



# Residents' Roar



Residency Class  
of 2016-17

## Retail Pharmacy Opportunities at UPMC Presbyterian

By: Jessica Anderson, PharmD

**A**lumni who have not been to Oakland recently will not believe the changes! The bridge from the 3rd floor of the Falk Medical Building on Fifth Avenue to UPMC Presbyterian has been demolished along with Children's Hospital buildings. Some of the recent additions within the first floor area of UPMC Presbyterian (at the top of the escalators) include a PNC Bank branch, a Starbucks, and Presby Prescription Shop (PPS).

PPS opened in February 2014 and fills prescriptions for hospital patients prior to discharge as well as prescriptions for UPMC employees. Prescriptions for patients unable to visit the pharmacy before leaving the hospital are delivered to the bedside by pharmacy associates. These associates collect credit card or cash payments, and they offer patients the opportunity for patient counseling with a PPS pharmacist via a novel method of live video chat using tablet computers.

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## Ambulatory Care Pharmacy

### **R. Chris Durigan**

Ambulatory Care Clinical Pharmacist  
> Thundermist Health Center >  
Woonsocket, R.I.

### **James Montgomery**

Primary Care Clinical Pharmacy  
Specialist > Cleveland Clinic >  
Cleveland, Ohio

### **Nicole Payette**

Family Medicine Clinical Pharmacy  
Specialist > The Medical Group of  
Christiana > Wilmington, Del.

### **Vivian Tang**

Clinical Pharmacy Specialist  
(Ambulatory Care) > Providence  
Medical Group > Portland, Ore.

### **Gregory Trietley**

Clinical Pharmacy Specialist >  
Center for Diabetes and Endocrine  
Health > Allegheny Health Network >  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

## Cardiology Pharmacy

### **Ashley Modany**

Advanced Practice Simulation Fellow >  
VA Medical Center > Pittsburgh, Pa.

## Community Pharmacy

### **Kristin Hart**

PGY2 Geriatric Pharmacy Resident >  
UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside

### **Nicole Nierste**

PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy  
Resident > St. Vincent Health >  
Indianapolis, Ind.

## Critical Care Pharmacy

### **Bethany Shoulders**

Clinical Assistant Professor >  
University of Florida College of  
Pharmacy > Gainesville, Fla.

### **Cory Weaver**

Unit Based Clinical Pharmacist,  
Critical Care > UPMC Presbyterian

## Geriatric Pharmacy

### **Ashley Campbell**

Assistant Professor > University  
of Arizona College of Pharmacy >  
Tucson, Ariz.

### **Matthew Joseph**

Geriatric Clinical Pharmacist >  
UPMC Western Psychiatric Institute  
and Clinic

## Infectious Diseases

### **Rachel Marini**

Unit-based clinical pharmacist,  
Infectious Diseases >  
UPMC Presbyterian

## Managed Care Pharmacy

### **Namita Mainthia**

Clinical Advisor > CVS Caremark

### **Danfeng (Daphne) Ni**

Clinical Advisor > CVS Caremark >  
Dayton, Ohio

## Oncology Pharmacy

### **Maxwell Brown**

Clinical Pharmacy Manager, Bone  
Marrow & Hematopoietic Stem  
Cell Transplantation > New York  
Presbyterian/Weill-Cornell Medical  
Center > New York, N.Y.

## Pharmacy

### **Anna Bondar**

PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy  
Resident > UPMC St. Margaret

### **Emily Brown**

PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Resident  
> Akron General Medical Center >  
Akron, Ohio

### **Hua (Sherry) Chen**

PGY2 Cardiology Resident >  
UPMC Presbyterian

### **Xinwei (Nancy) Chen**

Clinical Pharmacist > Mayo Clinic >  
Rochester, Minn.

### **Nicole Durie**

PGY2 Cardiology Resident >  
UPMC Presbyterian

### **Nicole Farabaugh**

Patient Care Surgery Pharmacist >  
Nationwide Children's Hospital >  
Columbus, Ohio

### **Maria Felton**

PGY2 Geriatric Pharmacy Resident >  
UPMC St. Margaret

### **Arlene Gao**

PGY2 Oncology Pharmacy Resident >  
UPMC Shadyside

### **Shannon Giddens**

PGY2 Pediatric Pharmacy Resident >  
Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital >  
New Haven, Conn.

### **Nicholas Giruzzi**

PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy  
Resident > UPMC St. Margaret

### **Ronald Heisel**

Pharmacist > UPMC Shadyside

### **Carlo Iasella**

Clinical Trials and Outcomes Research  
(CORE) Fellowship > University of  
Pittsburgh

### **Joy Jakubek**

Pharmacist > West Penn Hospital

### **Kristen Knoph**

PGY2 Pharmacotherapy Resident >  
Mayo Clinic > Rochester, Minn.

### **Nathan Lamberton**

PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy  
Resident > UPMC St. Margaret

### **Katrina Mayr**

Clinical Pharmacist, Transitions of  
Care > Billings Clinic > Billings, Mont.

### **Seth McCleary**

Clinical Pharmacist > Geisinger  
Medical Center > Danville, Pa.

### **Susan Miller**

Clinical Pharmacist > Mount Nittany  
Medical Center > State College, Pa.

### **Nicholas Skezas**

Pharmacist > UPMC Presbyterian

### **Sydney Springer**

PGY2 Geriatric Pharmacy Resident >  
UPMC St. Margaret

### **Kyle Strnad**

PGY2 Critical Care Resident >  
UPMC Presbyterian

### **Alexa Szelc**

Pharmacist > Monongahela Valley  
Hospital > Monongahela, Pa.

### **Rebecca Tokarski**

Clinical Pharmacist > Chartwell Home  
Infusion > Pittsburgh, Pa.

### **Evan Venturella**

Staff Pharmacist > Accredo Health  
Group > Wexford, Pa.

## Psychiatry Pharmacy

### **Lauren Kohley**

Clinical Pharmacy Specialist,  
Psychiatry and Emergency Medicine >  
Cleveland Clinic Marymount Hospital

## Transplant Pharmacy

### **Anh Vu**

Clinical Pharmacist > The University  
of Kansas Hospital > Kansas City, Kan.

## Underserved Care/ Global Health Pharmacy

### **Ferealem (Fray) Assefa**

Clinical/Staff pharmacist >  
Carilion Clinic > Roanoke, Va.

## **Recent Publications by Resident Alumni:**

Please see our website for a  
list of recent publications  
by current and former  
residents: <http://pharmacy.pitt.edu/Programs/Residency/newsletter.php>  
Please contact us if we are  
missing any of your recent  
publications.



**Jessica Anderson, PharmD**  
PGY2 Ambulatory Care  
Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Presbyterian

Jessica is from Spartanburg, S.C. She received a Bachelor's of Science in Biology and Business Administration from Presbyterian College in Clinton, S.C., and received her PharmD from Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy. She completed a PGY1 residency at Saint Vincent Hospital in Erie, Pa. Her clinical areas of interest include diabetes, heart failure and COPD. Outside of pharmacy, she enjoys antiques, interior design, and cooking.



**Gina Ayers, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC St Margaret

Gina is from Winchester, Virginia. She received her PharmD from Shenandoah University and bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Mary Washington. Upon completing her PGY1 residency, she will continue at St. Margaret as a PGY2 in geriatrics. Her current professional interests include geriatrics, chronic disease state management, patient education, and interprofessional education. Other interests include spending time with friends and family and hiking.



**Sheava Blackman, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Shadyside

Sheava is from Miami, Florida, and received her PharmD from Nova Southeastern University in 2016. Her professional interests include primary care, global health, and caring for underserved patients. After completion of her PGY1 residency, she plans to pursue a PGY2 in ambulatory care. Outside of work Sheava enjoys traveling, hiking, photography and discovering good places to eat.



**Anna Bondar, PharmD**  
PGY2 Ambulatory Care  
Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC St Margaret

Anna is from Cleveland, Ohio, and received her PharmD from the University of Pittsburgh in 2015. She completed her PGY1 residency at UPMC St. Margaret. Her professional interests include primary care, global health, and caring for underserved patients. Next year, Anna hopes to work in the outpatient setting, teaching residents and students and taking care of patients. Outside of work Anna enjoys yoga and traveling.



**Megan Bookser, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
Magee-Womens Hospital  
of UPMC

Megan is from Pittsburgh, Pa., and received her PharmD from Ohio Northern University in 2016. Her professional interests include ambulatory care, family medicine, and teaching. In the future, she would like to obtain a position centered on patient education and precepting students. Outside of pharmacy, Megan loves to spend time with family and friends, cook, and cheer on all of the Pittsburgh sports teams.



**Gregory Bresin, PharmD**  
PGY1 Managed Care  
Pharmacy Resident  
CVS Caremark

Greg is from Rochester, N.Y., and received his PharmD from the University of Pittsburgh in 2016. His professional interests include Clinical Account Management, Clinical Program Development and teaching. After residency Greg plans to pursue a career as a clinical pharmacist at a health plan or PBM and be affiliated with a university. His interest include cooking, playing sports, and spending time with friends and family.



**Megan Carr, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC St Margaret

Megan is from Overland Park, Kansas, and received her PharmD from the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy in 2016. Her professional interests include geriatric care, interprofessional collaboration, health literacy and cognitive function. Next year, she will complete a PGY2 in geriatrics at UPMC St. Margaret. Outside of pharmacy, Megan enjoys baking, trying new restaurants, and traveling.



**Sherry Chen, PharmD**  
PGY2 Cardiology  
Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Presbyterian

Sherry is from Baltimore, Md., and graduated from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in 2015. She completed a PGY1 pharmacy residency at UPMC Presbyterian and has stayed for a PGY2 in cardiology. Her current professional interests include anticoagulation and advanced therapies for heart failure. Outside of pharmacy, Sherry enjoys working on craft projects, exploring Pittsburgh museums, and watching sci-fi movies.



**Seohyun (Claudia) Choi, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Mercy

Seohyun (Claudia) received her PharmD from The Ohio State University in 2016 and bachelor's degree in human biology from Michigan State University. Her areas of interest include critical care and inpatient rehabilitation. She plans to complete a PGY2 in critical care and pursue her career goal as a clinical pharmacist. She enjoys spinning exercises, pilates and mountain hikes.



**Ardis Copenhaver, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC St Margaret

Ardis is originally from Lexington, Kentucky and received her PharmD from the Medical University of South Carolina. Her areas of interest include family medicine, transitions of care, and interprofessional education. Following her residency, she plans to pursue a clinical position in family medicine practice and academia. In her spare time, Ardis enjoys spending time with friends and family, running, hiking, and playing tennis.



**Julia Dawson, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
Children's Hospital of  
Pittsburgh of UPMC

Julia is a graduate of Duquesne University Mylan School of Pharmacy, Class of 2016. She graduated with a concentration in pediatrics and is currently the Post-Graduate Year 1 (PGY1) Pharmacy Resident at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. She plans to pursue a PGY2 in a specialized area of pediatrics, achieve pediatric pharmacy specialty certification, and work as a clinical pharmacist in a pediatric hospital.



**Moses Demehin, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Presbyterian

Moses is from Baltimore, Md., and he received his PharmD from University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in 2016. His professional areas of interest include immunology, infectious diseases, and solid organ transplantation. After completing his residency, Moses plans to complete a PGY2 residency in one these specialties. Outside of pharmacy, he enjoys traveling, sampling different cuisines, listening to live music and playing the piano.

## MEET THE RESIDENTS (2016-2017)



**Nicole Durie, PharmD**  
PGY2 Cardiology  
Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Presbyterian

Nicole is from Doylestown, Pa., and received her PharmD in 2015

from Northeastern University in Boston, Mass. She completed her PGY1 pharmacy residency at UPMC Presbyterian last year. Her areas of interest include critical care and cardiology. In her spare time, Nicole enjoys hiking, spending time with family and friends, and traveling.



**April Elling, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Hamot

April is from Mahaffey, Pa. She received a Bachelor's of Science in Cell Biology and Biochemistry from

Bucknell University, and her PharmD from LECOM School of Pharmacy in 2016. Her interests include ambulatory care, oncology, and pediatrics. April plans to either find a clinical position or complete a PGY2 residency in one of these specialties. Outside of pharmacy, she enjoys spending time with family, reading, watching movies and fishing.



**Emily Linville Fargo, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC St Margaret

Emily received her PharmD from the University of Pittsburgh in 2016 and a bachelor's degree in

biochemistry from the College of Wooster. Next year, she will continue at St. Margaret as a PGY2 specializing in ambulatory care. Her current professional interests include family medicine, chronic disease state management, and working with an interdisciplinary team. She enjoys traveling, being outdoors, playing tennis, and spending time with family.



**Maria Felton, PharmD**  
PGY2 Geriatric  
Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC St Margaret

Maria is from Davidsville, Pa., and received her PharmD in 2015

from the University of Pittsburgh. She completed her PGY1 pharmacy residency at UPMC St. Margaret and is continuing at St. Margaret for a PGY2 in geriatrics. She ultimately hopes to combine her passion for teaching and patient care in an academic setting. She enjoys trying new restaurants, spending time with family and friends, and watching Pittsburgh sports teams.



**Arlene Gao, PharmD**  
PGY2 Oncology  
Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Shadyside

Arlene received her PharmD from the University of Maryland

School of Pharmacy and completed her PGY1 pharmacy residency at UPMC Presbyterian. Her professional interests in oncology include hematologic malignancies and supportive care management. Arlene hopes to pursue a clinical oncology position that also allows her to mentor future pharmacists. In her free time, she enjoys reading, traveling, and spending time with friends and family.



**Natalie Giron, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Presbyterian

Natalie is originally from Naples, Fla., and received her PharmD from Mercer University in 2016.

Her current professional interests include oncology, academia, and infectious diseases. After completing a PGY1 at UPMC Presbyterian she hopes to pursue a PGY2 specialty residency. In her spare time, Natalie enjoys spending time with her family and her dogs, traveling, adventuring, watching and quoting good and bad movies, and reading.



**Nicholas Giruzzi, PharmD**  
PGY2 Ambulatory Care  
Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC St Margaret

Nick received his PharmD from Albany College of Pharmacy

and Health Sciences in 2015. He completed a PGY1 pharmacy residency at UPMC St. Margaret and is continuing as a PGY2 in ambulatory care. His professional interests include chronic disease state management and patient education. His goal is to pursue a position as an outpatient clinical pharmacist. He enjoys going to concerns, watching sports and staying active.



**Alana Grabigel, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Shadyside

Alana is from Sharpsville, Pa., and received her PharmD from Duquesne University in 2016. Her

professional interests include oncology, ambulatory care and education. In her future, Alana hopes to complete a PGY2 in one of these areas and ultimately pursue a clinical position at a medical teaching institution. Outside of pharmacy, Alana enjoys yoga, dancing, trying new restaurants and spending time with friends and family.



**Mahalia Harrell, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC McKeesport

Mahalia is originally from St. Louis, Mo. She received a BS in Biochemistry-Biotechnology in

2012 and her PharmD in 2016 from the University of Missouri. Her career interests include ambulatory care, pharmacy administration, professional organizational involvement, mentoring future student pharmacists and improving care in the medically underserved. In her spare time she enjoys watching baseball, trying new recipes and spending time with family and friends.



**Kristin Hart, PharmD**  
PGY2 Geriatric  
Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Shadyside

Kristin is from Rochester, N.Y. She received her BS in Biology

from SUNY Geneseo followed by her PharmD from University at Buffalo in 2015. She completed her PGY1 community pharmacy residency at University of Pittsburgh and Rite Aid. Her interests include quality improvement and ambulatory care within community pharmacy, geriatrics, government affairs, and advocacy for the profession. Kristin enjoys trying new restaurants, traveling, and attending advocacy events.



**Karen Hoang, PharmD**  
PGY1 Community  
Pharmacy Resident

School of Pharmacy in collaboration with Rite Aid

Karen is from Cleveland, Ohio, and graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy in 2016. Her current professional interests include clinical community, managed care, and ambulatory care. Following completion of her PGY1, she plans to pursue a career in one of these areas. Outside of pharmacy, Karen enjoys trying new restaurants, traveling, and musicals.



**Cassius Hudson, Jr, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Presbyterian

Cassius is from Toledo, Ohio, and received his PharmD from the University of Toledo College

of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in 2016. His current professional interests include critical care, cardiology, and internal medicine. After completing his residency, Cassius plans to pursue a PGY2 residency within one of these specialty areas. Outside of pharmacy, he enjoys working out, trying new restaurants, and spending time with friends and family.



**Amna Jamil, PharmD**  
PGY2 Underserved/Global Health Pharmacy Resident  
University of Pittsburgh

Amna was born in Pakistan and raised in Mississauga, Ontario.

She received her PharmD from Rutgers University in 2015 and completed her PGY1 Residency at Plainview Hospital in Long Island, N.Y. Her areas of interest include primary care, global health and academia. She hopes to attain a clinical faculty appointment in conjunction with a practice site that will allow her to care for the underserved.



**Jonathan Kovac, PharmD**  
PGY1 Community Pharmacy Resident

School of Pharmacy in collaboration with Giant Eagle  
Jonathan, who is from McMurray,

Pa., graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy this past April. Upon completion of his PGY1 residency training, Jonathan plans to continue to provide clinical services and act as a student preceptor by pursuing a career as a community-based clinical pharmacist.



**Nathan Lambertson, PharmD**  
PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC St Margaret

Nate received his PharmD from Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in 2015, and completed a PGY1 pharmacy residency at UPMC St. Margaret in 2016. Upon completion of his PGY2 residency, Nate hopes to obtain a clinical pharmacist position within a rural, primary care setting with teaching and precepting opportunities.



**Sadaf Mahmood, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Hamot

Sadaf is from Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada and graduated from the University of Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy in 2014. Her professional interests include critical care, infectious diseases, and emergency medicine pharmacy. She hopes to pursue a career in clinical pharmacy with both clinical and teaching responsibilities. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, cooking, photography, and spending time with family and friends.



**Sheheryar Muhammad, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Mercy

Sheheryar is from Gaithersburg, Md. He received his Bachelor

of Science degree in Biological Sciences from University of Maryland, College Park in 2012, and his PharmD from University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in 2016. His professional interests include cardiology, psychiatry, and academia. In his spare time, Sheheryar enjoys attending independent film screenings, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.



**Tanya Mumau, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Hamot

Tanya is from Conneaut Lake, Pa. She received her PharmD from the Mylan School of Pharmacy

at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pa. Her professional interests are critical care and post-transplant management. After completion of her PGY1 residency at UPMC Hamot, Tanya hopes to pursue a critical care position that also allows her to precept future pharmacists.



**Jaclyn Niggemyer, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Mercy

Jaclyn is from Wheeling, W.Va. She received her bachelor's in biology from West Virginia

University followed by her PharmD from Notre Dame of Maryland University in 2016. Her interests include psychiatry, internal medicine, and academia. Jaclyn loves running, and enjoys working out. She is an avid Notre Dame football fan, loves watching Penguins hockey, and enjoys spending time with family, friends, and her dog, Whitney.



**Sydney Springer, PharmD**  
PGY2 Geriatric Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC St Margaret

Sydney is from Middletown, R.I., and received her PharmD from

the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy in 2015. She completed her PGY1 residency at UPMC St. Margaret and is continuing her training at St. Margaret with a PGY2 in geriatrics. Her professional interests include geriatric pharmacotherapy, complementary and alternative medicine, and academia. Outside of pharmacy, she enjoyed reading, crocheting, and biking around the city.



**Ryan Steiner, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Mercy

Ryan is from Wilmington, Del., and received his PharmD from Temple University School of Pharmacy in

Philadelphia, Pa. His professional areas of interest include internal medicine and infectious diseases. Outside of pharmacy, he enjoys sports and spending time with family and friends.



**Kyle Strnad, PharmD**  
PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Presbyterian

Kyle is originally from Yardley, Pa. He received his PharmD in 2015

from Thomas Jefferson University and completed his PGY1 at UPMC Presbyterian in 2016. He is excited to stay in Pittsburgh to continue his training, and ultimately hopes to secure a critical care clinical or faculty position in an academic institution. For fun, Kyle enjoys sports, exploring restaurants, and spending time with family and friends.



**Adrienne Szymkowiak, PharmD**  
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Presbyterian

Adrienne is from Greensburg, Pa., and received her Doctorate of

Pharmacy from Duquesne University Mylan School of Pharmacy in 2016. Her professional interests include critical care, cardiology, and patient safety. After her PGY1 year, she plans to complete a PGY2 in critical care and pursue a shared clinical and teaching position. Adrienne enjoys the outdoors and spending time with family and friends.



**Khushbu Thaker, PharmD**  
PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Resident  
UPMC Presbyterian

Khushbu is from Galloway, N.J., and received her Bachelor's degree

in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Stockton University, followed by her PharmD from MCPHS University in 2015. She completed a PGY1 residency at Hunterdon Medical Center. Her areas of interest include academia, primary care, and women's health. Outside of pharmacy, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, travelling, exploring new places, and reading books.



**Neil Turco, PharmD**  
 PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
 UPMC St Margaret

Neil is from Kittanning, Pa., and earned his PharmD from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy in 2016. His professional interests include family medicine, interprofessional education, and transitions of care. Next year, he will complete a PGY2 in ambulatory care at UPMC St. Margaret. Outside of pharmacy, Neil enjoys hiking, working out, reading classical literature, and automotive engineering.



**Ting-Ting Wu, PharmD**  
 PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
 UPMC Presbyterian

Ting-Ting received her PharmD from University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy in 2016. Her areas of interest include solid organ transplant and clinical research. After completing her PGY1 residency, she plans to pursue a PGY2 residency or fellowship in transplantation. Outside of pharmacy, Ting-Ting enjoys traveling, live music, and outdoor activities.



**Hanna Welch, PharmD**  
 PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
 UPMC Presbyterian

Originally from Huntsville, Ala., Hanna earned her Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and French at University of Alabama in 2011, then spent a year teaching English to high school students in France. She received her PharmD from the University of Michigan in 2016. Her professional interests include ambulatory care, infectious diseases, global health, and teaching. Hanna spends her free time cooking, shopping at farmers markets, biking, and contra dancing.



**William Wilson, PharmD**  
 PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
 UPMC Mercy

Will is from Lehman, Pa., and received his PharmD in 2016 from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy. His current interests are infectious diseases and internal medicine. Following completion of his PGY1 year, Will plans to complete a PGY2 in infectious diseases. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with friends and family, as well as attending concerts and sporting events.



**Olya Witkowsky, PharmD**  
 PGY2 Solid Organ  
 Transplantation  
 Pharmacy Resident  
 UPMC Presbyterian

Olya is from Park Ridge, Ill., and received her BS in Pharmacology/Toxicology followed by her PharmD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2015. She completed her PGY1 pharmacy residency at the University of Chicago Medicine. Her professional interests include solid organ transplant, immunology, and infectious diseases. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, outdoor activities, eating, taking her dog for a walk, and spending time with family and friends.

## PROFESSIONAL UPDATES

**Brandon Antinopoulos ('15)** was presented with the Distinguished Young Pharmacist award during the Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association (PPA) 2016 Annual Conference in September. Also, Brandon was recently installed as president of the Allegheny County Pharmacists Association (ACPA).

**Ayesha Ather ('15)** completed her PGY2 residency and took a position as a cardiothoracic surgery pharmacist at the University of Kentucky HealthCare.

**Jeff Brewer ('00)** was recognized as a Fellow of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (FASHP) this summer.

**John Cadwalader ('13,'14,'15)** was promoted to manager of pharmacy operations for the UPMC Presbyterian inpatient pharmacy.

**Anne Countway ('15)** completed her PGY2 residency and took a position as a pediatric emergency department clinical pharmacist at Akron Children's Hospital in Ohio.

**Justin Delic ('15)** completed his PGY2 residency and is now assistant professor specializing in critical care at the University of the Sciences Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

**Christina (Schober) DeRemer ('03, '04)** was recognized as a Fellow of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (FASHP) this summer. She is currently serving as chair for the education steering committee in the ASHP Section of Inpatient Care Practitioners.

**Amy (Calabrese) Donihi ('99)** was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (FCCP) in October 2016.

**Timothy George ('05, '06)** and Lauren (Veltry) George ('06) are back in Pittsburgh. Tim is an oncology clinical pharmacist at UPMC Shadyside, and Lauren is currently working as a pharmacist at West Penn Hospital.

**Suzanna Gim ('05)** was promoted to director of international affairs at the Arnold & Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy at Long Island University.

**Patrick Gleason ('94)** was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy in April 2016.

**Justine (Shuller) Gortney ('00)** was promoted to associate clinical professor this past August. She is currently the director of assessment for the pharmacy division at Wayne State.

**Emily Graham ('15)** completed her PGY2 residency and is now an oncology clinical pharmacy specialist with Allegheny Health Network.

**Genevieve Hale ('14)** received two research grants from Nova Southeastern University for research projects titled "An evaluation of practitioners' preference of stroke risk in nonvalvular atrial fibrillation: CHA2DS2-VASc versus CHADS2" and "Improving quality of life and cardiovascular health and wellness of elderly patients in South Florida."

**Amy Haver ('14)** started a new position as a geriatric clinical pharmacist at UPMC St. Margaret in December 2015.

**Ashley Hedges ('14)** completed her PGY2 residency and took a full time critical care pharmacist position at the University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Ashley Holzworth-Nash ('10)** was promoted to senior clinical account executive at Express Scripts. She and her husband have moved back to Pittsburgh!

**Matthew Jenkins ('10,'11)** is now director of inpatient pharmacy services at University of Virginia Health System.

**Meredith Jernigan ('11,'12)** is now clinical pharmacist for infectious diseases and cystic fibrosis at University of Virginia Health System.

**Jessica (Saunders) Jones ('13)** was promoted to program manager of PBM clinical strategy this summer at Evolent Health in Atlanta, Ga.

**Lauren (Fields) Jonkman ('07, '08)** received the 2016 Chancellor's Distinguished Public Service Award at the University of Pittsburgh.

**Paul Juang ('04)** was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Critical Care Medicine (FCCM) in February 2016. He was also named a Fellow of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (FASHP) this summer.

**Nadia Kudla ('14)** was promoted to clinical pharmacy specialist at Forbes Regional Hospital in Monroeville, Pa.

**Kyle McCormick ('15)** was recently installed as president-elect of the Allegheny County Pharmacists Association (ACPA).

**Ian McGrane ('12)** is now assistant professor of pharmacy practice at the Skaggs School of Pharmacy of the University of Montana.

**Christine (Jordan) Moore ('15)** was recently installed as secretary of the Allegheny County Pharmacists Association (ACPA).

**Christine (Fisher) Owens ('11)** and **Nick Owens ('10, '11)** have re-located to Philadelphia. Nick is now an assistant professor of clinical pharmacy at University of the Sciences Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

**Katie Roberts ('15)** completed her PGY2, and is now a clinical pharmacy specialist in the medical ICU at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Mo.

**Heather (Kudis) Sakely ('05)** was selected to participate in the 2016 class of the Practice Change Leaders program. Ten leaders across the nation were selected to participate in this prestigious fourteen month program. Heather received \$45,000 toward completing a project aimed at implementing a new geriatric service line or aging program.

**Kate Sisco ('13)** left her position working in critical care at Johns Hopkins to begin work with Médecins sans frontières (Doctors Without Borders) as a field pharmacist. She departed on her first mission to South Sudan in November.

**Elaine (Mebel) Strauss ('11, '12)** relocated from Pittsburgh to Boston and is now pharmacy operations manager for compounding services at Massachusetts General Hospital. In this role, she oversees several inpatient compounding areas and ensures the safety and quality of all compounded products. She is also involved in preparing for the upcoming Massachusetts state and USP 797 and 800 compounding regulation updates.

**Johanna Thompson ('13)** is now an advanced clinical pharmacist specializing in primary care at Intermountain Healthcare in Salt Lake City, UT.

**Tina Tran ('15)** completed her PGY2 residency training in global pharmacy last year with Purdue University School of Pharmacy, and is now a global health fellow with Purdue. She has relocated in Eldoret, Kenya where she works closely with AMPATH (<http://www.ampathkenya.org/>).

**Mike Vozniak ('03)** completed his 3-year term serving on the Hematology Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA) Board of Directors, most recently serving as the Past-President. For the 2016-2017 term, he is serving as the Chair of the HOPA Health Policy Committee.

**Kristin (Zerumsky) Watson ('04,'05)** has a new administrative role as vice chair for clinical services in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy.

**Celeste (Sejnowski) Wise ('13)** obtained a new position as ED clinical pharmacist at Southwest General Health Center in Middleburg Heights, Ohio.

**Kathy Woodburn**, department administrator at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics as well as UPMC/Pitt pharmacy residency program coordinator for 16 years, retired on March 31, 2016.

**Eric Wright ('99)** is now director and senior investigator at the Center for Pharmacy Innovation and Outcomes Research at Geisinger Health System.

**Dan Yarabinec ('13)** is back in Pittsburgh and working as an inpatient clinical pharmacist for the family medicine service at UPMC Shadyside.

**Megan Zielke ('15)** completed her PGY2 residency and accepted a critical care specialist position at Penn Presbyterian in Philadelphia, Pa.

### Newly Wed:

**Christine Fisher ('11) and Nick Owens ('10, '11)** on June 6 2016.

**Pamela Gradisek ('09)** and John Iannitto on July 9, 2016.

**Jessica Saunders ('13)** and Ronnie Jones on April 16, 2016.

**Kristin Hart ('16,'17)** and Kevin Macksamie on July 23, 2016.

**Meredith Jernigan ('11,'12)** and **Matthew Jenkins ('10,'11)** on May 21, 2016.

**Christine Jordan ('15)** and **Cody Moore ('15)** on October 8, 2016.

**Elizabeth McCartney ('14)** and **Justin Harris ('14)** on October 8, 2016.

**Nicole Nierste ('16,'17)** and Adam Jasperson on September 4, 2016.

**Amy Patel ('12)** and Shivam Patel on July 30, 2016.

*Continued from page 1*

Falk Pharmacy is still located within the Falk Medical Building, and offers typical outpatient services including filling prescriptions and offering immunizations. Patients can have prescriptions mailed directly to their home or delivered to their Pitt or UPMC office location for convenience. In addition, as a specialty pharmacy, Falk Pharmacy dispenses uncommon and expensive drugs including medications for Hepatitis C, HIV and other immune disorders. Pharmacists at Falk also fill stock medications for the University of Pittsburgh athletic department and two of the professional sports teams in Pittsburgh. Additional unique services include provision of prescription medications for University of Pittsburgh research, UPMC employees traveling internationally, and visiting international travelers (with charges submitted to their respective embassies).

Ambulatory care pharmacy residents at UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside are fortunate to have opportunities to work in both PPS and Falk Pharmacy. Both are very different and unique UPMC retail pharmacies, and both offer excellent opportunities for resident research. These pharmacies have linked prescription records which allows for tracking of prescription refill compliance as well as outcomes associated with interventions in multiple disease states and settings. Furthermore, Falk Pharmacy was one of four pharmacies participating in a study assessing characteristics of patients filling opioid prescriptions in southwestern Pennsylvania. This study, which was published in 2016 in the *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association*,

identified relationships between opioid medication misuse and specific opioid drugs and health problems as well as the fact that community pharmacy is an underutilized resource in reducing opioid abuse.

Each PGY2 ambulatory care pharmacy resident completes a six-week outpatient pharmacy operations rotation at Falk Pharmacy. During this rotation, residents learn practice management through oversight of the immunization program including scheduling, supply resourcing, and vaccination provision. Residents are also exposed to management and regulatory functions within the pharmacy, and they have the opportunity to research and develop new outpatient pharmacy services. Residents also gain teaching experience by precepting pharmacy students on rotation at Falk or PPS. The residents complete their longitudinal staffing requirements on weekends within PPS. The opportunities for UPMC residents within outpatient retail pharmacies will continue to grow since research opportunities are abundant and new services are constantly being developed at both Falk Pharmacy and PPS.



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