagues who all have a wealth of knowledge.

Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:

Our pharmacy maintains great relationships with other areas of the hospital. Some interesting experiences that the residents were able to be a part of include watching a variety of surgeries (incision and debridement and an organ harvest for transplant) and bedside procedures (line insertions, chest tube insertions, lumbar punctures, cardiac caths, transesophageal echocardiograms, cardioversion, and dialysis). Residents are also expected to respond to all rapid responses and medical emergencies to further improve their clinical readiness in acute care.
Brandon was born and raised in New Jersey. He has lived in West Caldwell, NJ for the past 20 years, with a brief year in Shanghai, China. He is an avid reader of fantasy and fiction novels and loves watching a variety of movies.

His interest in pharmacy stems from a love of the sciences and a passion for helping others. He graduated from the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy’s six year program and is now working through his PGY1 residency in acute care. His fields of interest include critical care and emergency medicine. He is excited to go through his community and trauma ED rotations next.

Poster/presentations:
- **Residency project:** Prospective evaluation of aminopenicillins in treatment of vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus urinary tract infections
- Procalcitonin for Infectious Disease Committee
- Spinal Anesthesia In-service for pharmacists
- Dialysis Review In-service for pharmacists

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?

Brandon’s favorite residency experience has been interacting with a pharmacy department that is passionate about patient care. He chose to undergo a residency in order to gain more hands-on experience to practice as an independent member of the multi-disciplinary team. The residency so far has been an eye-opening experience that has highlighted all of the different opportunities pharmacists and the pharmacy department itself have in optimizing and improving patient care. The pharmacy at Clara Maass Medical Center continues to strive to facilitate quality services to its patients and Brandon is excited to be a member of the team.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?

Brandon’s most memorable experiences so far have been attending code blues. One of his goals of residency is to be able to assist in a resuscitation effort as a member of the interdisciplinary team. Recently, he attended a code later in the evening where his co-resident, Ellie, and him were the first to arrive. Both of them helped to initiate the ACLS algorithm, CPR, and monitoring equipment prior to physician arrival. Ultimately, the patient survived after being down for about half an hour. The event shows the culmination of our skills gained so far throughout the residency.

Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:

Other upcoming projects for Brandon include a process evaluation for the procalcitonin lab value. This will include an MUE, an in-service, and will likely be continued as a possible residency project for the next year.
Ellie is from Quito, Ecuador, Atlanta, Georgia, and different parts of NJ. After completing her undergraduate degree in chemistry, she graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University School of Pharmacy for her Doctorate of Pharmacy. She is now a PGY-1 resident at Clara Maass Medical Center. Ellie’s plan after residency is to continue her practice in hospital pharmacy, become an excellent and reliable clinical pharmacist, and make good change in the pharmacy practice. She has been and is still interested in informatics and infectious disease, but she enjoys acute care in general. If and when she has free time, she cherishes time with her cat, O.G., watches cooking and talent shows, and enjoys extracurricular activities, including hiking, traveling to museums, going to concerts, and eating outside with friends.

**Poster/presentations:**

- Evaluation of Opioid Stewardship at a Community Hospital.

**What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?**

Ellie’s favorite thing about residency has been getting better at responding to codes in particular. It has been a gradual experience, but she loves being able to help in an emergent setting. Ellie also loves eating with her coworkers. Residency means to be completely immersed in a challenging, fulfilling, exciting experience where you slowly learn to believe in yourself to make important decisions and become a reliable agent of help.

**What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?**

Ellie’s most memorable experiences include my interactions with people. She was initially afraid to approach, but learned so much from, including patients, my coworkers, the corporate team, strangers she met through my presentations at NJSHP and ASHP Midyear.

**Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:**

As a resident at CMMC, Ellie has had the opportunity to respond to all codes and rapid responses, view bedside procedures (access placements, including UDALL, central line, permacath, arterial line, imaging, including TEE, TTE, US, MRI), OR procedures (liver harvest, femoral-to-popliteal bypass grafts, EKOS), and assist in daily activities in the administrative office. She is also in the process of completing her Teaching Certificate portfolio for final certification and will be precepting an IPPE student in May.
Community Medical Center (CMC) is a 596-bed community hospital located in Toms River, New Jersey. It has been in service since 1961 offering a wide variety of services including: highly advanced surgical procedures, three Intensive Care Units, and one of the busiest emergency departments in the East Coast. The pharmacy department at CMC is responsible for the verification and distribution of all medications within the hospital with specialized clinical services in the following therapeutic areas:

- Critical care
- Internal medicine
- Geriatrics
- Emergency medicine
- Infectious disease
- Research
- Academia

PGY-1 residents have the opportunity to experience a variety of rotations including: Drug information and medical writing, Internal medicine, Critical care, Emergency medicine, Transitions of care, Local and corporate administration, and Decentralized pharmacy practice. CMC also offers a PGY-2 in Critical Care which provides the advanced training ideal for critical care pharmacy specialist and/or clinical faculty positions. During their PGY-2s, residents are responsible for providing care in medical ICU, surgical ICU, cardiac care unit (CCU) and emergency department while undergoing longitudinal experiences in cardiac arrest response team, academia, and administration.

What advice do you have for this year’s residents as they embark on their careers?

“In any role, continue to challenge yourself to be the best possible.” - Jess

“Step out of your comfort zone and take advantage of every opportunity that is presented to you.” - Joe

“Make the most of your residency year and fill your CV with every opportunity available. While a good program will set you on the path towards success, it is up to you to take the steps. Tackle any areas you are not comfortable with by jumping in head first. This is the year you are allowed to make mistakes, and you will come out on the other side a stronger clinical pharmacist.” - Jesse
Hamza ElHaouati was born and raised in Casablanca, Morocco until the age of 18 where he decided to move across the globe after being offered a soccer scholarship at the University of Tampa (UT). He graduated from UT with B.S. in Chemistry before joining the University of South Florida for an accelerated MBA. In 2013, he joined Fairleigh Dickinson University School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences for a Doctorate of Pharmacy which he completed in May 2017. Immediately after completing his PharmD, Hamza joined Community Medical Center as a PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident. After residency, Hamza intends on returning to his home country of Morocco and practice there as a professor of pharmacotherapy at the Université Internationale Abulcasis des Sciences de la Santé. He has always found a true passion in teaching and a residency at Community Medical Center has allowed him to grow professionally and personally. Outside of pharmacy, Hamza enjoys soccer and plays in an amateur league in New Jersey. Soccer has been a major influence in Hamza’s life and today, it represents the perfect getaway from the daily routine and stress of life.

**Poster/presentations:**
- **Poster:** Pharmacist Survey Stratifying Perceived Importance of Responsibilities and Clinical Tasks
- **Eastern States/Prospective Project (Platform Presentation):** Prospective Utilization of a Pharmacist Developed Evaluation Form on the Clinical Cure Rates of *Clostridium difficile* Infections
- **Continuing education:** Lyme Disease – Presented at Community Medical Center

**Patient Safety Committee:**
- Retrospective Chart Analysis of Falls at Community Medical Center Between 01/2018-03/2018
- Hypnotics Medication Utilization Evaluation at CMC

**Other presentations:**
- Introduction to Biostatistics, Overview of Study designs, Management of Intracerebral Hemorrhage, Management of Sub-massive Pulmonary Embolism, and Management of Severe Acetaminophen Overdose

**Journal Clubs:**
- Propafenone for supraventricular arrhythmias in septic shock-Comparison to amiodarone and metoprolol
- Bezlotoxumab for Prevention of Recurrent *Clostridium difficile* Infection
- Uninterrupted Dabigatran versus Warfarin for Ablation in Atrial Fibrillation
- Ventricular Tachycardia Ablation versus Escalation of Antiarrhythmic Drugs
- WOMAN: reducing maternal deaths with tranexamic acid

**What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?**
Hamza’s favorite part about residency at RWJBH is the Leadership Forum. This has been such an amazing opportunity to develop close friendships with other residents within our health system. Hamza describes his sense of pride for what the residents at RWJBH have accomplished. Hamza describes residency as the perfect environment for a pharmacy graduate to grow professionally and personally. It offers the priceless opportunity for residents to learn from each of their preceptors and develop into a unique practitioner.

**What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?**
ASHP Midyear 2017 in Orlando. This was the perfect time for residents to connect and spend some time outside the hospitals. The best part however was the Residency Showcase. It was amazing to see the level of interest from prospective residents in residency positions within the health system. It was definitely a great reminder of the greatness of the opportunity to be part of an organization that hundreds of people thrive to see.

**Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:**
One of the major projects Hamza participated in is his direct involvement in our Patient Safety Committee. This committee is led by various members of the senior leadership team. The main area of his involvement revolved around falls at Community Medical Center. During the first meeting, Hamza presented an overview of insomnia and hypnotics. He also performed a Medication Utilization Evaluation of hypnotics at CMC and presented it to the committee. For the next meeting, Hamza intends on presenting an in depth analysis and chart review of all falls that occurred at CMC between 01/2018 and 03/2018.
Community Medical Center
Pharmacy Resident

Vishal Patel, PharmD,
PGY-2 Critical Care Pharmacy Resident

Pharmacy School: Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University
PGY-1 Site: Baptist Health Louisville
Post Residency Plan: Critical Care Clinical Specialist in the emergency department at Community Medical Center
Pharmacy Interests: Infectious diseases, emergency medicine, research
Non-Pharmacy Interests: Rock climbing, food, gaming
Poster/presentations:
- Appropriateness of Seizure Prophylaxis in Critically Ill Patients with Intracranial Hemorrhage. Presented at: 2018 Society of Critical Care Medicine 47th Critical Care Congress - San Antonio, Texas
- Cardiovascular Pharmacology. Presented at: Community Medical Center Medical-Surgical Nursing Symposium - Toms River, New Jersey
- Sepsis and the Role of Vitamin C. Presented at: Community Medical Center Nursing Grand Rounds - Toms River, New Jersey

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?

Vishal enjoyed the wonderful team that he has been able to work with at Community Medical Center. They have made the transition from a PGY-1 resident to a clinical specialist much smoother than he could have ever imagined.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?

One of the most memorable experiences has been the amount of exposure Vishal has gotten in leading code teams.
Jersey City Medical Center (JCMC) is a 350-bed acute care community teaching hospital overlooking the New York Harbor and Liberty State Park. It is a Level II Trauma Center and is the regional trauma center of Hudson County. JCMC also serves as a comprehensive stroke center for the state of NJ. The pharmacy department is affiliated with the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University via the Rutgers Faculty Internal Medicine clinical specialist, and there are several other clinical specialists in Infectious Diseases/Antimicrobial Stewardship, Critical Care, Emergency Medicine, Internal Medicine, and Psychiatry. Outside of these areas, there are also opportunities for other experiences, such as informational technology, and ambulatory care in the HIV clinic associated with the facility.

What advice do you have for this year’s residents as they embark on their careers?

Be open to all the opportunities that are at your disposal. Embrace being a member of a big family. And last but not least, take everything one day at a time.

Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:

Residents have the opportunity to participate in the Teaching and Learning Certificate affiliated with Rutgers University, as well as the Residency Leadership Forum associated with RWJBH.
Nicole Leonida, PharmD, PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

Jersey City Medical Center
Pharmacy Resident

Nicole was born and raised in Jersey City, NJ, and graduated from the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University in 2017. Her primary interests are critical care and emergency medicine, and she is currently seeking a full-time position for after residency. Outside of pharmacy, you’ll find her front and center in a Zumba class or out in the city on a food adventure.

Poster/presentations:
- Effect of pharmacy education and optimization of a computerized physician order entry system on dosing of direct oral anticoagulants. Poster presented at: ASHP 52nd Annual Midyear Clinical Meeting and Exhibition; 2017 Dec 3-7; Orlando, FL.
- Endocrine Review. 90-minute NAPLEX review presented at Rutgers EMSOP Prep Week 2018.

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?

For Nicole, residency is a step on the path to become a clinical specialist. Her favorite thing about being a resident at RWJBH is that she instantly expanded her network without even realizing it; she became a member of a big family that has helped her succeed during residency and will support her in her future career endeavors.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?

As much as her interactions with patients and health care professionals are memorable, one of Nicole’s most memorable experiences was the two weeks she spent at the corporate office. She learned what it means to be part of a big health system, especially when it comes to implementing changes.

Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:

The Residency Leadership Forum has taught Nicole skills that she would not learn at any other point during residency. It also helped her form friendships with her fellow residents within RWJBH.
Located two blocks from the ocean in Long Branch, N.J., Monmouth Medical Center (MMC), a RWJBarnabas Health facility, along with The Children’s Hospital at MMC, is one of New Jersey's largest academic medical centers and has been a teaching affiliate of Philadelphia’s Drexel University College of Medicine for more than 40 years. In 2012, MMC celebrated its 125th anniversary. From its earliest days, MMC has been a leader in surgical advancement and has introduced many technological firsts to the region, including robotic surgery and other minimally invasive techniques. The hospital is routinely recognized by HealthGrades, the nation’s largest premier independent health care quality company, for excellence in both emergency medicine and maternity care. U.S. News & World Report has recognized Monmouth as a regional leader in cancer, geriatrics, gynecology, neurology and neurosurgery. The Pharmacy Practice Residency is a 1 year, PGY1 residency program that offers core and elective rotations in Ambulatory Care, Behavioral Health, Critical Care, Drug Information, Emergency Medicine, Infectious Diseases, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Administration, and others. The Pharmacy Resident routinely participates in interdisciplinary rounds, hospital committees, clinical initiatives, educational programs, and other leadership and direct patient care activities. Residents are expected to complete research projects and present their results at both local and national pharmacy meetings. There are numerous opportunities for precepting and lecturing pharmacy students, as well as the chance to obtain a professional academic teaching certificate from the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University.

What advice do you have for this year’s residents as they embark on their careers?

- Don’t doubt yourself. Even if things seem overwhelming, you CAN do it!
- Go on a vacation before residency starts! The year won’t allow much time to take a trip otherwise.
- Outlook has an ‘Address Book,’ where you can find the emails for almost everyone within RWJBH. Not knowing this until later definitely made my life harder than it needed to be.
- If you think you are good with time management, prepare to be proven wrong :)

Scott Mathis, PharmD, Regional Pharmacy Director

Hoytin Lee Ghin, PharmD, BCPS, Assistant Director, PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency Program Director
Allison Pezick, PharmD, PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

Allison currently lives in Long Branch, NJ and received her PharmD from Rutgers University. Upon completion of her PGY1, Allison will be completing a PGY2 Psychiatric Residency at the Palo Alto VA Healthcare System, CA. In her spare time, Allison enjoys spending time with her friends and pets, listening to music, and playing video games.

Poster/presentations:
- Poster: Evaluating the appropriateness of therapeutic drug monitoring of carbamazepine, valproic acid and lithium in psychiatric patients – ASHP Midyear, Orlando FL
- Presentation: Effect of pharmacist intervention on therapeutic drug monitoring utilization in patients treated with mood stabilizers – Eastern States Conference, Hershey PA
- Continuing Education: Antibiotic Stewardship - MMC
- Continuing Education: Titration of Antipsychotics - MMC

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH?
The bond formed with her co-resident and fellow RWJBH residents – between ASHP Midyear, NJSHP, Eastern States, Teaching Certificate, corporate presentations, and the unique activities of the Leadership Forum, Allison thinks there should be T-shirts that say, “I survived a RWJBH pharmacy residency!”

What does residency mean to you?
An opportunity to further her education beyond that provided for a degree, and a route to the chance to practice at the top of her license.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?
Definitely the occasional evening out with her fellow RWJBH residents – at Midyear and otherwise!

Monmouth Medical Center Pharmacy Residents

Divita Singh, PharmD, PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

Divita currently lives in Monroe, NJ and received her PharmD from Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers University. Upon completion of her PGY-1, Divita will be completing a PGY-2 Ambulatory Care Residency at University of Florida College of Pharmacy, FL. Divita has a strong interest in chronic disease state management and enjoys patient interaction. In her spare time, Divita enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, trying new restaurants, and reading.

Poster/presentations:
- ASHP Midyear 2017 Poster: Evaluating the appropriateness of medication reconciliation at discharge on 30 day readmission rates of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- NJSHP 2018 Poster: Evaluating the appropriateness of medication reconciliation at discharge on 30 day readmission rates of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Eastern States 2018 Platform Presentation: Effects of pharmacist conducted medication reconciliation at discharge on 30 day readmission rates of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- NJ Continuing Education: The Role of the Pharmacist in the Management of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
- NJ Continuing Education: The Pharmacist’s Role in Antibiotic De-Escalation

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH?
Divita’s favorite part about a residency at RWJBH has been spending time bonding with fellow residents during ASHP Midyear, NJSHP, Rutgers Teaching Certificate, and Leadership Forum.

What does residency mean to you?
Divita describes residency at RWJBH as an opportunity to further one’s clinical knowledge in a challenging yet supportive atmosphere.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?
Divita’s most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH would have to be time spent with fellow residents at ASHP Midyear in Orlando, FL. From attending showcases, poster presentations, Disney World, and Harry Potter World, it was definitely a successful Midyear!
The Neuropsychiatric PGY-2 Pharmacy Residency Program is affiliated with Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey which enables the resident to practice at a variety of different sites and the opportunity to get involved with teaching at Rutgers. RWJBarnabas Health practices sites that are included in this residency program include Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and Barnabas Health Behavioral Health Center, but the primary practice site is Monmouth Medical Center (MMC). The Alexander Pavilion at Monmouth Medical Center is comprised of 63 beds on three inpatient units: adult voluntary, adult short-term care/involuntary, and child/adolescent services. There are also several outpatient programs associated with MMC including an Integrated Health Home for the severely mentally ill, an Early Intervention Support Services program and Psychiatric Emergency Screening Services. Rotations offered through this residency include, but are not limited to: adult psychiatry, pediatric psychiatry, addiction psychiatry, dual diagnosis, psychiatric emergency screening services, ambulatory care psychiatry, and consult liaison psychiatry. Another aspect of this program is experience in the neurology clinic through Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital as a longitudinal rotation. This residency program provides the resident with a strong background in neuropsychiatric pharmacy services and the potential for a variety of teaching opportunities through Rutgers.

What advice do you have for this year’s residents as they embark on their careers?

As a new practitioner excited to start a new clinical practice, it is easy to get over-committed. Remember that you don’t have to say “yes” to anything and everything. Think about what is best for you and your patients.
Lauren grew up in Syracuse, NY and went to pharmacy school at the Wegmans School of Pharmacy at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, NY. After graduating from pharmacy school, Lauren completed a PGY-1 residency at Barnabas Health Behavioral Health Center. Lauren then pursued a PGY-2 Neuropsychiatric residency through Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. In her spare time, Lauren enjoys reading and spending time outdoors.

Poster/presentations:
- Impact of pharmacogenetics testing on reducing trial-and-error prescribing in a psychiatric patient population (poster)
- Stiff-Person Syndrome in a patient with comorbid bipolar and panic disorders: A case report (poster)
- Impact of pharmacist intervention on transitions of care in a psychiatric patient population: A pharmacist’s role in reducing readmissions (poster)
- OCD and PTSD Lecture in the Neuropsychiatry Therapeutics Course at Rutgers (presentation)
- Insomnia Lecture in the Herbals Elective at Rutgers (presentation)
- Durability of therapeutic response with long-term aripiprazole lauroxil treatment following successful resolution of an acute episode of schizophrenia (presentation)
- Parkinson’s Disease Medications (presentation)

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?

Lauren’s favorite thing about residency through RWJBH has been the opportunity to learn how to provide quality patient care from many different preceptors and mentors throughout the system. For Lauren, residency has provided her with the opportunity to grow and develop as a clinical pharmacist in a variety of psychiatric settings.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?

Lauren’s most memorable experience as a resident has been having the opportunity to work with and learn from great preceptors and mentors.
Newark Beth Israel Medical Center is a 665-bed quaternary care, teaching hospital that provides comprehensive health care throughout the region. It is home to one of the nation’s 10 largest heart transplant centers, RWJBarnabas Health’s Heart Failure Treatment and Transplant Program; New Jersey’s only Advanced Lung Disease and Transplant Program; and a Valve Center that performs more cardiac valve procedures, including minimally invasive trans catheter aortic valve replacements (TAVRs), than any other center in the state.

The PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency Program at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center is an ASHP-accredited program with two pharmacy residents. Residents have the opportunity to experience a variety of rotations including, Internal Medicine, Medical surgical intensive care, Cardiothoracic intensive care, Heart transplant, Lung transplant, Transitions of care clinic and Pharmacy administration.

What advice do you have for this year’s residents as they embark on their careers?

Our advice for upcoming residents is to stay patient, always look ahead, and most importantly trust the process.
Ahmed Selevany, PharmD,
PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

Ahmed spent his whole life in north Jersey and loved every minute of it. He graduated from Farleigh Dickinson University School of Pharmacy. He enjoys the outdoors, sports, and teaching others. From a pharmacy perspective, his interests include cardiology and toxicology. His post residency plan would be to teach in some capacity no matter where life takes him.

Poster/presentations:
- Clinical huddles presented to the pharmacy staff (topics included pharmacy’s role during codes, warfarin dosing, idarucizumab indication and preparation, and DOAC dosing for VTE)
- Over 20 topic discussions (topics related to internal medicine, heart transplant, emergency medicine, cardiology, infectious disease, and more)
- Ahmed led multiple journal club and patient case presentations to facilitate APPE student learning experiences
- Ahmed presented his poster presentation at the Midyear Clinical Meeting: Impact of multidisciplinary guideline driven management of hypoglycemic events in patients receiving scheduled insulin in a large teaching hospital
- Presentation: Pocket guide for pharmacy on Toxicology

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?

Ahmed’s favorite thing about residency has been the ability to see himself grow under the guidance of his preceptors and mentors. Residency equates to an unforgettable year filled with highs and lows. Mostly, it means growth and maturity.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?

Unforgettable and memorable experiences include counseling patients at NBI. A distinct example is when a patient cried profusely and thanked the pharmacist for the knowledge provided. This was the most memorable moment.

Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:
- Ahmed revised a hypoglycemia policy
- Ahmed built a new hypoglycemia management order set
- Ahmed assisted in the development of a policy that would enable multidose medications to be dispensed
- Ahmed formulated a toxicology pocket card and educated pharmacists regarding the appropriate management of these agents
Travis is originally from San Ramon, California. He received his Bachelors of Science in Biology from the University of California, Irvine. Travis received his Pharmacy Doctorate from the University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. His post-residency plans include finding a pharmacist position at a hospital. His interests include baking, hiking and traveling.

**Poster/presentations:**
- Poster: Impact of pharmacist-led evaluation of eligibility for post-operative atrial fibrillation prophylaxis protocol on time to protocol initiation in cardiac surgical patients
- Poster: Analysis of a post-operative atrial fibrillation prophylaxis guideline concerning time to initiation and effectiveness in cardiac surgical patients
- Presentation: Pocket guide for pharmacy on the topic of transplant medications
- Travis led multiple journal club and patient case presentations to facilitate APPE student learning experiences

**What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?**

Travis’ favorite things about residency at RWJBH are the unforgettable experiences. He has learned so much about patient care and pharmacy from the wide variety of pharmacist opportunities. The staff at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center provides a supportive and encouraging atmosphere and has helped him grow. The entire pharmacy staff makes sure that the residents have the tools and opportunities to succeed after residency.

**What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?**

One of his most memorable experience as a resident so far was attending ASHP Midyear 2017 in Orlando. It was the perfect place for residents to network with others outside the hospital. The Residency Showcase reminded him how great it was to see prospective resident actively trying to become part of the RWJBH hospital system.

**Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:**

One of the major recurring events that occurred throughout the year that had an impactful experience on Travis was the Leadership Forum. It gave him the opportunity to learn pharmacy skills that are not normally taught, such as stress reduction and emotional intelligence. It also let Travis develop close relationships with residents throughout the RWJBH system.
RWJ University Hospital at New Brunswick
Pharmacy Leadership

Jodie Skayhan, PharmD,
Director of Pharmacy Service

Jaimini (Tina) Amin, PharmD,
Assistant Director of Clinical Services
PGY-1 Residency Program Director

RWJUH New Brunswick is a 620 bed academic teaching hospital and the flagship cancer hospital for Cancer Institute of New Jersey and Bristol Myers Squibb Children's Hospital. Its Centers of Excellence include cardiovascular care from minimally invasive heart surgery to transplantation, cancer care, and women's and children's care including The Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at RWJUH, which has several areas of pediatric care. The hospital is also a Level 1 trauma center and serves as a national resource in its ground-breaking approaches to emergency preparedness. RWJUH New Brunswick has been ranked among the best hospitals in America by U.S. News & World Report seven times and has been selected by the publication as a high-performing hospital in several specialties. The Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital has also ranked among the nation's Best Children's Hospitals by U.S. News & World Report for three consecutive years.

What advice do you have for this year's residents as they embark on their careers?

Time management! Start longitudinal assignments earlier in the year.
Aya is from Roseland, NJ and graduated from the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University. Her plans after residency are to pursue a position as an internal medicine pharmacist or a staffing pharmacist. She looks forward to spending more time reading novels, being outdoors, and catching up with family and friends.

Poster/presentations:
- Under Pressure: Vasopressors
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD): management updates from the 2018 GOLD guidelines Continuing Education Presentation for Pharmacists
- Poster: Oral Alkalization in pediatric patients with ALL on a high dose methotrexate regimen – 2017 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting, Orlando FL
- Drug-resistant Tuberculosis: A Case Presentation
- Platform Presentation Oral Alkalization in pediatric patients with ALL on a high dose methotrexate regimen – Easter States Residency Conference, Hershey PA
- Travel Tips for Transplant Patients
- Hypertriglyceridemia-induced Acute Pancreatitis: A Case Presentation
- Over-the-counter Drug Overdoses - Continuing Education Presentation for Technicians

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?

Aya feels lucky to have been surrounded by well-established preceptors and motivated residents that played a huge role in her growth and development as a pharmacist. Her favorite thing about residency is gaining valuable knowledge every day and taking daily breaks with her co-residents. Residency to her is a condensed time of training and pushing herself to learn as much as possible in one year.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?

Aya’s most memorable experience is mentoring pharmacy students on rotation.

Jaklin Hanna is from Union, NJ and received her PharmD from Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers University. Prior to joining RWJ, Jaklin worked as a pharmacist in the retail setting. Jaklin has a strong interest in ambulatory care and values spending time in direct patient care. Upon completing her PGY-1, Jaklin will start an ambulatory care PGY2 residency at St. Joseph’s University Medical Center in Paterson, NJ. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, and getting involved in various mission work within her community.

Poster/presentations:
- Poster: Evaluation of the timing and effectiveness of a pneumococcal vaccine screening protocol – 2017 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting, Orlando FL
- Platform Presentation: Evaluation of the effectiveness of a pneumococcal vaccine screening protocol – Easter States Residency Conference, Hershey PA
- Continuing Education on Immunization: Pharmacist Call the Shots!
- Continuing Education on Diabetes Update 2017

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?

Jaklin’s favorite thing about residency at RWJBH has been the collaboration among the preceptors to constantly improve the residents’ experience. To her, residency means a year of condensed professional and personal experiences that will guarantee a person’s growth and development.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?

The leadership forum sessions; they were always full of fun and valuable ideas.
The PGY2 residency in emergency medicine pharmacy will focus on the provision of clinical pharmacy services to RWJUH Emergency Department (ED) in New Brunswick, NJ. RWJUH is the level 1 trauma center for Central New Jersey seeing approximately 90,000 patients annually. The resident's focus will be on the direct care of ED patients in treatment areas such as emergent care, urgent care, non-urgent care, and pediatrics. The PGY2 residency in emergency medicine pharmacy is designed to transition PGY1 residency graduates from generalist practice to specialized practice which meets the needs of patients in the emergency department setting. Upon completion of training, graduates are equipped to be fully integrated members of the interdisciplinary emergency medicine team, are able to prioritize responsibilities and utilization of resources, and are able to make complex medication recommendations in this fast-paced environment. Training focuses on developing residents’ capability to deal with a wide range of diseases and disorders that occur in patients in the emergency environment.

Graduates of the program are empowered to treat and appropriately triage the most complex chronic and acute illnesses presented by emergency department patients, including those with multiple disease states and serious complications. They also acquire the experience necessary to exercise leadership for emergency medicine pharmacy practice in the health-care system. Graduates of the emergency medicine pharmacy residency are experienced in teaching other health professionals and those in training to be health professionals.

**Required Rotations**
- Orientation (4 weeks)
- Emergency Medicine – Urgent Care I (2 Weeks)
- Emergency Medicine – Urgent Care II/ Emergency Preparedness (5 Weeks)
- Emergency Medicine – Urgent Care III/ Observation Unit (4 Weeks)
- Pediatric Intensive Care Unit — (4 Weeks)
- Emergency Medicine – Resuscitation I (2 Weeks)
- Emergency Medicine – Resuscitation II (4 Weeks)
- Emergency Medicine – Resuscitation III/Pre-Hospital Medicine (4 Weeks)
- Trauma – (4 Weeks)
- Emergency Medicine – Academia (5 Weeks)
- Medical Intensive Care (4 Weeks)
- Toxicology (4 Weeks)
- Elective (4 Weeks)

**Elective Rotations**
- Trauma
- Surgical Intensive Care Unit
- Emergency Medicine – Community
- Required rotations may be repeated as an elective rotation

**Longitudinal Rotations**
- Antimicrobial Stewardship
- Research

**Additional Opportunities**
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)
- Opportunities to develop teaching skills by providing presentations to both the pharmacy staff, faculty, residents, and students in other health care professions
- Completion of a research project related to emergency medicine
Kim Friend is a current PGY2 emergency medicine resident from Savannah, GA. She earned her Doctor of Pharmacy from Mercer University and completed her PGY1 residency at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA. Kim’s professional interests include trauma, toxicology and emergency preparedness. Outside of work, Kim enjoys being outdoors and traveling.

**Poster/presentations:**
- Hypertonic Saline for Tricyclic Antidepressant Overdose
- Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Inhibitor Therapy Effects on Vasopressor Requirements in Septic Shock
- Intracranial Hemorrhage: Anticoagulation Reversal
- Neurohormonal Support in the Brain Dead Donor
- Ranolazine for Chronic and Refractory Atrial Fibrillation
- Vancomycin: A Two-Compartment Model: Dosing in the Obese Population
- Vancomycin Antibiotic Results: A Comparison of Vancomycin Levels Regardless of Indication
- The Effect of Implementing the Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment for Alcohol Revised (CIWA-Ar) on Alcohol Withdrawal Syndrome Management in a Medically Ill Population
- Outcomes of Bipolar vs. Unipolar Depression Admissions to a Behavioral Care Unit at a Large Tertiary Care Teaching Hospital

**What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?**

Practicing emergency medicine at a level 1 trauma and academic medical center in an urban setting is an opportunity unparalleled. Additionally, working alongside intelligent, hard-working coworkers has helped to advance Kim’s knowledge base and career.

**What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?**

Kim’s most memorable experiences include gaining hands-on, practical knowledge from the ER nursing team and learning to establish IV lines and suture lacerations.
Larissa grew up in Bucks County Pennsylvania. She attended pharmacy school at Temple University School of Pharmacy and completed her PGY-1 at Atlanticare Regional Medical Center in Atlantic City, NJ. Her professional interests are emergency medicine, anticoagulation and reversal agents/toxicology. In her free time she enjoys being outside, especially at the beach, or simply enjoying time with friends and family.

**Poster:**
- Push-dose vasopressors: a time motion study.

**Presentations:**
- Continuing Education on Holy Factors! A Basic Guide to Factor Use
- Bivalirudin versus heparin monotherapy in myocardial infarction—Journal club presented to pharmacists
- Journal Club: Management of rivaroxaban or apixaban associated major bleeding with prothrombin complex concentrates: A cohort study

**Teaching Experience:**
- Poison Management and Drug Abuse Course: Heavy Metal Toxicity
- Emergency Medicine Pharmacotherapy Course: Stroke in the ED

**Publications:**
- Dextromethorphan Abuse in Adolescents: A Review Article. (In Review)

**What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?**

Larissa has truly enjoyed the excitement in the Emergency Department at RWJ-NB. The variety of patients and their acuity has been an exceptional learning experience and has exposed her to many things. The preceptorship in the ED has been a great support system and was always there to answer any questions and assist her to ensure that the patients received the best possible care.

**What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?**

Her most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH is the comradery in the emergency department, and truly being a part of the team. The ED residents participated in simulation labs with nursing students and pharmacy students throughout the year.
The primary training site is the Drug Information Service, located at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. The Drug Information Service was founded in 1989 to serve the health care professionals of the State of New Jersey. The Service currently responds to approximately 1,000 requests annually. Two elective rotations are available on a rounding clinical service, industry-based drug information, investigational drug, poison control services, or other sites based on the resident's interest and availability. Unique off-site rotations have included UHC, USP, and the FDA. A Residency Teaching Certificate Program is also available through the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

Program Goals:

The primary goal of the program is to offer advanced training in drug information practice with an emphasis on the following areas:
1. Information retrieval, evaluation, and application of evidence based medicine principles.
2. Development and enhancement of written and oral communication skills.
3. Development and enhancement of teaching skills through didactic and experiential teaching of Doctor of Pharmacy students.
4. Development and enhancement of administrative and organizational skills.
5. Development of research skills.

Responsibilities:

Though certain responsibilities of the resident are required, the program has the flexibility to develop activities consistent with the resident’s background and career goals. In general, the resident responsibilities include:
1. Provision of Drug Information Service through processing drug information.
3. Participation in the activities of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee through development and presentation of formulary monographs, participation in decisions pertaining to drug therapy, pharmacoeconomic analyses, and formulary management.
4. Participation in the hospital’s adverse drug reaction reporting program, drug utilization evaluation program, and medication errors reporting program.
5. Preparing and presenting lectures in the Essentials of Drug Information and Medical Writing courses, and other courses at the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy.
6. Supervising pharmacy students on the Drug Information clerkship and on site visits.
7. Attending and presenting continuing education at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital for the pharmacy staff.
8. Writing and editing of Drug Information Service publications and website.
9. Completion of a project related to the provision of drug information service.
10. Complete an article for publication in an appropriate pharmacy journal.
Greg is from Somerset, NJ and received his PharmD at Rutgers University. He completed his PGY-1 Residency at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune, NJ. After completing his PGY-2, Greg will continue his career in teaching as Internal Medicine Faculty for Rutgers University at Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center. In his spare time Greg enjoys many outdoor pursuits such as rock climbing, snowboarding, mountain-biking, and kayaking.

Poster/presentations:
- Oral urea cost savings and serum sodium normalization in a tertiary care institution

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?
All the great experiences Greg has had and the people he has met. Residency means an opportunity to learn and grow.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?
Having students has been Greg’s most memorable experience.

James Young is from Wilmington, DE and received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 2017 from Rutgers University, Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy and his Bachelor’s degree in biological sciences in 2013 from the University of Delaware. Upon completion of his drug information residency, James will continue his training in clinical research and development at Merck & Company as a post-doctoral fellow in the Rutgers Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowship program starting in July 2018.

During his residency, James participated in medical literature retrieval, evaluation, and application of evidence-based medicine principles. His evaluation of clinical trials was utilized to develop drug monographs to assist in managing the hospital formulary. He worked collaboratively within the Drug Information Center to respond to medical inquiries, develop drug information resources, and train Doctor of Pharmacy students. James participated in a weekly transitions of care clinic, which bridged patients from an inpatient to outpatient setting to ensure continuity of care.

Poster/presentations:
- Residency Project: Characterization of scientific response document across pharmaceutical companies: Developing standards for medical information departments
- Continuing Education on Alpha-Gal Allergy & Medications
- Continuing Education on USP <797> Sterile Compounding
- Journal Club on Safety and efficacy of edaravone in well-defined patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?
James values his unique residency experience that is built on the affiliation between RWJBH and the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. James has had opportunities to bring examples from clinical practice into the classroom when teaching in the Drug Information and Literature evaluation course. James appreciates the wealth of resources and network he has attained while working in both hospital and academic settings.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?
As a drug information resident, James’s most memorable experience has been participating in journal clubs throughout the course of the year. It is through journal club that the skills of evidence-based medicine are developed.
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset is a 355-bed community teaching hospital located in Somerville, New Jersey. With a strong commitment to medication safety and performance improvement, a focus on customer service, and a role in educating future health-care professionals, the Department of Pharmacy at RWJ Somerset is devoted to delivering operational and clinical excellence, while advancing care and maintaining financial and operational growth. RWJ Somerset has three clinical pharmacy specialists in internal medicine, critical care, and emergency medicine who are affiliated with the Rutgers University Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy.

The PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency Program is an ASHP-accredited program with two pharmacy residents. Residents have the opportunity to rotate through a variety of experiences such as: internal medicine, critical care, emergency medicine, infectious diseases, oncology, geriatrics, transitions of care, and drug information. Longitudinal rotations include experiences in the family medicine and oncology offices.

What advice do you have for this year’s residents as they embark on their careers?

“Always practice with patient safety in mind. Be a good communicator, stay mindful and focused, ask questions when you are unsure, and when a medication issue occurs, focus on how you can prevent it from happening again. Above all, show compassion and empathy when you interact with patients.”
-Nancy Doherty

“Using your knowledge of pharmacotherapy to help patients is not enough. You need to always consider the patient wishes. Take the time to listen.”
-Luigi Brunetti
Priya is originally from Clifton, NJ and received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Rutgers University Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy. Priya's professional interests include emergency medicine and internal medicine and she will be continuing her pharmacy career as a clinical pharmacist post residency. In her spare time, she enjoys adventure sports, exploring new towns, and trying new food.

Poster/presentations:
- **Poster**: Effect of initial intravenous antihypertensive agent on the management of blood pressure during hypertensive emergencies - ASHP Midyear, Orlando, FL
- **Platform Presentation**: Evaluation of a Bayesian approach to management of vancomycin therapy - Eastern States Conference, Hershey, PA
- **ACPE Accredited Clinical Pearl**: Gas Station Drugs: New Challenge in the Opioid Epidemic - Eastern States Conference, Hershey, PA
- **CME Accredited Grand Medical Rounds**: Penicillin Allergies: Facts and Fiction - RWJUH Somerset

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?
Priya has enjoyed exploring her clinical interests with diverse rotations at RWJUH New Brunswick and RWJUH Somerset and being able to work with passionate colleagues along the way. Her residency has been the core foundation to shape her career in clinical pharmacy.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?
Attending various pharmacy conferences and networking with the system’s residents.

Rebecca is from East Brunswick, NJ and received her Doctorate of Pharmacy from Northeastern University in Boston, MA. She is currently completing a PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset in Somerville, NJ. Her professional interests include transitions of care and geriatrics. Outside of pharmacy, Rebecca enjoys writing Yelp reviews and spending time with her cat.

Poster/presentations:
- **ASHP Midyear 2017 Poster**: The association of off-label apixaban dose adjustments with hospital readmission in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation
- **NJSHP 2018 Poster**: The association of off-label apixaban dose adjustments with hospital readmission in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation
- **Eastern States 2018 Platform Presentation**: Comparison of the impact of medication history completed at time of admission versus after admission
- **ACPE Accredited Eastern States 2018 Clinical Pearls Presentation**: Phenytoin-Induced Purple Glove Syndrome: A Case Report
- **CME Accredited Medical Grand Rounds**: Sliding Away from Sliding Scale: Inpatient Glycemic Control in Non-Critically Ill Patients

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?
Rebecca’s favorite thing about residency is being able to access the tools and cultivate the skills to become a well-rounded pharmacist. From experiences at off-site rotations to unique opportunities like the RWJBH Leadership Forum and the Teaching and Learning Certificate, the RWJBH system provides a vast amount of opportunity for resident growth.

What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?
Rebecca’s most memorable experience was attending the ASHP Midyear 2017 Meeting in Orlando, FL. It was a valuable experience not only to build her network and present her research, but also to represent RWJUH Somerset and the RWJBH system.
Saint Barnabas Medical Center (SBMC) is a 583-bed community teaching hospital, treating nearly 33,000 inpatients and approximately 100,000 Emergency Department patients every year. SBMC is also the only state-certified burn treatment facility in New Jersey. Our mission is to provide compassionate care, healthcare excellence, and superior service to our patients and their families. We ensure the safety of our patients, community and each other by consistently demonstrating our values of exceptional communication, outstanding teamwork, professional integrity, accountability, innovation and resilience as we strive towards becoming a high reliability organization.

The PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency Program at Saint Barnabas Medical Center is an ASHP-accredited program with four pharmacy residents. Residents have the opportunity to rotate through various areas of hospital practice, including critical care, cardiology/cardiac intensive care, OR, transitions of care, drug information, emergency medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, and ambulatory care. Saint Barnabas also offers unique rotation experiences in the renal transplant unit and burn intensive care unit.

What advice do you have for this year’s residents as they embark on their careers?

Remember that residency gives you the skills to provide best patient care but part of being a pharmacist is a commitment to lifelong learning to ensure you also have the knowledge to optimize patient comfort, care, and safety. Best wishes as you go forward into new and exciting opportunities and remember your preceptors and program directors are a call, text, or email away.

Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:

Paying it forward: This year our four PGY-1 residents did an exceptional job in service to the hospital, community, and global health. They participated in more than 20 healthcare provider education sessions, 12 local community outreach sessions, and several traveled to the Dominican Republic on their own vacation time to complete a medical mission trip.
Briana is originally from Boston, MA, where she received her PharmD from MCPHS University. She is currently living in Cedar Grove, NJ, with plans to pursue a clinical pharmacy career in emergency medicine or cardiology. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling to the Caribbean with her husband and playing with their 10 month old boxer, Luna.

**Poster/presentations:**
- Presentation: A retrospective safety & efficacy evaluation of sacubitril/valsartan and its impact on heart failure readmission rates—Eastern States, Hershey, PA
- Poster: Anticoagulant & antiplatelet use pre-kidney transplant & risk of perioperative complications—ASHP Midyear, Orlando, FL
- Lunch & Learn: Gastroesophageal Disorders—SBMC
- Nursing In-Service: Pediatric Smart Pumps—SBMC

**What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?**

Working with a staff that truly cared about her well-being and success in the pharmacy career; her residency program director, mentors, and preceptors would always go out of their way to ensure she was challenged to learn to the best of her ability.

**What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?**

The 2017 ASHP Midyear Conference in Orlando, FL, as she was proud to be part of one of the largest healthcare systems in the state of New Jersey. RWJBH is such a great place to learn with endless opportunities to help their residents grow, which was clearly portrayed at the residency showcase. The RWJBH system is a team that truly wants to see their residents succeed.

Courtney is from Hillsdale, NJ and graduated from Rutgers University Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy in 2017. Her areas of interest include ambulatory care and transitions of care. Her post-residency plans include either pursuing a clinical position in one of these areas or working as a staff pharmacist. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, spending time at the beach, and catching up with friends.

**Poster/presentations:**
- Poster: Fentanyl patches for weaning in the pediatric intensive care unit
- Presentation: Implementation of an outpatient naloxone provider education program in a primary care setting
- Lunch and Learn Presentation: Thyroid Disorders
- In-service (medical residents): Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Pediatric Pharmacokinetics

**What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?**

Courtney’s favorite thing about her residency program is the opportunity to learn from not only pharmacists, but other disciplines as well, including nurse practitioners, physicians, medical residents, nurses, etc.

**What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?**

Courtney’s most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH was the opportunity to go on a medical mission trip to the Dominican Republic with Waves of Health.
Jigisha is originally from Brick, NJ. She received her PharmD from Fairleigh Dickinson University School of Pharmacy and her Bachelor’s from Penn State University. Her post-residency plans include finding a staffing position at a hospital, traveling, and catching up with friends and family.

**Poster/presentations:**
- Poster: Creation of a Medication Review Service for Patients with Parkinson’s Disease
- Presentation: Creation and implementation of a medication review service for patients with Parkinson’s Disease
- Lunch and Learn: Hepatitis
- In-service (Physical Therapy): Is my patient nearing discharge: A pharmacy perspective

**What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?**
Jigisha’s most favorite thing about residency has been the relationships that have formed between her co-residents, preceptors and pharmacists. Jigisha and her colleagues have all grown very close and have a great time in the office or outside. She thinks that building relationships is also one of the most meaningful things about a residency because it shows that one is able to trust and lean on their peers when necessary.

**What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?**
One of the most memorable experiences thus far has been Midyear in Orlando and really getting to know her director and preceptors outside of being a pharmacist.

**Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:**
There are always opportunities for community outreaches and to participate in the mission trip. Teaching and learning certificate and the leadership forums are also two great ways to see other residents in and out of the system.

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Jeffrey is from Cherry Hill, New Jersey. He received his PharmD from the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University. After residency, Jeffrey will work as a clinical pharmacist at Wilmington Hospital in Wilmington, Delaware. His clinical interests are critical care, emergency medicine, and academia. When he is not working, Jeffrey spends time in the dance studio and competes with his hip-hop team, The Wannabes. He also enjoys playing video games, listening to music, and watching the Sixers and Eagles.

**Poster/presentations:**
- Poster: Impact of penicillin skin testing in patients with a documented β-lactam allergy on antibiotic selection
- Presentation: Development of a pharmacist real-time audit on penicillin skin testing and impact on antibiotic stewardship practices.
- Lunch and Learn: Status Epilepticus
- Noon Conference Lectures: Influenza, Code Cart Education

**What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?**
Jeffrey’s favorite thing about residency at RWJBH is the people. He has a great support group not only within Saint Barnabas Medical Center, but also within all of RWJBH. Everyone ensures that the residents have the necessary training and experiences in order to succeed after residency. Residency is the best opportunity to grow as a health care professional and to ensure that you have the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed.

**What was your most memorable experience as a resident at RWJBH?**
Traveling with Waves of Health to the Dominican Republic for a medical mission trip.

**Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:**
As part of one of the largest health systems in New Jersey, residents within RWJBH are guaranteed the opportunity to practice in areas that their immediate practice site does not offer. The chance to complete a rotation off-site allows for flexibility in the resident’s learning experiences and helps tailor the residency to his or her clinical interests.
The PGY2 Pediatric Pharmacotherapy Residency at Rutgers University is uniquely structured with opportunities to practice in 4 different medical centers. At least 1 pediatric faculty member from Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy is affiliated with each of the medical centers. The preceptors and their established practices guide residency training in different subspecialty areas. The resident also takes part in various teaching opportunities at the school of pharmacy’s professional courses and electives. Rotation opportunities include general pediatrics, pediatric intensive care, neonatal intensive care, pediatric hematology/oncology, infectious diseases, neurology, emergency medicine, and ambulatory care.

What advice do you have for this year’s residents as they embark on their careers?

Keep an open mind during PGY-1 training and get exposed to as many specialty areas as possible before solidifying your decision about PGY-2 training. You may be surprised by what you love. Even your least favorite course in school could become your passion in clinical practice. If you decide on pediatrics, still keep your involvement broad. Pediatrics encompasses patients as young as neonates and up to 21 years or older, and emerging subspecialties blend different areas of training. It is important to get a strong general foundation before delving into PGY-2 specifics.

Additional residency opportunities or impactful experiences:

One of the best ways to get involved and inspired is by becoming a member of a national organization, such as Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group (PPAG). Through this membership, you can attend national conferences, actively participate in special interest groups, and present research to experts in your field of interest. These connections will help you network and learn more about advances in pediatric pharmacy around the world. Interacting with other clinical pharmacists at these meetings always reinvigorates my passion for pharmacy and the pursuit of excellence.
Danielle completed her PGY-1 training at Atlantic Health System in Morristown, New Jersey, and she holds a PharmD degree from the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers in Piscataway. Her professional interests include pediatric infectious diseases, medication safety, and teaching. She will be taking these interests to Cooper University Hospital where she accepted a pediatric clinical pharmacist position.

Poster/presentations:
- Effect of nursing education on optimization of medication reconciliation in the pediatric emergency department
- Evaluation of the transition from inpatient to discharge antimicrobial regimens in pediatric community acquired pneumonia
- Evaluation of appropriateness and financial impact of administering restricted outpatient medications in inpatient settings
- Evaluation of non-adherent palivizumab in an inpatient setting
- Medication administration to children: the caregiver perspective
- Perinatal HIV Exposure: Antiretroviral Management
- Pediatric Health Literacy
- Immunizations: Who Calls the Shots?
- Specialty Pharmacies: For Rare Diseases and Beyond

What has been your favorite thing about residency at RWJBH? What does residency mean to you?

During her PGY-2, Danielle has been able to focus on her specific interests, and each day she becomes more confident in her skills and independence. Residency programs are designed to make residents succeed, to give them a competitive edge in the job market, well-equipped to handle any challenges. Danielle has been able to pursue research, teaching opportunities, and other scholarly activities, most of which are already pre-built into her program. Beyond the structure of the program, she has the network and resources to accomplish additional goals she has set for herself within the residency year.
The ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting is the largest gathering of pharmacists in the world. With its focus on improving patient care, the meeting is attended by more than 20,000 pharmacy professionals from 86 countries. For four decades, the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting has provided health-system pharmacy practitioners with a venue for updating their knowledge, networking with colleagues, enhancing their skills, and learning about the latest products and technologies. The hundreds of educational activities at the Midyear Clinical Meeting are developed to maintain and enhance the knowledge, skills, and abilities of pharmacists and associated personnel in health systems. ASHP Midyear 2017 was held in Orlando, Florida.

- Nicole Daniel
The New Jersey Society of Health-System Pharmacists (NJSHP) Annual Meeting & Exhibition is held for all hospital pharmacy personnel to attend in NJ including pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, pharmacy students, and pharmacy buyers. This meeting includes poster presentations of professional and resident research projects as well as platform presentations of the top five posters. In addition, renowned speakers from the NJ pharmacy community deliver presentations ranging from the opioid epidemic to the USP <800> guidelines to handling hazardous drugs. Finally, there is a friendly College Bowl Competition featuring Rutgers, Touro, and FDU pharmacy students testing their knowledge about pharmacology and pharmacy law.
Eastern States is an annual conference for pharmacy residents and preceptors to share the results of their clinical research. In addition, it provides an opportunity to interact with colleagues from across the north-east region. RWJBarnabas Health, the largest health system in the state of New Jersey, sent their residents this year to share their residency projects. Topics included the start of patient care in the emergency department and encompassed disciplines all the way to transitions of care at patient discharge. Historically, pharmacy residency projects have been used as quality improvement projects and several have even been incorporated system-wide to improve patient care. Projects this year were no different and are poised to improve our health care processes.  

- Brandon Chen
In 2014, the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) published a significant revision to their PGY-1 pharmacy residency standards. The standards, which were last updated in 2005, were consolidated and reprioritized to reflect actual practice and to improve the quality of residency training. Both new and established programs were faced with the herculean task of analyzing four new required competency areas and devising plans to ensure their program would provide an experience allowing for adequate mastery of 34 objectives.

There were several obvious improvements to the standards: consolidating all patient care activities under the R1 Competency Area, research in R2, and presentation activity in R4. Competency Area R3 encompasses Leadership and Management activities, calling for programs to objectively assess a resident’s understanding and real-life application of various leadership and management topics. Such topics included human resource management, finance, goal setting, collaboration, and work-life balance. While Leadership itself was an established experience in all programs, the residency program directors (RPDs) of three residency programs in the RWJBarnabas Health Pharmacy Enterprise aimed to provide a unique opportunity for RWJBH pharmacy residents to gain expertise beyond the already-required learning objectives. The RPDs’ goal was to create a mechanism for educating residents on leadership topics that many pharmacists have learned through years of practice, while facilitating the development of deeper connections between peers.

This was the inception of the RWJBarnabas Health Residency Leadership Forum. Jennifer Sternbach, Sheetal Patel, and Jessica Hill designed a curriculum of off-site learning that would provide dedicated time to review topics such as team building, human resource management, goal-setting, financial management, culture, business etiquette and networking. Their vision was to bring the RWJBarnabas Health Pharmacy Enterprise closer together by beginning with the future of Pharmacy Leadership – the residents.

Over time, the program has expanded to include 6 sessions, greater PGY-2 involvement, and additional topics such as marketing, recruitment, motivational interviewing, CV-critique, emotional intelligence, and resident well-being; as well as grant-funded professional development sessions. The leadership forum presents a ground-breaking opportunity for residents to grow both professionally and personally while doing, as Jennifer herself explains, “something different from what [they] normally do.”

- Allison Pezick
RWJBH Residency Leadership Forum
Graduation: June 15, 2018
Teaching and Learning Certificate Program
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

In conjunction with the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University, residents and fellows participated in a year-long course designed to strengthen teaching skills. This experience consisted of a variety of seminars led by Rutgers faculty members and culminated in preceptorship of an intermediate pharmacy practice experience (IPPE) student. Throughout the year, lectures addressed topics such as teaching and learning styles, academic integrity and professionalism, assessment and feedback, and publications. Activities throughout the year aided in reinforcing these concepts as well as preparing all of the necessary materials to precept a student, including a syllabus and teaching philosophy. As a culmination of the work that was done throughout the year, residents and fellows developed a teaching portfolio to highlight educational activities.

- Courtney Tomaselli
Teaching and Learning Certificate Program
Graduation: June 8, 2018

Barnabas Health Behavioral Health Center
Clara Maass Medical Center
Community Medical Center
Jersey City Medical Center
Monmouth Medical Center
Newark Beth Israel Medical Center
RWJUH New Brunswick
Rutgers / RWJUH New Brunswick
RWJUH Somerset
Saint Barnabas Medical Center
This year, our RWJ New Brunswick resident, Jaklin, joined the Coptic Medical Association of North America (CMANA) on their annual medical mission trip to Haiti. CMANA is a non-profit organization that aims to provide medical service to the underprivileged in seven different countries throughout the year. This past May, an interdisciplinary team consisting of 15 surgeons, dentists, pharmacists and physicians from various specialties spent one week in Haiti providing healthcare for the people of Limbe Valley. The pharmacy team dispensed prescriptions to more than 400 pediatric and adult patients. They were responsible for verifying and dispensing the medications, counseling the patients on appropriate use, managing the inventory for all the medications brought by the team, and making clinical interventions as necessary to manage the patients using the limited resources available.

- Jaklin Hanna
Mission Trips
Waves of Health
Dajabón and Restauración, Dominican Republic

Three of our residents (Jigisha, Jeffrey, and Courtney) joined Waves of Health this past April on a medical mission trip to serve the communities of Dajabón and Restauración. The team consisted of health professionals from different specialties, including pharmacists and pharmacy residents. Preceptors who attended the trip were Samuel Reveron (SBMC), John Hoffman (SBMC), Jessica Bente (SBMC), and Humberto Jimenez (St Joseph’s Medical Center). The pharmacy team verified and dispensed medications and counseled patients on appropriate medication use. Almost 2000 patients received care during the medical mission trip.

- Jeffrey Tagle
Pharmacy Enterprise

Nine Principles

- Advocacy
- Community
- Financial
- Regulatory
- Care Continuum
- Education
- Quality & Safety
- Research & Publication
- Technology
Advocacy

“My PGY1 residency at Saint Barnabas Medical Center taught me to be an advocate for each and every one of my patients, as if they were my own family. As a pharmacist, we have great insight into many drug-induced effects patients can experience in the hospital and how to avoid them. My residency helped me develop the confidence as a healthcare practitioner to optimize patient care in areas such as the ICU, ambulatory care setting, and general medical floors.”

- Briana Botros

Care Continuum

“Considering the current trends and burden of chronic diseases, healthcare providers are faced with a complex task that expands beyond hospitalization. Coordinating care through logistical arrangements, education for both patients and family members, and patient medication counseling are examples of initiatives I performed as part of RWJBH’s initiatives to optimize the continuity of health care as patients are transferred between different locations or different levels of care. The Pharmacy Enterprise has equipped me with the necessary training, resources, and technology to perform these tasks in the most accurate and efficient way which has translated to a multitude of medication reconciliations, discharge counseling sessions, and medication histories.”

- Hamza ElHaouati

Community

“Thanks to my residency with RWJBarnabas Health, I was able to experience my very first community outreach event as a pharmacist. By participating in “Ask a Pharmacist,” I was able to provide free medication counseling to residents of Asbury Park who may otherwise have had difficulty accessing one-on-one time with a healthcare provider.”

- Allison Pezick

Education

“A residency experience at RWJBH has allowed me to expand my clinical knowledge on a daily basis as well as given me multiple opportunities to mentor pharmacy students and instill in them the fundamental principles of our profession.”

- Divita Singh

“I strive to represent this company by preventing medication errors, counseling patients, embodying appropriate stewardship strategies, and saving lives on a daily basis.”

- Ahmed Selevany

“Transitions of care is an aspect of care that may have once been under-represented, but is an area where pharmacy presence is now critical.”

- Eleanor Lee

“Based off of my experience as a pharmacy resident in the RWJBarnabas Health Pharmacy Enterprise, serving the community is a value we strongly uphold. I was able to represent Barnabas Behavioral Health at an event for a retirement community where the residents really appreciated discussing their medications. It felt rewarding to make connections with people.”

- Gary Burdge

“My residency in the RWJBH system has given me much more than a traditional program at a single institution -- it has given me the insight and perspective of a whole health system. This year has shown me how deeply the pharmacy department is integrated system-wide and all the opportunities we have to grow and develop ourselves in each discipline.”

- Brandon Chen
**Financial**

“As a pharmacy resident your interventions may seem small, but the impact on the system’s financial expenditures will go far and not go unnoticed.”

- Travis Tsang

“My residency experience, especially my rotation through the Corporate offices, provided me a detailed look into the many aspects of finances that are incorporated into many major decisions that allow our hospital system to continue to be able to provide the best possible care to our patients. It is a side of pharmacy that we don’t always see up front, but through working side by side with colleagues and incorporating myself into those discussions, I came to understand just how crucial a component it is to the success of the hospital and everyone we serve.”

- Nicole Daniel

**Quality & Safety**

“As a pharmacy resident, I was involved in improving quality processes by performing medication histories in the Emergency Department. This process contributed to quality and safety by optimizing the transitions of care between the Emergency Department and the inpatient admission. Enhancing these services helped to avoid unintentional medication errors and maximize patient safety.”

- Rebecca Chow

“Safety is the foundation of all pharmacy interventions. One measure that I have implemented within my workflow is to always double check a medication order even after the original pharmacist verifying the order has checked it. A second pair of eyes increases safety as well as treatment optimization for all of our patients.”

- Priya Shah

**Regulatory**

“From a regulatory standpoint, the RWJBH Pharmacy Enterprise is always one step ahead when it comes to compliance with regulations and standards while keeping in mind what is best for our patients. One of the ways I noticed that RWJBH ensures that we are meeting the highest of standards is through the utilization of competencies on proper disposal of medications based on hazardous risk for employees to remain compliant with the EPA, especially with the new USP standards for hazardous medications.”

- Jeffrey Tagle

“My residency at RWJ introduced me to the vigorous regulations pharmacy must comply with to ensure the delivery of the best quality of care. Residents are constantly involved with different regulatory processes such as leap frog medication reconciliation.”

- Jaklin Hanna

**Research & Publication**

“Being part of the RWJBarnabas enterprise has opened up numerous research opportunities for residents and pharmacists. One of the great things about being part of this system is seeing current research develop into new policies and procedures that take effect throughout all our hospitals.”

- Jigisha Patel

“My research project compared the efficacy of oral sodium bicarbonate to intravenous sodium bicarbonate in pediatric patients on chemotherapy. It was a very practical and relevant project due to the frequent drug shortages. The results of my project could change future pharmacy practice at RWJBH system wide and that’s very exciting!”

- Aya Abukwaik

**Technology**

“The evolution of technology has allowed pharmacists to have a major impact on ensuring optimal and safe medication use for our patients. Specifically, the development of online surveillance systems has allowed pharmacists to identify key patient populations to intervene on, which allows us to have an active role in ensuring positive outcomes for our patients.”

- Courtney Tomaselli

“Technology is always evolving, and there’s always a way to make the most out of it in order to optimize patient care. My research project involved changes to ordering direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs) in the electronic medical record (EMR), and one of my biggest accomplishments this year was having DOAC indications added to orders in Cerner.”

- Nicole Leonida
Residency Annual Report Committee

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