



A New Era

Pharmacy Residency

2023 Annual Report

BOSTON
MEDICAL
CENTER

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Dear prospective applicant,

Thank you for your interest in Boston Medical Center and our exceptional residency training programs. Like most health care organizations, we continue to face significant challenges after emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic. I am proud of how our pharmacy enterprise is responding to meet the needs of our patients and workforce. We continue to grow, adapt, and demonstrate agility in an effort to improve the health of our patients. After reviewing our annual report, I sincerely hope we leave you with the desire to join our remarkable team!



In response to the lack of inpatient behavioral health beds in the state, BMC opened a facility in Brockton in October 2022 to provide inpatient psychiatric care and outpatient addiction medicine services. In an effort to meet the growing demand for inpatient beds and decompress our busy ED, BMC is building 70 new beds over the next 18 months. The first of those beds will come online in January 2025. Despite this growth, BMC projects that we will be short the full complement of beds needed to meet demand in the coming years. As a result, we are launching a hospital-at-home initiative in April 2024. Our pharmacy team has an essential role to play in each of these exciting growth opportunities.

Our Department of Hematology and Oncology continues to expand clinical services in an effort to provide the most innovative care for our vulnerable patients. This past year, we began offering CAR (“chimeric antigen receptor”) T-cell therapy, a promising therapy for patients with specific blood cancers. In 2024, we plan to launch a program that provides a novel gene therapy for patients with sickle cell disease. This therapy is a major breakthrough that results in a functional cure for sick cell patients.

Our BMC-operated health plan and outpatient pharmacy services continue to grow to meet the complex needs of our patients. Our accountable care organization (ACO), managed by WellSense Health Plan (BMC-owned health insurance company), took on 300,000 new members this year. This makes us the largest Medicaid ACO in the state. Our mail order pharmacy, Cornerstone Health Solutions, continues to grow as they now support central fill for several of our outpatient pharmacies. Finally, Clearway Health, BMC’s own specialty pharmacy consulting company, continues to add new clients as they export many of our successful specialty pharmacy programs to health systems across the country.

I invite you to learn more about Boston Medical Center, our pharmacy enterprise, and the many people that make this such a special place to work.

Sincerely,



Kevin J Horbowicz, PharmD, BCPS
Associate Chief Pharmacy Officer, Inpatient

CAR-T/Oncology Advancements

The hematology/oncology department at BMC commenced the chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T) therapy program in January 2023. This was established by the conjoined efforts of multidisciplinary teams to ensure access to safe and appropriate therapy. BMC's pharmacy department was heavily involved in the implementation of policies and procedures, starting with drug acquisition and IT builds within the EMR, to side effect management with robust cytokine-release syndrome guideline development.

Since implementation of CAR-T services earlier this year, we have had three patients successfully complete their CAR-T therapy for relapsed diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL). Our very first patient was treated with axicabtagene ciloleucel (YESCARTA®) and achieved complete remission! We have also expanded the program to include a different CAR-T products, tisagenlecleucel (KYMRIA®) for relapsed DLBCL and are working on the guidelines and procedures for Breyazni® and Abecma® CAR-T therapy for our large multiple myeloma.

With the development of the BMC CAR-T service line, the institution is one of the first to provide this highly effective therapy to a highly vulnerable patient population. BMC as a whole strives to provide the best advancements in healthcare to all patients without exception, and the hematology/oncology pharmacy team is proud to be a part of that mission.



Led by Fabio Petrocca, MD, our multidisciplinary team brings together a wide range of specialists including hematology, critical care, neurology, cardiology, blood bank, laboratory medicine, social work, pharmacy, and emergency medicine (left to right): **Radhika Jhaveri**, Pharm.D, **Margaux Dockerty** MSN, AGNP-C, **Fabio Petrocca**, MD, **Bhavesh Shah**, RPh, **Brittany Fuller**

Ambulatory Care Expansion

Boston Medical Center's ambulatory care and specialty pharmacy departments have undergone significant expansion in the last year, resulting in greater access to healthcare and capacity for pharmacist medication management. Below are some of the highlights of these expansions.

Expansion in Primary Care

The department has improved access for accountable care organization (ACO) metric impact and expanded its pharmacist panel capabilities. Panel capacity has increased by 50%, with a maximum of 1,350 patients that can be followed by the team in General Internal Medicine (GIM). Access to pharmacists' appointments has also significantly improved, with new patient appointments available within 1-2 weeks.



The department has been able to support grant work and other initiatives within GIM, such as the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) grant, Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and Obesity grant, and Health Equity Accelerator. The pharmacy department has been a key player in GIM meeting attainment and goals for diabetes ACO quality measures. The hiring of additional staff, improved access, and attainment of these metrics allows the department further capacity to continue to expand services in the coming years.

PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency Program

The expansion of the ambulatory care residency program has mirrored the growth within the department, allowing for improved access for patients referred for pharmacy services. Matching two residents in the 2021-2022 residency year allowed the department to offer additional clinical time in GIM clinic, in addition to the Family Medicine clinic. The program has matched with 2 residents again for the 2023-2024 year, which will continue to provide the support for additional service and quality improvement work, while increasing primary care and anticoagulation service access. In addition, the expansion will help to train highly qualified ambulatory pharmacists to meet the needs of the growing department following graduation.

Establishment of Pharmacy Services in Obstetrics and Gynecology (OBGYN)

Ambulatory care pharmacists teamed up with the OBGYN department to bridge the gap of patients with postpartum hypertension in order to avoid delays in care during the early postpartum phase when the risk of stroke is highest. This inter professional collaboration between pharmacists, nurses, and physicians allows for prompt assessment and rapid titration of antihypertensive agents based on remote blood pressure readings in high-risk patients. The goals of this collaboration were to broaden accessible and equitable care, and decrease healthcare utilization. The success of the initiative has required collaboration between primary care, cardiology, and anticoagulation pharmacists. The establishment of pharmacy services within the OBGYN department has set the foundation for potential future developments and expansions into postpartum care.

Expanded Opt-Out Testing for Hepatitis C

The department has expanded its opt-out testing for Hepatitis C, which allows for earlier detection and a reduction in stigma. This ultimately results in the outreach of more patients and proactive treatment to prevent development of cirrhosis.

Expansion in the Centers for Infectious Diseases (CID)

Pharmacists have spearheaded the expansion of the cabotegravir/rilpivirine (Cabenuva) program, screening patients for eligibility, facilitating access of medication, and following up to monitor for safety and efficacy. The expansion of the Cabenuva program has helped over 100 patients remain adherent to their HIV regimen, making it one of the largest programs of its kind in the country. The expansion of pharmacist presence into the STD clinic has resulted in more patients getting access to life-altering medications to prevent HIV.

Hiring of Additional Staff

The department has hired two additional ambulatory care pharmacist positions within the GIM clinic, one of which is specifically to service the IHI grant. New positions for pharmacists specializing in dermatology, pulmonology, and renal have also been developed.

Opening of a New Outpatient Pharmacy

The opening of the Crosstown Building Pharmacy marks the fourth on-campus pharmacy location that serves BMC patients and employees. Below is a picture of GIM leadership touring the new Crosstown Pharmacy.

Overall, the expansion of ambulatory and specialty services in the pharmacy department at Boston Medical Center has improved access to care for patients and allowed the department to play a more significant role in meeting institutional goals. These expansions have also allowed the pharmacy department to support new service-driven initiatives, which will benefit patients in the coming years.

▶ Megan Feeney,
PharmD, BCCCP

ACCP Futures Grants Award

Dr. Megan Feeney was one of five applicants awarded the 2022 ACCP Foundation Frontiers Fund Futures Grant, which supports clinical pharmacy researcher development and advancement. The Foundation received 23 applications which were each reviewed by an expert panel and chosen based on core criteria.

Megan's research titled "Association Between Prior Substance Use and Sedation and Analgesia Requirements Among Mechanically Ventilated Critically Ill Adults" aims to address the challenge of appropriately managing patients with substance use disorder in the ICU. This research speaks to both her motivation to contribute to bettering our profession's understanding of a complex topic as well as improving care for our patient population at Boston Medical Center. Congratulations Megan!

Alumni Spotlight: Phuong Dao

Phuong Dao, PharmD, BCOP first earned a Bachelor's of Science degree with a major in Physiological Sciences and a minor in Neurosciences in 2007. She then went on to earn her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from University of Illinois Chicago in 2014. She completed both her PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice residency and PGY-2 Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Practice residency at Boston Medical Center from 2014-2016. After residency she has held positions as a Clinical Pharmacist in Oncology at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston Medical Center, and currently she works at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist.



What sparked your interest and led you to pursue residency at BMC?

I heard that pharmacy is less progressive on the east coast, but I was impressed by how well established pharmacy practice was at BMC. I was interested in BMC because the residency program offered a wide range of inpatient and ambulatory care rotations for me to explore as potential career paths. I early committed to the PGY-2 oncology residency because I wanted to continue practicing at a safety-net hospital that provides care to under-served patient populations and addresses health disparities.

What are some skills that you developed or improved during residency that contributed to your success, either early on or even in your current career?

I believe the most rewarding experience at BMC was working with its diverse patients, many with limited health literacy and financial resources. The communication skills that I developed during residency allow me to counsel patients and their caregivers on complex oncologic concepts as well as provide safe transitions of care. One of the unexpected things that I became proficient in during residency was navigating insurance, prior authorizations, and patient access programs--knowledge that has enabled me to assist patients gain high-value cancer treatments and avoid financial toxicities. Having also worked at MGH and MSKCC, BMC has greatly influenced me to practice evidence-based medicine with a cost-conscious mindset.

Were there any unique experiences or memories at BMC that stand out to you?

My fondest memories from BMC are the friendships formed with co-residents, preceptors, clinical pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians. Their support and mentorship helped me succeed during my residency years and shaped me into the clinical pharmacist I am today.

What advice do you have for incoming graduates on how to be a successful resident?

Residency will undoubtedly be a challenging year. Each resident's experience is different so try not to compare yourself to your colleagues, instead, learn from them. Look at the big picture and don't get caught up in the little things. Your residency year passes quickly so take the opportunity to learn as much as you can and you'll be a better pharmacist with every passing day.

What are some of your current interests and motivations driving your current practice?

One of the unique aspects of practicing as a clinical pharmacy specialist at MSKCC is constant exposure to rare diseases, often relapsed/refractory, and assisting providers by coming up with new therapies. In doing so, I'm interested in reviewing the outcomes of our real-world experience at MSKCC and sharing the data to advance clinical practice on a global level. I am also dedicated to my own professional development and expanding my research skills. Currently, I'm assisting with designing the protocol for a phase I/II clinical trial for IDH2-mutant angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma.

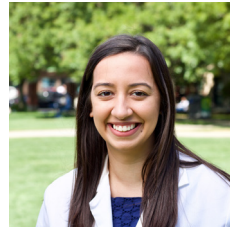
When you aren't at work, what do you do to relax?

I live in Long Island City and enjoy jogging along the east river with a beautiful view of the Manhattan skyline. I also enjoy exploring New York and trying a new restaurant every week.

Current residents

Next Steps

Career



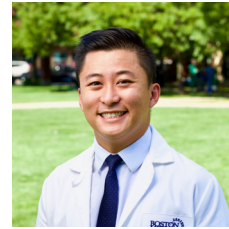
Ana Safri, PharmD
Ambulatory Care Clinical Specialist – Cardiology at Boston Medical Center



Danielle Famularo, PharmD
ICU Clinical Specialist at Boston Medical Center



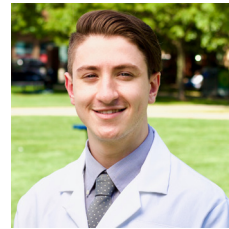
Emily Plasencia, PharmD
Emergency Medicine Pharmacist at Lahey Hospital



Kevin Nguyen, PharmD
Clinical Infectious Disease Specialist / Co-Director of Antimicrobial Stewardship at St Christopher Children's Hospital, Philadelphia, PA



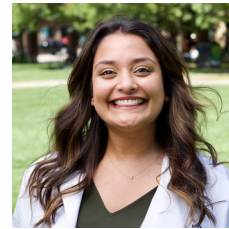
Maha Aldoughaim, PharmD
Assistant Professor of Hematology/Oncology at King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



Michael Maiullari, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist – HIV/Infectious Diseases at Boston Medical Center



Niamh O'Grady, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist – Internal Medicine at Boston Medical Center



Sita Bhatt, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist – Hematology/Oncology at Boston Medical Center



Jessica Hodgen, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacist at Samaritan Health Services, Corvallis, OR

PGY-2



Jacob Peace, PharmD
PGY-2 Emergency Medicine at University of California, Davis Medical Center



Monaz Engineer, PharmD
PGY-2 Cardiology at University of Chicago, IL

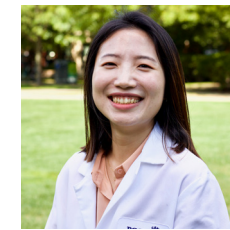


Temi Sofeso, PharmD
PGY-2 Emergency Medicine at Boston Medical Center

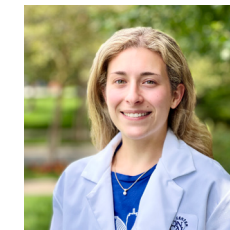
PGY-1



Kaitlin Pothier, PharmD
PGY-1 Non-Traditional at Boston Medical Center



Da-Ae (Lynn) Chung, PharmD
PGY-1 Non-Traditional at Boston Medical Center



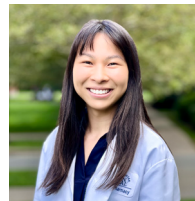
Kristen Peterson, PharmD
PGY-1 at Boston Medical Center

Incoming residents



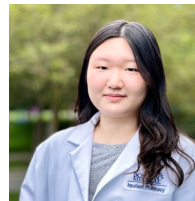
Emily Short: PGY1

Dr. Emily Short is from Easton, Massachusetts. She graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 2023. Her clinical areas of interest are critical care and emergency medicine. Her hobbies include playing with her kitten, Piper, trying new restaurants, cooking and baking. A fun fact about Emily is she has visited 10 countries.



Uyen Hoang: PGY1

Dr. Uyen Hoang is from Houston, Texas. She graduated from Texas A&M School of Pharmacy in 2023. Her clinical areas of interest are ambulatory care, cardiology, and pain management. Her hobbies include writing/editing, listening to podcasts, going on walks, and traveling with family and friends. A fun fact about Uyen is that she writes letters and short stories using a mechanical typewriter.



Jiye Park: PGY1

Dr. Jiye Park is from Old Tappan, New Jersey. She graduated from Northeastern University in 2023. Her clinical areas of interest emergency medicine and critical care. Her hobbies include cycling, golfing, and exploring new restaurants/cafes. A fun fact about Jiye is that she loves travelling and being on an airplane.



Hanna Park: PGY1

Dr. Hanna Park is from Seoul, South Korea and Vancouver, Canada. She graduated from Northeastern University in 2023. Her clinical area of interest is ambulatory care. Her hobbies include yoga, travel, and watching dog videos. A fun fact about Hanna is that her grandmas went to the same pharmacy school and she will be the 6th pharmacist in her family.



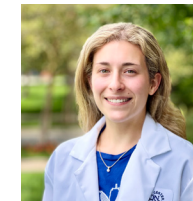
Sienna Wurl: PGY1

Dr. Sienna Wurl is from Mattapoisett, Massachusetts. She graduated from Western New England University in 2023. Her clinical areas of interest are emergency medicine and critical care. Her hobbies include reading, taking care of her plants, spending time with family/friends, and traveling. A fun fact about Sienna is that she's climbed to the top of a volcano and took photos looking down at the clouds from the summit.



Christine Hancock: PGY1

Dr. Christine Hancock is from San Marino, California. She graduated from the University of California, San Francisco in 2023. Her clinical areas of interest are emergency medicine and toxicology. Her hobbies include baking, painting, and playing with her cat, Bolt. A fun fact about Christine is she can play Fur Elise on the piano by memory.



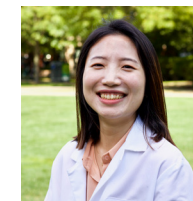
Kristen Peterson: PGY1 – Graduating Off Cycle

Dr. Kristen Peterson is from Trumbull, Connecticut. She graduated from Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Boston in 2021. Her clinical areas of interest are cardiology and emergency medicine. Her hobbies include trying new restaurants, listening to music, and running. A fun fact about Kristen is that she broke her back at 24 years old.



Kaitlin Pothier: PGY1 – Non-traditional

Dr. Kaitlin Pothier is from South Kingstown, Rhode Island. She graduated from The University of Rhode Island in 2022. Her clinical areas of interest are emergency medicine, cardiology, and critical care. Her hobbies include surfing, skiing, and exploring new things to do in the city. A fun fact about Kaitlin is she can play the violin and guitar.



Da-ae (Lynn) Chung: PGY1 – Non-traditional

Dr. Da-ae Chung is from Seoul, Korea. She graduated from Northeastern University in 2020. Her clinical areas of interest are infectious diseases, pediatrics, and geriatrics. In her spare time, she enjoys listening to classical music, playing board games with her friends, and spending time with her little nephew and niece. A fun fact about Da-ae is that she still remembers going inside the pyramid in Egypt when she was 4 years old.



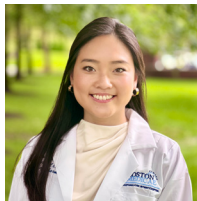
Britteny Cherestal: PGY1/2 – HSPAL

Dr. Britteny Cherestal is from Ocala, Florida. She graduated from Florida A&M University in 2023. Her clinical areas of interest are critical care and infectious disease. Her hobbies include hiking, kayaking, and being out in nature. A fun fact about Britteny is that she lived in Haiti until the age of six & Haitian Kreyol is her native language.



Temí Sofeso: PGY2 – Emergency Medicine

Dr. Sarah Temi Sofeso is from Riverside, California. She graduated from the University of California, San Francisco in 2022. Her clinical interest areas of interest are emergency medicine, toxicology, and critical care. In her spare time, she enjoys working out, watching live music, and eating everything the city has to offer. A fun fact about Temi is that she has been to the San Diego Comic Con three times and has met some of the Avengers cast.



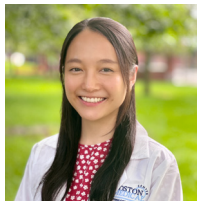
Yumi Oh: PGY2 – Critical Care

Dr. Yumi Oh is from Opelika, Alabama. She graduated from Auburn University- Harrison College of Pharmacy 2022. Her clinical interest area of interest is critical care. In her spare time, she enjoys catching up on all the new Netflix series and trying new restaurants. A fun fact about Yumi is that in elementary school she used to be ambidextrous.



Eric McCurry: PGY2 – Infectious Diseases

Dr. Eric McCurry is from Knoxville, Tennessee. He graduated from the University of Tennessee in 2020. His clinical interest areas of interest are infectious disease and HIV. In his spare time, he enjoys trying new restaurants (is a big foodie) and going to the movies to watch a good Rom-Com or the newest superhero movie. A fun fact about Eric is that he was a member of the undefeated Ace Inhibitors intramural volleyball team during his P2 year of pharmacy school.



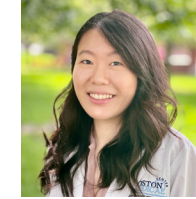
Momoko Tokuo: PGY2 – Ambulatory Care

Dr. Momoko Tokuo is from Belmont, Massachusetts. She graduated from Northeastern University in 2022. Her clinical interest areas of interest are ambulatory care and transitions of care. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, going to trampoline workout classes, and eating anything sweet. A fun fact about Momoko is that the Japanese characters for her last name translates to “king of virtues.”



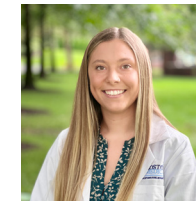
Sandra Schipelliti: PGY2 – Ambulatory Care

Dr. Sandra Schipelliti is from North Reading, Massachusetts. She graduated from the University of New England in 2022. Her clinical interest areas of interest are diabetes management/technologies and women's health in an ambulatory care setting. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, kayaking, camping, and wandering local farmer's markets. A fun fact about Sandra is that she has been paragliding in the Swiss Alps and the Dominican Republic.



Brittany Lam: PGY2 – Internal Medicine

Dr. Brittany Lam is from Las Vegas, Nevada. She graduated from Roseman University of Health Sciences in 2022. Her clinical interest areas of interest are cardiology, oncology, and transplant. In her spare time, she enjoys baking, hiking, watching Netflix, and playing the piano. A fun fact about Brittany is that she has been on a medical mission trip to Vietnam.



Emelia Pendergast: PGY2 – Oncology

Dr. Emelia Pendergast is from Riverside, California. She graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 2022. Her clinical interest areas of interest are hematology/oncology and critical care. In her spare time, she enjoys hiking, skiing, playing pickle ball, and reading. A fun fact about Emelia is that her first concert was seeing John Mayer.

Resident Emotional Support Team Annual Report 2022-2023

JULY 2022
Cisco Brewing



We started our very first REST event of the year enjoying the beautiful summer weather at Cisco Brewing in Seaport! The crew made it out to eat, drink delicious beer, and have a great time getting to know each other! It was the perfect way to start the year.

SEPTEMBER 2022
Apple Picking at Lookout Farm
in Natick, MA



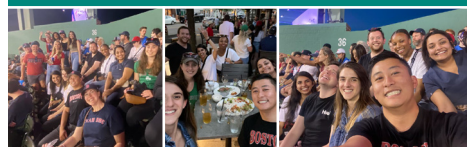
As the weather began to cool down, the fall activities commenced as the crew headed out west to Natick, MA to pick apples and pears at Lookout Farm! We enjoyed delicious fresh fruit as we sipped locally made cider. The residents and preceptors enjoyed a fantastic fall afternoon!

OCTOBER 2022
Hiking at Fells Reserve



With October bringing the beautiful foliage, the crew headed north to Fells Reserve in Stoneham, MA. The pups, residents, and preceptors enjoyed an amazing hike full of lake views, exercise, and laughter. New England autumns never disappoint!

AUGUST 2022
Red Sox Game



We continued to bask in the summer weather by having a fun night at Fenway! The Boston Red Sox took on the Toronto Blue Jays in August for an evening game. We caught happy hour at Yard House before the event to enjoy some brews and food before heading over. Although the Sox lost, we had the best time!

SEPTEMBER 2022
Residency Retreat



We then continued the month with one of our favorite REST events—the annual residency retreat! The morning started off chilly but turned into a beautiful sunny day. We had a great time getting to know each other better through team building activities, a fun photo scavenger hunt, and eating pizza. We of course had to end the afternoon playing pharmily feud.

NOVEMBER 2022
Game Night at The Andi



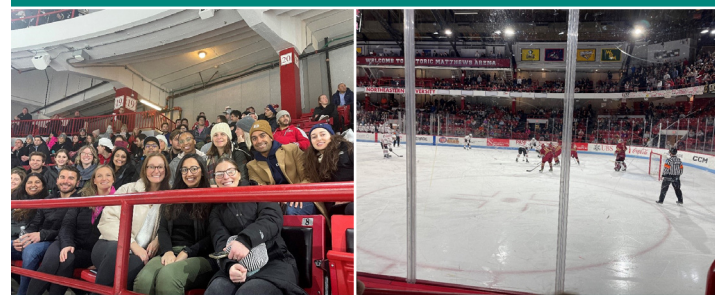
Game night brought out the preceptors' and residents' competitive nature in the best way! The group decided to head indoors with the cooler November weather to enjoy a night in playing Cranium and other epic group board games. Everyone admittedly got feisty and spicy trying to win the night's activities!

DECEMBER 2022
Midyear 2022 in Las Vegas



December didn't bring a REST event due to the craziness of Midyear 2022 in Las Vegas, NV! The residents, RPDs and preceptors represented BMC so well and had an amazing time recruiting for the next residency year. We can't wait to welcome the new class soon!

JANUARY 2023
Men's Hockey Game



In the spirit of winter, the crew managed to bundle up and head to the coveted Northeastern vs. Boston College men's hockey game! It was a great way to spend time with each other while enjoying a New England tradition. Northeastern came out on top 2-1 in an amazing game—also look how great these seats were!

FEBRUARY 2023
Boda Borg Boston



The group headed to Boda Borg in February as it remains one of the most fun REST events of the year! Boda Borg is a collection of escape rooms involving a variety of mental and physical challenges. A group of residents and preceptors were able to make it that Saturday. We split up into two teams and worked together to overcome a variety of challenges! Although we didn't always come out successful, we enjoyed the team bonding.

APRIL 2023
Bowling at Southie Bowl



In April, the group headed to Southie Bowl to enjoy a funky night of bowling! We discovered that candlepin bowling involves small pins and even smaller bowling balls. All we need now are BMC Pharmacy Department bowling shirts!

MARCH 2023:
Casino night



March brought the best event of the year--Casino Night at The And! We had semi-professional casino games set up including Blackjack, Texas Hold'em, Roulette, and Craps. Jason and Bryan were our star dealers! We also had such a nice time seeing alumni show up. The top winners walked away with awesome prizes including gift cards to Amazon and Dunkin Donuts. Check out that custom BMC \$500 chip!

Accomplishments, Posters & Publications

Ambulatory Care

Katelyn O'Brien, PharmD, BCPS, CDCES, BC-ADM

- Presentation:
 - Katelyn O'Brien presented "Using Technology to Improve Time in Range" at the Association for Diabetes Care and Education Specialists (ADCES) Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD.
 - O'Brien, K. CGM: Devices on the Rise. Platform presentation at Connecticut Pharmacists Association Diabetes Conference 2022.
 - O'Brien, K. Overcoming barriers to CGM implementation. Webinar presentation via ACCP Ambulatory Care & Endocrinology PRN 2022.
- Publication:
 - Isaacs D, O'Brien K. Diabetes Technology In: Endocrinology and Nephrology Pharmacotherapy Self-Assessment Program, 2023 Book 1. American College of Cardiology, 2023:37-60.

Critical Care

Ava Cascone, PharmD, BCCCP

- Poster:
 - Cascone AE, Mian A, Takahashi C. Evaluation of the Safety and Efficacy of a Bolus Dosing Intravenous Heparin Protocol for Treatment of Cerebral Venous Sinus Thrombosis. Poster presented at Neurocritical Care Society Annual Meeting; San Antonio, TX, October 2022.
- Publication:
 - Cascone AE, Sullivan J, Ackerbauer K, Patel S, Kebabjian Lindale D, Tatro H, Feeney ME. Pharmacist-Initiated De-Prescribing Efforts Reduce Inappropriate Continuation of Acid-Suppression Therapy Initiated in the ICU. Am J Med. 2022;S0002-9343(22):00712-4.
 - Berdahl GJ, Cascone AE, Ackerbauer KA, Feeney ME. Reduction in thrombolytic order-to-needle time with addition of a pharmacist to a pulmonary embolism response team. J Am Coll Clin Pharm. 2023; 1- 6. doi:10.1002/jac5.1783.

Megan Feeney, PharmD, BCCCP

- Poster:
 - Feeney M, Bosch N. Association Between Prior Substance Use and Sedation and Analgesia Requirements Among Mechanically Ventilated Critically Ill Adults. American College of Clinical Pharmacy Global Conference; San Francisco, October 2022.
- Publication:
 - Cascone AE, Sullivan J, Ackerbauer K, Patel S, Kebabjian Lindale D, Tatro H, Feeney ME. Pharmacist-Initiated De-Prescribing Efforts Reduce Inappropriate Continuation of Acid-Suppression Therapy Initiated in the ICU. Am J Med. 2022;S0002-9343(22):00712-4.
 - Berdahl GJ, Cascone AE, Ackerbauer KA, Feeney ME. Reduction in thrombolytic order-to-needle time with addition of a pharmacist to a pulmonary embolism response team. J Am Coll Clin Pharm. 2023; 1- 6. doi:10.1002/jac5.1783
 - Other:Megan Feeney, PharmD, BCCCP was awarded MSHP Pharmacist of the Year in April 2023.

Shyam Patel, PharmD, BCCCP

- Publication:
 - Cascone AE, Sullivan J, Ackerbauer K, Patel S, Kebabjian Lindale D, Tatro H, Feeney ME. Pharmacist-Initiated De-Prescribing Efforts Reduce Inappropriate Continuation of Acid-Suppression Therapy Initiated in the ICU. Am J Med. 2022;S0002-9343(22):00712-4.

Emergency Medicine

Jessica Corio, PharmD, BCPS

- Publication:
 - Farrell NM, Corio J. Pediatric Poisonings. In: Lee BR, Ohler KH, eds. Pediatric Self-Assessment Program, 2023 Book 1. Emergency Medicine. Lenexa, KS: American College of Clinical Pharmacy, 2023:7-28.

Natalija Farrell, PharmD, BCPS, DABAT, FAACT

- Poster:
 - Farrell NM. The Current State of Required, Elective, or Longitudinal Toxicology Rotations in PGY2 Emergency Medicine Pharmacy Residency Training. Poster Presentation at NACCT 2022.
 - Farrell NM, Taylor JL, Nentwich LM. Development and Implementation of an Emergency Department Quality Improvement Initiative to Improve the Treatment of Patients with Opioid Use Disorder. Poster and presentation at the 2022 Society of Academic Emergency Medicine Annual Meeting.
 - Recipient the SAEM EBHI Rakesh Engineer Award
 - Cherestal B, Uhomba U, Payne-Cardona M, Ketema P, Joseph C, Farrell N. Are pharmacy residency programs biased against candidates that completed their doctor of pharmacy at historically black colleges and universities? Poster presentation at ASHP MCM 2022.
 - Gendron BJ, Guthrie AM, Kong S, Pare J, Farrell NM. Review of screening and treatment of Mycoplasma genitalium in the emergency department. Poster presentation at MSHP 2023 Annual Meeting.
 - Sutton S, Gendron BJ, Farrell NM. Impact of the Updated CDC Sexually Transmitted Infections Treatment Guideline on Empiric Treatment in the Emergency Department. Poster presentation at MSHP 2023 Annual Meeting.
- Presentation:
 - Farrell NM, Dulaney A. ABAT Scientific Symposium: What's the Buzz? Medications for Substance use Disorder and the Evolving Landscape of Withdrawal. Platform Presentation at NAACT 2022.
 - Jeffres M, Jones BM, Farrell NM, Waters K, Burnett A, Rudd K, Goodlet KJ. Therapeutic Debates 2022. Platform presentation at the ASHP MCM 2022.
- Publication:
 - Farrell NM, Corio J. Pediatric Poisonings. In: Lee BR, Ohler KH, eds. Pediatric Self-Assessment Program, 2023 Book 1. Emergency Medicine. Lenexa, KS: American College of Clinical Pharmacy, 2023:7-28.
 - Taylor JL, Laks J, Christine PJ, Kehoe J, James E, Kim TW, Farrell NM, White CS, Weinstein ZM, Walley AY. Bridge clinic implementation of "72-hour rule" methadone for opioid withdrawal management: impact on opioid treatment program linkage and retention in care. Drug Alcohol Depend. 2022; 236:109497
 - Braun HM, Walter C, Farrell N, Biello KB, Taylor JL. HIV exposure prophylaxis delivery in a low-barrier substance use disorder bridge clinic during a local HIV outbreak at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. J Addict Med.

2022;16(6):678-83.

- Other:
 - Natalija Farrell, PharmD, BCPS, DABAT, FAACT became a Fellow of the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology in 2022.

Bryan Gendron, PharmD, BCPS

- Presentation:
 - Gendron BJ. Rise and Shine! Being Prepared for the Awake Intubation. Emergency Medicine Clinical Pearl presented at ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting 2022.
 - Gendron BJ, Guthrie AM, Kong S, Pare J, Farrell NM. Review of screening and treatment of Mycoplasma genitalium in the emergency department. Poster presentation at MSHP 2023 Annual Meeting.
 - Sutton S, Gendron BJ, Farrell NM. Impact of the Updated CDC Sexually Transmitted Infections Treatment Guideline on Empiric Treatment in the Emergency Department. Poster presentation at MSHP 2023 Annual Meeting.

Danielle Kebabjian- Lindale, PharmD, BCCCP

- Publication:
 - Cascone AE, Sullivan J, Ackerbauer K, Patel S, Kebabjian Lindale D, Tatro H, Feeney ME. Pharmacist-Initiated De-Prescribing Efforts Reduce Inappropriate Continuation of Acid-Suppression Therapy Initiated in the ICU. Am J Med. 2022;S0002-9343(22):00712-4.

Infectious Diseases

Alison Blackman, PharmD, BCIDP

- Publication:
 - Blackman AL, Girgis M, Brade KD. So, you made the decision to implement vancomycin AUC dosing. Now what? Contagion® Infectious Diseases Today. 2023;8(1):18-19.

Eleanor Broadbent, PharmD, BCIDP

- Poster:
 - Broadbent E. Review of antiretroviral prescribing after implementation of an antiretroviral order verification initiative at a tertiary academic medical center. Presented at ECCMID conference, Copenhagen, DK. 2023.
 - Internal Medicine

Min Zhang, PharmD, BCPS, BCIDP

- Publication:
 - Iverson R, Zhang, M, Jensen EM, et al. Implementation of a pharmacological prophylaxis bundle to prevent obstetric-associated venous thromboembolism. American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy, 2022. doi:10.1093/ajhp/zxac308

Hope Serafin, PharmD, BCPS

- Publication:

Claudel, S, Valente, C, Serafin, H, et al. Structured handoff to improve communication from inpatient to outpatient dialysis units: A quality improvement project. Hemodial Int. 2023 Jan 25. doi: 10.1111/hdi.13060.

Management

Kimberly Ackerbauer, PharmD, BCCCP

- Publication:
 - Cascone AE, Sullivan J, Ackerbauer K, Patel S, Kebabjian Lindale D, Tatro H, Feeney ME. Pharmacist-Initiated De-Prescribing Efforts Reduce Inappropriate Continuation of Acid-Suppression Therapy Initiated in the ICU. Am J Med. 2022;S0002-9343(22):00712-4.
 - Berdahl GJ, Cascone AE, Ackerbauer KA, Feeney ME. Reduction in thrombolytic order-to-needle time with addition of a pharmacist to a pulmonary embolism response team. J Am Coll Clin Pharm. 2023; 1- 6. doi:10.1002/jac5.1783

Mordino, PharmD, BCCCP

- Other:
 - Jason Mordino, PharmD, BCCCP was awarded MSHP Pharmacist of the Year in April 2023.

Oncology

Jasmine Patel, PharmD, BCOP

- Publication:
 - Patel JV, Hughes DM, Ko NY. OPTIMAL Breast Cancer Care: Effect of an Outpatient Pharmacy Team to Improve Management and Adherence to Oral Cancer Treatment. JCO Oncol Pract 2022. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1200/OP.22.00135>.
 - Lynnette Henshaw, PharmD, BCOP
- Poster:
 - Henshaw L, Edwards C. Bruton Tyrosine Kinase (BTK) Inhibitors: Real World Clinical Outcomes in a Diverse Patient Population at a Large Safety Net Hospital. Presented at HOPA Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ. 2023.

Residency Excellence Awards

Strong Work Award: Kyle Champagne, PharmD

Dr. Kyle Champagne was selected for the Strong Work Award by the residency class of 2022 – 2023 because he consistently goes above and beyond, extending a helping hand to everyone in his path. Dr. Champagne played a significant role in residents adjusting to the central pharmacy workflow and always showed patience and kindness in helping learners. A resident described that, “Kyle is a go-to person for guidance, support, and collaboration. Everyone is always excited to see Kyle on the schedule, no matter what role he is filling.” Whether it is a central, medicine, surgery, or critical care team, Dr. Champagne’s commitment to patient care and willingness to assist others has not only created an immeasurable impact on the residency class but on the entire healthcare team.



Preceptor of the Year: Alison Blackman, PharmD, BCIDP

Dr. Blackman was presented this year’s Preceptor of the Year award for her unwavering commitment to prioritizing the growth and development of learners. Dr. Blackman has played a role in precepting each resident in this year’s resident class, fostering an environment that nurtures both personal and professional development. One resident shared, “Whether it entails investing extra time for in-depth topic discussions or diligently working on refining BMC policies, Dr. Blackman consistently places the needs of learners at the forefront.” Dr. Blackman not only served as a preceptor but as the scholarship committee chair where she provided ongoing guidance and support to quality improvement projects throughout the year. Moreover, Dr. Blackman exceptional precepting skills are underpinned by her vast knowledge, demonstrated through active involvement in numerous other committees and dedication to staying abreast of the latest advancements in her clinical field. The Preceptor of the Year award is a testament to Dr. Blackman’s remarkable contributions and an acknowledgment of her role as a beacon of inspiration and guidance.



Resident of the Year: Ana Safri, PharmD, MBA

The resident of year award is presented to the BMC resident who demonstrates a positive attitude, provides excellent patient care, strives for continues growth and supports the education of the next generation of pharmacy learners. Ana Safri has truly been an exceptional resident and was deservedly selected as the resident of the year. In addition to her clinical workload she was involved in numerous ambulatory initiatives throughout the year. Ana has been instrumental in the initiation of a new service line in ambulatory care that collaborated with maternal fetal medicine to provide care for postpartum hypertension patients. Her work throughout her residency year with this new service line led to a novel e-consult creation for pharmacist care, a poster presentation at MSHP, and a soon to be publication about this novel service line implementation. Ana was also integral to the migration to collaborative drug therapy management (CDTM) across all ambulatory pharmacy. Her work on CDTM implementation, as well as the credentialing and privileging for pharmacists, helped BMC ambulatory pharmacy forge relationships with neighboring healthcare systems and propose a CDTM model to be used here at BMC. Ana consistently led her QI team throughout the year to work towards developing a pharmacist-led program to improve asthma control which is making an impact on the attainment of the ACO quality performance measure. Ana has also consistently provided high quality care – she shows a dedication and compassion to her patients that is noticed by both providers and patients. She goes above and beyond to ensure patients understand their medications and that all issues are managed. There are numerous examples of how Ana goes above and beyond what is expected of her to improve her patients' lives and truly exemplify exceptional care without exception. Her drive and passion to learn has fueled her success during the residency years and she is well deserving of the resident of the year award.

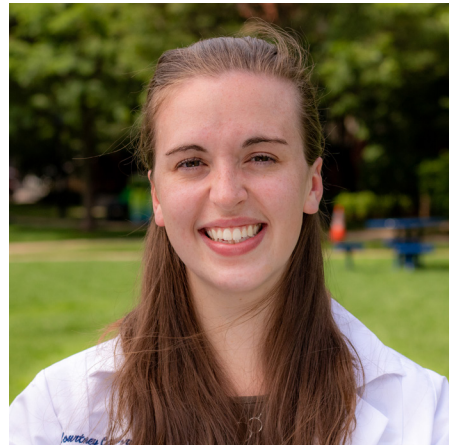


Scholarship Project of the Year: Sita Bhatt, PharmD and Jessica Hodgens, PharmD

The Scholarship-Project-of-the-Year award is present to a resident project which exemplifies excellence in advancing patient care and/or improving the medication use system at Boston Medical Center. This year’s award was received by Sita Bhatt PGY2 in oncology and Jessica Hodgens PGY1 for their work on the project titled "Optimizing the Management of Oral Prostate Cancer Treatment-Related Hypertension in an Ambulatory Hematology/Oncology Clinic". This project focused on a particularly vulnerable subset of patients at BMC. A retrospective review of BMC prostate cancer patients on oral anti-androgen deprivation therapy found that >80% were African American or Hispanic, and >70% had baseline cardiac comorbidities. These populations are associated with poorer cancer-related outcomes due to a combination of increased risk of cardiovascular comorbidities and social determinants of health. This project addressed a major access to care barrier for patients who are disproportionately affected by this malignancy and adverse cardiac outcomes by incorporating a pharmacist to help manage a toxicity that, if not managed in a timely manner, can result in patients being off of life-extending cancer treatment. This project not only worked to improve patient care by providing another point of access to a health-care provider, but it also improved the systematic management of critical therapies while elevating the pharmacist's scope of practice in the oncology clinic. Sita and Jessica were also recipients of the "Quality in Safety" award from the national Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association annual conference - this award was given to only 5 projects (all-comers, not residency) in the country.



New Preceptors & Preceptor Activities



Courtney Cameron, PharmD

Professional

Alma mater: University of Rhode Island
Residency: PGY1 - John Hopkins Bayview and PGY2 Ambulatory Care - Boston Medical Center
Practice/Research Interests: Practice Interest: Chronic Disease State Management; Research Interests: diabetes and women's health
Rotation(s): Ambulatory Care - Family Medicine

Personal

Born and Raised: Born and raised in Annapolis, MD
What was your path to BMC? I completed my PGY2 in Ambulatory Care here!
What do you like most about working at BMC? What I like most is our patient population. They are greatly in need of our help. I enjoy most that our patients are so sincere – I find they have something to teach me every day about being a better practitioner and person.
What are your goals for next year? My goal for next year includes learning medical Spanish. I took Spanish as a language all throughout grade school and think I could get back into it.



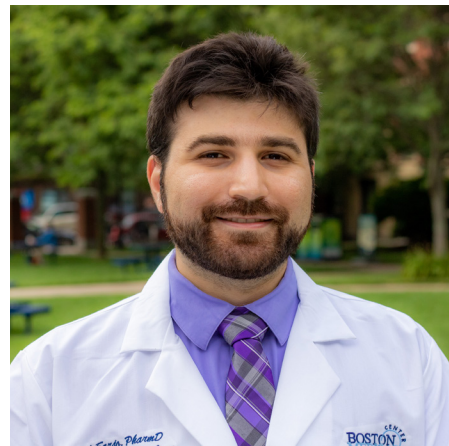
Catherine Dunton, PharmD, MBA, BCPS

Professional

Alma mater: Mercer University
Residency: PGY1 - Indian Health Services
Practice/Research Interests: Primary Care
Rotations: Ambulatory Care - General Internal Medicine

Personal

Born and raised: Toronto, ON; Stamford, CT; Richmond, VA; Dallas, TX
What was your path to BMC? PGY1 and career with USPHS, started working at BMC 11/2022
What do you like most about working at BMC? What I like most is the work I get to do and my patients.
What are your goals for next year? My goals for next year include obtaining CDCES certification and continuing to learn technologies for diabetes management.



Rami Farjo, PharmD

Professional

Alma mater: MCPHS University
Residency: PGY1 Community – Baystate Medical Center and PGY2 Ambulatory Care – Boston Medical Center
Practice/Research Interests: Geriatrics and Anticoagulation
Rotation(s): Ambulatory Care - Geriatrics and Anticoagulation

Personal

Born and Raised: Born and raised in Iraq
What was your path to BMC? I completed my PGY2 in Ambulatory Care here!
What do you like most about working at BMC? What I like most is the patient population and team dynamic!
What are your goals for next year? My goals for next year include providing optimal patient care in my practice setting and a fit learning environment for learners. I also hope to expand current clinical practice and role of pharmacist across ambulatory care clinic.



Ilda Plasari, PharmD, BCPS

Professional

Alma mater: Northeastern University
Residency: PGY1 - Lahey Hospital and Medical Center
Practice/Research Interests: Infectious Diseases, Internal Medicine
Rotations: Internal Medicine

Personal

Born and raised: Born in Albania and raised in Boston, MA
What was your path to BMC? I was a pharmacy technician at BMC for 4 years, and then returned as a pharmacist after my PGY1 year.
What do you like most about working at BMC? What I like most is my medicine team!
What are your goals for next year? My goal for next year includes improving as a preceptor as I step into this new role.



Marissa Rees, PharmD, BCIDP

Professional

Alma mater: Duquesne University
Residency: PGY1 and PGY2 Infectious Diseases - Allegheny General Hospital
Practice/Research Interests: Practice: Infectious Diseases; Research Interest: Antimicrobial Stewardship, MRSA Bacteremia, Gram-Negative Resistance
Rotation(s): Antimicrobial Stewardship, Infectious Diseases Consult

Personal

Born and Raised: Born in Delaware and raised in the suburbs of Philadelphia, PA
What was your path to BMC? I was looking for a job at a large academic medical center after completing my residency. BMC has a robust antimicrobial stewardship and pharmacy residency program that aligned with my interests and professional goals.
What do you like most about working at BMC? What I like most is being able to share my passion for infectious diseases with my colleagues. Whether it be through clinical responsibilities, precepting students and residents, working with the ID fellows, or working on resident projects, I feel like there are many opportunities to teach and learn from others.
What are your goals for next year? My goals for next year include becoming board certified in infectious diseases, gaining experience precepting residents and students, working on resident research projects, and getting involved with stewardship initiatives.



Nicholas D'Apice, PharmD

Professional

Alma mater: Northeastern University
Residency: PGY1 - Temple University and PGY2 Ambulatory Care - Kaiser Permanente Colorado
Practice/Research Interests: Gastroenterology, Infectious Diseases, Psychiatry
Rotation(s): Ambulatory Care - Gastroenterology

Personal

Born and Raised: Born and raised in Putnam County, New York
What was your path to BMC? I completed an APPE rotation here with an Ambulatory Care preceptor, and have always liked the way BMC treated their pharmacy learners/residents. After spending a couple years elsewhere during residency (and also COVID-times), this position became available during my PGY2 and I applied given my rotation at Kaiser in GI specifically.
What do you like most about working at BMC? What I like most is the independence I have as an ambulatory care pharmacy practitioner and how I spend a good portion of my day doing direct patient care and also assisting my patients in obtaining or learning more about their meds, but also the collaborative nature of the pharmacy department which is really helpful for me being in a position with expectations having been already established (due to previous PharmDs in the clinic).
What are your goals for next year? My goals over the next year include efficiently balancing my preceptor responsibilities while also further establishing my clinic and increasing the amount of direct patient care I'm involved in.

Alumni Updates

Dr. Shin Ly (PGY2 AmbCare '18) recently joined Positive Impact Health Centers (PIHC) in Atlanta, GA as their Director of Pharmacy. PIHC is one of the largest comprehensive HIV service agencies in the Southeast, serving over 5,000 patients living with HIV and countless more through prevention programs. She oversees pharmacy operations and clinical services across three clinics with two entity owned pharmacies, with plans to expand to a fourth clinic and third pharmacy in Q3 of 2023. She is honored to bring what she learned about innovative clinical services from her time at BMC to her current role.

Dr. Carol Holtzman (PGY2 ID '09) returned to the US after working in Lesotho for 7 years in HIV programming. She is now a Senior Technical Advisor at USAID, Bureau of Global Health, Office of HIV/AIDS. She is supporting HIV programs in Tanzania, Lesotho, and Vietnam. In addition, she is increasing global access to COVID oral antivirals in 10 countries for COVID Test to Treat implementation. Carol now resides in Natick, MA.

Dr. Molly Merz (PGY1 '18, PGY2 CC '19) is the Surgical/Trauma ICU Pharmacist at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, Texas. She recently transitioned into the RPD role for their PGY2 Critical Care Program.

Dr. Phuong Dao (PGY1 '15, PGY2 Onc '16) is a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist II in Lymphoma at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. This summer, she will be starting a new position as a Clinical Pharmacist in Hematology/BMT/CTS at USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. She is looking forward to returning to sunny California and spending more time with her family.

Dr. Lori Klawitter (Arena) (PGY2 Primary Care '05) just started work as a Senior Obesity Educator with Novo Nordisk in Boston.

Dr. Lily Leu (PGY2 '09) is a Clinical Pharmacology Reviewer for the Division of Cancer Pharmacology at the Food and Drug Administration. She proudly serves the public by reviewing clinical pharmacology data and study designs for optimal dose selection in IND and NDA submissions to ensure safe and effective drug use.

Dr. Paul Huiras (PGY1 '08, PGY2 CC '10) is the Residency Program Director at St. Cloud Hospital in Minnesota and he is welcoming his first class of three PGY1 pharmacy residents (increased from two) in July of 2023.

Dr. Chrissy Vu (PGY1'08) is a Clinical Infectious Diseases Pharmacist at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, Florida. Her research interests include multi-drug gram negative resistance, infections in solid organ transplant recipients, and antifungal stewardship. She will be giving an invited talk at the upcoming FSHP Annual Meeting on Candida auris. Major life updates is that she is engaged and just bought a house!

Dr. Lisa Blanchette (PGY1 '11) started a company called Amplify Rx, which brings technology solutions to the intersection of biosimilar strategy for health systems and independent practices. Amplify Rx increases organizational profitability and improves operational efficiency for biosimilar workflow in the outpatient infusion setting.

Dr. Allison E. Burnett (PGY 1 '03) is an adjunct Associate Clinical Professor at the UNM College of Pharmacy, serves as the Antithrombosis Stewardship Pharmacist at UNMH and is honored to serve as the President of the national non-profit Anticoagulation Forum.

Dr. Stefanie Forman (PGY1 '11, PGY2 CC '12) welcomed her third daughter in December 2022 and is pausing her pharmacy practice career to care for her children.

Dr. Kate Cabral (Phillips) (PGY1'05, PGY2 Cards'06) was recently awarded Fellow of ACC and is the new 'Director of Metabolic Services' at Capital Cardiology Associates in Albany NY. She also just came back from serving in a Medical Mission in Guatemala.

Dr. Amanda Barner (PGY1 '13, PGY2 '14) took on a new role as the Inpatient Clinical Pharmacy Manager at Cambridge Health Alliance. She and her husband are excited to welcome their 3rd baby in August!

Dr. Calvin T. Chan (PGY2 IM '22) recently accepted a new position as a Clinical Pharmacotherapy Specialist in Internal Medicine at New York University Langone Health/Main Campus, and is happy to continue serving the New York City community.



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