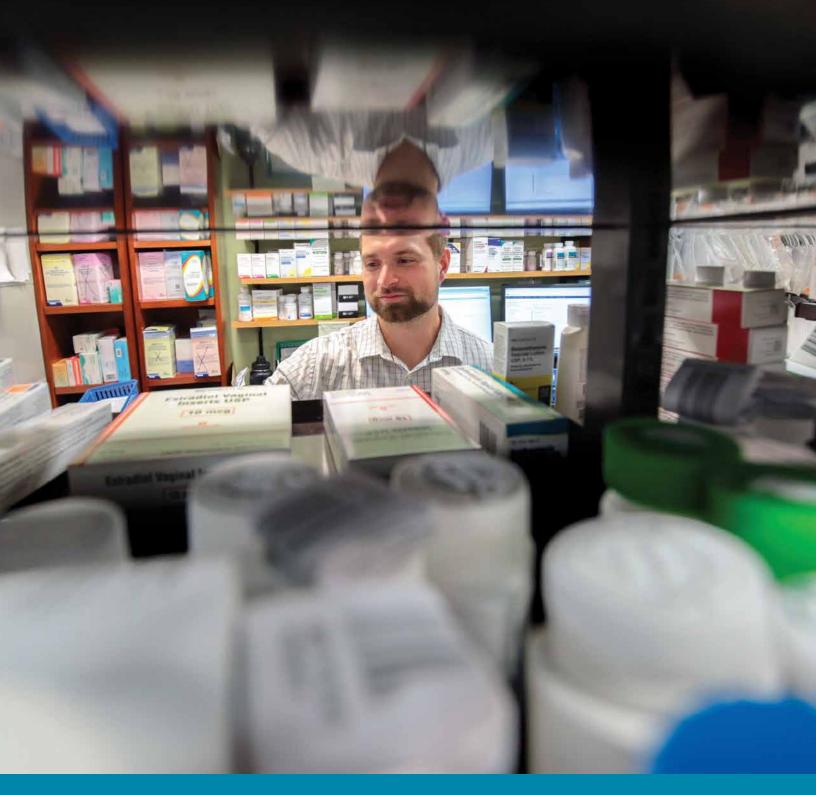
A TIME OF COLLABORATION AND PROGRESS



PHARMACY SERVICE LINE ANNUAL REPORT 2023





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Message from Chief Pharmacy Officer CHRISTINE M. COLLINS, MBA, RPH, FASHP SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF PHARMACY OFFICER, LIFESPAN

One of the most valuable outcomes of our annual report is that it requires us, while preparing the document, to reflect on what was accomplished during the past year. Too often, we are so caught up in achieving our goals that we forget to take the time to celebrate the results of all our work. Instead, we are moving on to the next idea, project, or initiative.

To the pharmacy leadership team members who may be rolling their eyes as they read this: yes, I recognize the role I play in creating our culture, and I appreciate all your efforts throughout the year. It is difficult to pause and celebrate when the opportunities are endless, and our team's collective abilities are expansive.

The pages ahead present what we accomplished together as a team. They reflect great innovation and relentless effort, and demonstrate our drive toward achieving goals by finding solutions for problems, barriers, and unmet needs, while also ensuring the highest-quality services.

Together we have expanded our stewardship programs, performed exceptionally on a DEA audit (a rarity for large hospitals, for sure!), exceeded our revenue projections through business development, implemented advanced staffing models and technology, hosted an innovation challenge, developed new data analytics tools, collaborated with our colleagues in academia, planned new strategic initiatives, and expanded our residency program. We remain committed to and aligned with Lifespan's mission: *delivering health with care*.

Among our many accomplishments this past year, the one of which I am most proud is the camaraderie and compassion that we showed each other in times of adversity and loss. It is this family-like attribute and unwavering support that gives us strength. We have each others' backs; I feel so fortunate to be part of this team.

I look forward to innovating, solution-building, creating, and, most importantly—achieving—in the very busy year ahead with our amazing team!

DEDICATION TO SEAN NOLAN

The Lifespan Pharmacy department is dedicating this Annual Report to the memory of Sean Nolan, who served in the role of Pharmacy Clinical Informatics Coordinator until his sudden passing in February 2023. Many of the accomplishments that are highlighted in this report were a result of or enabled by the work that Sean led, with the pharmacy informatics team, to optimize the electronic medical record, ensuring that the system supports workflow efficiency, patient safety, and high-reliability processes for pharmacists, nurses, and providers across the organization.

Each day, through his work and interactions with team members and colleagues, Sean exemplified the Lifespan CARE Values of compassion, accountability, respect, and excellence. While these words certainly describe Sean, there are many other words that help capture what he meant to people as a friend, colleague, husband, parent, and family member. After Sean's passing, many members of the pharmacy team and individuals from

across the organization reached out to express their feelings for Sean.

Below is a word cloud that was created from those comments that captures how they described Sean and how he made people feel during their interactions with him.

WARM-HEARTED DEVOTED LOYAL HONEST EXCEPTIONAL BOXER HAPPY ALTRUISTIC ENERGETIC CHARACTER DEDICATION PASSIONATE KINDHEARTED CHARMING HELPING SMILING FRIEND SMILE DEDICATED PERSON KINDNESS GO-TO JOVIAL SINCERE LIKEABLE PROFESSIONAL HELPFUL GENUINE WONDERFUL MAN FATHER MENTOR HAPPINESS UPLIFTING INTELLIGENT FUNNY AMAZING PATIENT SELFLESS **GENTLEMAN** SWEET ACCOMPLISHED HUMOR FUN WELCOMING SURFING LOVING NICE PATIENT-CENTERED CONSISTENT CALM COMPASSIONATE KIND-HEARTED DOWN-TO-EARTH

PHARMACY SERVICE LINE OVERVIEW

Mission

To enrich our community's health by providing exceptional and innovative pharmacy services.

Vision

To transform pharmaceutical care through innovation and adherence to the highest clinical standards.

Values

Compassion Delivering medications to patients with care and empathy.

Excellence Providing our patients with the safest, highest quality of care possible, continually

improving our systems, and measuring our performance.

Innovation Committed to pursuing contemporary medication practices and engaging all pharmacy

team members to be innovative thinkers.

Integrity Ensuring accountability and respect while adhering to the highest standards of morals

and ethics.

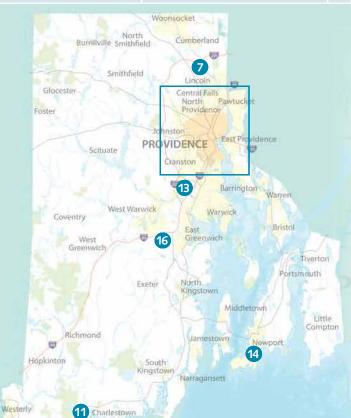
Teamwork Working collaboratively across pharmacy services and with multidisciplinary care teams.

Click here to visit LifespanPharmacy.org

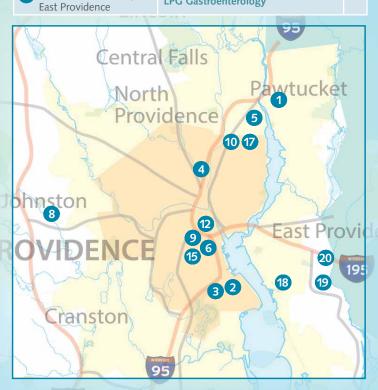


Members of the Newport Hospital inpatient pharmacy team.

_		
1 101 Bacon Street, Pawtucket	Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Services	
	RIH Primary Care	
	RIH Endocrine	
	RIH Gastroenterology	
2 245 Chapman Street, Providence	RIH Rheumatology	
	RIH Hepatology	
	RIH Recovery Clinic	
	HCH Medicine Pediatrics	
3 117 Chapman Street, Providence	Lifespan Specialty Pharmacy	Rx
4 180 Corliss Street,	Infectious Diseases and Immunology Center	
Providence	Lifespan Pharmacy	Rx
5 407 East Avenue, Pawtucket	RIH Rheumatology	
	Rhode Island Hospital	
	Lifespan Pharmacy	Rx
	RIH Cardiology, Heart Failure	
	RIH Behavioral Health	
6 593 Eddy Street, Providence	RIH Pulmonary	
riovidence	Hasbro Children's Hospital	
	Allergy and Asthma	
	Cystic Fibrosis Center	
	Pediatric Gastroenterology	
	RIH Sickle Cell Center	
7 701 George Washington Highway, Lincoln	Lifespan Cancer Institute, Lincoln	LCI
8 1443 Hartford Ave, Johnston		



9		Brown Medicine Dermatology & Rheumatology RIH Anticoagulation	
	9 110 Lockwood Street,	Lifespan Cancer Institute, Rhode Island Hospital	LCI
	Providence	RIH Neurology	
		RIH Hemostasis and Thrombosis Center	
		RIH Sickle Cell Center	
		RIH Transplant Center	
	10 1125 N. Main Street, Providence, RI	TMH Infectious Diseases	
	4705 Old Post Rd, Charlestown	Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Services	
	12 167 Point Street, Providence	RIH Pharmacogenomics	
	13 1500 Pontiac Avenue, Suite 107, Cranston	RIH Rheumatology	
		Newport Hospital	
1	14 20 Powel Avenue, Newport	Lifespan Cancer Institute, Newport Hospital	LCI
		Lifespan Pharmacy	Rx
	15 335 Prairie Avenue, Providence	Pediatric Neurology	
	16 1454 South County Trail, East Greenwich	Lifespan Cancer Institute, East Greenwich	LCI
		The Miriam Hospital	
	164 Summit Avenue	Lifespan Pharmacy	Rx
	17 164 Summit Avenue, Providence, RI 02906	TMH Primary Care	
		Lifespan Cancer Institute, The Miriam Hospital	LCI
	18 1011 Veterans Memorial Parkway, Riverside	Bradley Hospital	
	19 375 Wampanoag Trail, East Providence	Brown Medicine Gastroenterology	
	20 950 Warren Avenue,	LPG Gastroenterology	



KEY STATISTICS

Lifespan, Rhode Island's first health system, was founded in 1994 by Rhode Island Hospital and The Miriam Hospital. A comprehensive, integrated, academic health system affiliated with The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Lifespan's present partners also include Rhode Island Hospital's pediatric division, Hasbro Children's Hospital; Bradley Hospital; Newport Hospital; and Gateway Healthcare. Pharmacy Services are well integrated into all of these Lifespan partners, along with Lifespan Physician Group and Coastal Medical.

286

Pharmacists

- 20 Pharmacists with advanced degrees (e.g., MBA, MPH, JD)
- 77 Pharmacists who are board-certified
- Pharmacists who are dual board-certified
- 76 Pharmacists who have completed a PGY1 residency
- 40 Pharmacists who have completed both PGY1 and PGY2 residencies

221

Technicians

17

Pharmacy residents

64% Percentage of residents who stayed with Lifespan after completing residency



Our Hospitals

17,005 Employees 1,165 Licensed beds

31 Pharmacy locations and clinics with embedded pharmacists



Scholarship & Research

97 APPE/IPPE rotations completed

Scientific publications

Poster and platform presentations



Inpatient Pharmacy Services

Central Pharmacy Services

7,983,813 Doses dispensed

107,277 Compounded sterile products prepared

Infectious Diseases



1,395 Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) interventions

Medication Policy & Safety

~40% Percentage of staff-reported medication-related safety events that were "good catch" prevented errors, signaling a strong culture of reporting

3 Medication safety topics submitted to Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) that were published in nationwide Medication Safety Alert

>95% Medication barcode scanning rates (Leapfrog-defined units)

>98% Smart-pump infusion drug library compliance with Epic interoperability

Investigational Drug Services

>150 Active protocols

>2,900 Active dispenses



Ambulatory Pharmacy Services

Outpatient Pharmacies

>450,000 Prescriptions dispensed

>51,000 Unique patients

Specialty Pharmacy Patient Management Program

>98% Patient satisfaction

Ambulatory Pharmacy Services

>22,000 Clinical encounters

16 Collaborative practice agreements and protocols

>16,000 Benefits investigations performed

>8,800 Prior authorizations completed

\$3.65M Financial aid secured for patients

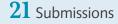
115,000 Refill requests processed by Medication Access Program (MAP) team

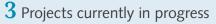
Pharmacy Technology Team

>225,000 Opioid outpatient prescriptions evaluated by an internally developed machine learning model to identify outlier prescribing patterns requiring auditing and review

95 Epic system improvements/maintenance requests completed per month

Innovation Challenge







INPATIENT PHARMACY

Overview

The inpatient pharmacy services consist of four unique central pharmacy locations within each Lifespan hospital that support acute care pharmacy practice and technology. Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians collaborate with multidisciplinary colleagues to ensure the right medications are available to hospitalized patients at the right time.

We are proud of our effort and outcomes this year, including medication formulary stewardship to achieve significant drug cost reduction, management of drug shortages to minimize patient harm, design and launch of a systemwide remote clinical pharmacist workforce, and implementation of contemporary technology to increase sterile compounding safety. We celebrate significant improvements in employee engagement as evidenced by the most recent YourVoice survey results, which has led to decreased vacancy rates and less team turnover.

Rhode Island Hospital

- Implemented system-wide remote clinical pharmacist workforce, which has streamlined workflow and provided bandwidth to expand an on-site decentralized practice model. The remote workforce is on track to verify more than 528,000 medication orders in its first year, which accounts for 23.4 percent of medication orders verified across RIH, TMH, and NH.
- Successful performance in federal DEA controlled substance audit with an accuracy rate of 99.99 percent (425,000 doses audited, 386,000 electronic Omnicell transactions, and 875 documents submitted to the DEA).
- Increased employee annualized fiscal YTD retention rate to 86.4 percent (22.8 percent increase from October 2022).
- Implemented automated dispensing cabinet barcode scanning functionality and expiration date tracking on Omnicell cabinets to enhance medication safety.



Radiofrequency identification technology (RFID) enhances the safety of inpatient pharmacy operations.

- Implemented Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE)/Longitudinal Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (LAPPE) pharmacy student first-dose patient counseling initiative, increasing our medication education patient satisfaction score above the national benchmark.
- Restructured pharmacy intern position to provide more robust operational and clinical experiences and increase retention.

The Miriam Hospital

- Integrated decentralized pharmacy services on two internal medicine and the CCU rounding teams, providing a 15 percent increase in pharmacist interventions.
- Expanded pharmacist prospective patient chart review to capture 91 percent of established intervention opportunity seven days per week.
- Optimized Omnicell inventory to reduce stockouts by 41 percent and reducing the size of restock lists by 46 percent.
- Implemented hospital-wide Omnicell Safety Stock barcode scanning for enhanced medication safety.
- Graduated two inaugural PGY1 pharmacy residents and retained them at Lifespan.



prepared IV medication.

• Implemented a formal pharmacy-driven vancomycin monitoring, intervention, and handoff process.

Newport Hospital

- Implemented hospital-wide Omnicell Safety Stock barcode scanning for enhanced medication safety.
- Implemented Antimicrobial Stewardship Program with the addition of an infectious diseases clinical pharmacy specialist.

Bradley Hospital

- Executed pharmacy-driven Omnicell services for new pediatric partial program in East Greenwich, RI.
- Upgraded Control Substance Manager (CSM) system and integrated safety stock processes.



Muriel Aguiar, PharmD, supervisor & pharmacistin-charge, Bradley Hospital Inpatient Pharmacy, is happy with the CSM system.

Pharmacy Students Now Provide Patients With First-Dose Counseling

When a patient begins taking a new medication, questions are certain to arise. During busy days at Rhode Island Hospital, physicians and nurses do their best to spend time with patients to answer those questions. The pharmacy student first-dose patient counseling initiative, launched by Lifespan Pharmacy last year, is meeting the need.

from the program enhances patient satisfaction while providing our pharmacy students with a robust learning experience," says Karen Nolan, RPh, director of pharmacy operations. "The students have the time to interact with patients, one-on-one, and answer their questions. Anyone taking a new medication should know why they are taking it and what the potential side effects could be."

Pharmacists now bring last-year students to visit patients and demonstrate how the interaction should occur. "They observe the student carrying out their first encounter with a patient and provide feedback," says Nolan, adding that the student receives ongoing feedback. Students work closely with nursing staff to understand which patients qualify for the program.

"Regardless of what aspect of pharmacy the student pursues, an initiative that offers patient interaction and one-on-one counseling fits the bill. The feedback from our students is overwhelmingly positive. As for patient satisfaction, our score for the medication education they receive is above the national benchmark."

CLINICAL PHARMACY CARE SERVICES

Overview

Clinical pharmacists and clinical pharmacist specialists work collaboratively with the patient care team in a decentralized model. To further integrate our clinical pharmacists into Rhode Island Hospital patient care teams, we have expanded the number of pharmacists who are decentralized from one to seven during weekdays.

Clinical specialists act as service line leads with highly trained, engaged, and motivated clinical pharmacists to provide unit-based services on adult and pediatric medical, surgical, critical care, emergency medicine, and specialty patient care units. Pharmacists participate in daily patient care rounds and provide pharmacotherapy management, Code Blue response, consultative services, order verification and select patient management by Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee approved protocols.

Critical care specialist services have expanded to the surgical ICU and its associated step down unit at Rhode Island Hospital. A Lifespan blood glucose stewardship service line has been established with the aim of reducing both hypoglycemia and hyperglycemic episodes in our inpatients, as well as facilitating safe transitions of care for our patients taking anti-hyperglycemic medications across the system. Antimicrobial stewardship services expanded to Newport Hospital, and our cardiovascular and internal medicine service line expanded to The Miriam Hospital.

Patient Care Services

- LifeChart oral liquid medication dose rounding
 New rules were applied to the LifeChart oral liquid medication rounding table to enable safer and more accurate medication administration by nurses. This initiative evaluated 587 unique eRXs and updated 72 percent of inpatient and 82 percent of outpatient eRXs.
- Hasbro ED auto-verification logic

 The existing auto-verification logic resulted in ~50 percent of orders being automatically verified by
 the electronic medical record (EMR) without pharmacist review (~264 orders per day). The creation of
 new auto-verification and review rules resulted in an increase of ~82 orders per day being verified by
 pharmacists, notably psychiatric medications, new-start anticoagulants or antimicrobials, and high-risk
 home medications.
- ICU insulin infusion MUE
 - A two-year medication use evaluation (MUE) found that the rate of any hypoglycemia (blood glucose [BG] <70 mg/dL) was 14.1 percent, and the rate of severe hypoglycemia (BG <40 mg/dL) was 1.74 percent. A new critical care insulin infusion protocol was created that targets a safe rate of blood glucose change per hour, as well as implementation of a new EMR-embedded insulin infusion calculator generated by the new protocol.
- Titratable medications guideline update
 The Joint Commission (TJC) updated guidance to allow range orders for incremental units, which
 led to the review and update of all nursing titratable medication protocols. As a result, 30 protocols
 across vasoactive, sedation, analgesia, paralytic, and diuretic therapeutic classes were standardized,
 followed by additional order panels and order sets.
- Creation of a peripheral vasopressor policy to standardize the monitoring, duration of therapy, and appropriate use of vasopressor therapy through a peripheral intravenous access site to maximize patient safety.

- Expansion of pharmacist response to Code Blue Activations to 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Phenobarbital loading dose for severe alcohol withdrawal process
 The new dose standardization process facilitates faster time from order placement to administration through pre-mixed IV infusion bags. The average time from verification to administration in the ED decreased from 33 to 22 minutes.
- The successful transition from alteplase to tenecteplase for ischemic stroke
 This treatment change resulted in similar efficacy and safety for patients. It also facilitated more rapid medication administration, simpler dose preparation, and lower cost per dose.
- High-dose/concentrated insulin infusion for calcium channel or beta blocker overdose
 A new treatment guideline and two new order sets (one adult, one pediatric) were created to provide high-dose insulin euglycemia therapy (HIET). In addition, a robust medication safety process for concentrated insulin (16 units/mL) was developed to minimize volume overload in patients.
- Development of an autologous bone marrow transplant service and cellular therapy service line
- Digoxin loading dose EMR calculator creation and implementation and associated order panel updates
- HIT treatment guideline development with argatroban dosing nomogram change
- Expansion of pharmacist clinical monitoring with new electronic medical record tools
 This was applied to intravenous to enteral conversion opportunities, therapeutic drug monitoring, anticoagulation monitoring, monitoring for appropriate venous thromboembolism prophylaxis, reconciliation of medication history among technician medication history, and discharge medication reconciliation for patients on insulin.

Pharmacy Transitions of Care

Our transitions in care pharmacists excel in ensuring quality, safety, and patient satisfaction during high-risk inpatient discharges (i.e., heart failure, myocardial infarction, pneumonia). They perform meticulous medication reconciliation, patient counseling, and facilitate medication access to prevent hospital readmissions and patient harm.

They also play a pivotal role in patient education by providing individuals and their caregivers with the knowledge needed to understand and manage their medications effectively after transitioning to different care settings. This has led to increased adherence and fostered improved patient outcomes.

Educational Services

Our clinical pharmacists and clinical pharmacist specialists provide education during nursing and physician orientation, patient care rounds and conferences, and when serving as preceptors for the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Northeastern University School of Pharmacy, and the Lifespan pharmacy residency training programs.

Many clinical pharmacist specialists hold adjunct faculty positions at the Rhode Island College of Nursing graduate program, Johnson & Wales University, and Bryant University physician assistant programs, where they teach advanced therapeutics. Infectious diseases clinical specialists and the inpatient clinical manager hold faculty positions at the Warren Alpert School of Medicine at Brown University and lecture in the Lifespan radiation technology training program.

Formulary Management Services

- Therapeutic class reviews were completed on four classes of medications: angiotensin-converting
 enzyme inhibitors, angiotensin receptor blockers, beta blockers, and urinary antispasmodic agents.
 This resulted in the removal of nine medications from the formulary with the implementation of
 15 therapeutic interchanges.
- Required indications for all antimicrobial, antiviral, and antifungal medications.
 - Validation of order indication matching chart indication was 89 percent for RIH, 91 percent for TMH, and 83 percent for NPH, for a system-wide performance of 89 percent.
- Required indications for direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs) to create transparency and improve accuracy in the medication verification process.
- Vizient Quality & Accountability Warfarin Elevated INR Metric
 - Relative to academic medical center comparator hospitals, Rhode Island Hospital performance improved from the 42nd percentile in 2022 to ~56th percentile in 2023.
 - The Miriam and Newport Hospitals reported no elevated INR cases over the final two quarters of 2023, with Newport Hospital on a three-quarter streak of no elevated INRs.
- Implementation of IV acetaminophen guideline and restriction criteria resulted in a 59 percent reduction in utilization with a cost savings of \$148,000 comparing utilization from the 5.5-month period since implementation against the same time period before implementation.
- Creation of long-acting injectable antipsychotic guideline and restriction criteria to establish appropriate and safe use of these medications, which can reduce the risk of relapse, hospitalization, and other adverse outcomes in patients with psychiatric illness.
- Pharmacist-to-dose vancomycin protocol
 - The Lifespan Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (P&T) endorsed pharmacist-to-dose vancomycin policy to be reviewed and implemented in FY24 following results of a medication use evaluation that demonstrated significant opportunity for Lifespan vancomycin guideline adherence, time to reach vancomycin level therapeutic range, and laboratory stewardship to eliminate excessive or unusable vancomycin level troughs.
- Reduction in monthly non-formulary medication orders from approximately 5,770 to ~120 orders.

INVESTIGATIONAL DRUG SERVICES

This year's biggest achievement was the implementation of the nCoup investigational drug inventory management system. This software integrates with our EMR, eliminates significant double-entry of data related to patients and protocols, and thus reduces the associated risk of entry errors.

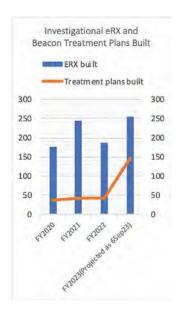
- Setup a total of 254 protocols
- · Created 660 drug entries
- Affixed nCoup barcode inventory label to each investigational product

In addition, we met weekly with the oncology research team to optimize the investigational eRX and Epic's Beacon treatment plan production. During FY23 we were able to produce 147 new investigational Beacon treatment plans, increasing just under 300 percent compared to the previous year.

Overall, at Lifespan (RIH and TMH) we dispensed approximately 2,600 investigational

doses during FY23. We appreciated a 25 percent increase in the investigational oncology dispensations across Lifespan Cancer Institute (LCI). A new phase one oncology suite was implemented at Fain LCI, resulting in a 50 percent increase of investigational dispensations during FY23.





A Computer Application Arrives and Streamlines Clinical Research

Clinical research is growing at Lifespan, thanks to the introduction of a computer application, nCoup, that manages investigational drug inventories and makes it available to those who need to see it. According to Andrea Monckeberg, MS, RPh, BCOP, pharmacy coordinator for investigational services, approximately 150 clinical research studies are now underway.

66 Research monitors require information; they ask us 'how do you manage your drugs?'" Monckeberg explains. "We used to spend the whole day collecting the data requested by study monitors. Beginning in 2023, we could give them access to our platform. Using nCoup, they obtain the documents they need. The process has been streamlined."



Courtney Murray, CPhT-Adv CSPT, pharmacy tech group leader, and M. Andrea Monckeberg, MS, RPh, investigational drug services coordinator.

The benefits extend to Lifespan investigators, who are eager to launch new research protocols, many of which are for new cancer treatments. "We now have weekly meetings with the oncology team, and there is a new phase I oncology suite at Fain Lifespan Cancer Institute," Monckeberg notes. "We are working in a more multidisciplinary way. nCoup interfaces with Epic, which facilitates the process."

Monckeberg, who has 25 years of experience in clinical research, sees progress, especially in oncology, happening every day. "Thanks to this growth in research, our patients at Rhode Island Hospital don't need to travel a distance for access to clinical trials. It's fantastic."

STERILE COMPOUNDING SERVICES

The Lifespan pharmacy sterile compounding team coordinates and provides oversight for preparation of hazardous and non-hazardous sterile compounded medications, provides all compounding content for new sterile compounded medication builds, and is responsible for maintaining up-to-date content.

The sterile compounding team currently operates seven cleanrooms across the state of Rhode Island:

- Rhode Island Hospital, Main Pharmacy
- Rhode Island Hospital, APC3
- The Miriam Hospital, Main Pharmacy
- Newport Hospital
- East Greenwich, LCI
- Lincoln, LCI
- The Miriam Hospital, Fain



Ashley Ayotte, PharmD, clinical pharmacist, performs compounding.

Major accomplishments in the 2023 fiscal year include:

- Implemented an oncology pharmacy service line dedicated to the needs of this patient population. This service line has improved our staff satisfaction and decreased staff turnover rates.
- Built and implemented sterile compounds within Epic's compounding and repackaging (CNR) module to improve patient safety.
 - CNR is used to produce batch compounds of sterile medications.
 - Incorporates barcode technology of ingredients.
- Implemented camera technology within the sterile compounding space to allow for pharmacist checking of preparations outside of the cleanroom environment.
- Transitioned to a new closed-system transfer device (Equashield) to improve staff safety when compounding, dispensing, and administering hazardous medications.
- Redesigned and upgraded both RIH and TMH inpatient cleanrooms to be compliant with state and federal regulations.
- Developed pharmacy-focused guidelines, policies, and procedures to be compliant with the newly published USP 797/800 regulations.



Andrea Theriault, CPhT, pharmacy technician, utilizes camera technology while preparing IV medications in the pharmacy cleanroom.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: DATA SCIENCE, ANALYTICS, AND AUTOMATION

- Streamlined Omnicell maintenance and change processes by integrating automation team requests into the existing work request process.
- Measured technician efficiency through the creation of the Omnicell tech efficiency report.
- Ensured federal compliance and a favorable outcome during the random DEA audit by extracting more than 900,000 electronic records and performing an intensive manual review of those records.
- Implemented new controlled substance diversion monitoring software platform to increase capacity for controlled substance tracking and diversion detection. Since go-live earlier this year, the system has evaluated more than 530,000 controlled substance transactions, with >96 percent of those transactions being closed by the system software, without need for a manual review.
- Improved patient care and program efficiency by creating a prior authorization renewal tracking system.
- Greatly improved reliability, resilience, and integrity of scheduled data processes through the creation of the action manager system and the afternoon report.
- Improved patient safety by supporting the implementation of Safety Stock to Omnicell cabinets to enable barcode scanning during medication restock/return processes.
- Maintained Omnicell functionality by supporting internet protocol address (IP) migration for all Omnicell cabinets.
- Improved nursing medication issuing experience and capabilities by completing the project to upgrade all Omnicell cabinets to the XT version.
- Improved care and safety for inpatients on warfarin therapy using artificial intelligence to help predict patients who will experience high international normalized ratio (INR) lab values.
- Improved pharmacy integrated technology on-call support quality through the implementation of an on-call competency assessment.

PHARMACY CLINICAL INFORMATICS

Our team continues to provide support, either directly or collaboratively, by managing preference lists, medication lists, InBasket pools, facilitating First Databank (FDB) updates, order set updates or new build, updating medication records, creating new medication records, maintaining the online formulary, troubleshooting issues from frontline staff, implementing drug shortage response strategies (alternative alerts—LMAs—order set updates, medication list modifications), managing billing error work queues, and much more.

Inpatient

- Supported the transition to Zosyn extended infusion, including order set build, order set updates, eRX modifications, and preference list updates.
- Supported the Hasbro Emergency Department transition to pharmacy verification of all orders, with only a small list of medications that auto-verify.
- Optimization of oral liquid rounding systemwide (inpatient and outpatient prescribing).
- Supported the transition from alteplase to tenecteplase for stroke.
- Aided in the creation or improvement of many order sets/order panels including beta blocker or calcium channel blocker overdose, burn resuscitation, digoxin loading dose, heparin aPTT order set enhancements, Keppra loading dose, and phenobarbital loading dose.
- Supported the implementation of stronger IV acetaminophen duration and indication limitations.
- Helped with the implementation of pharmacy-to-dose warfarin protocol improvements.
- Testing and continued maintenance and support of IV services CNR implementation.
- Modification of several IV antibiotic orderables to utilize RN mixture using ADD-Vantage vial to bag adaptors to alleviate burden on IV services.
- Aided in formulary compliance through the use of alternative alerts that display to providers for inpatient encounters, but not outpatient encounters.

Outpatient, Including Lifespan Pharmacy

- Supported the new RI Free Clinic initiative to allow for multiple inventories and automatic labelling of prescriptions tied to program.
- Created new pathway for claims that require Medicaid paper billing, enabling their identification in a simple manner.
- Supported development of order panel technical documentation to assist in creation of outpatient order panels. Have created order panels related to RSV, diabetes, epilepsy, and transplant medications.
- Updated medication record defaults to help prescribers, nursing, and our pharmacies in sending (and receiving) the correct prescription the first time. High-visibility medications include biosimilar adalimumab (Humira) presentations, semaglutide (Wegovy/Ozempic), naloxone (Narcan), etc.

Other Key Pharmacy Clinical Informatics Accomplishments

- Represented Lifespan at Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS) panel on pharmacy informatics job analysis. Goal of panel was to benchmark what the average informatics pharmacist is responsible for and the feasibility of BPS credentialing exam.
- Supported addition of Pharmacy Informatics lecture as a focused topic at the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy.
- Completed >1,300 IS service requests, not including incidents and testing for medication-related requests from other users.

CENTER FOR MEDICATION-USE POLICY, SAFETY, AND OUTCOMES

Medication-Use Policy and Safety

- Expanded implementation of barcode scanning for medications and vaccines into the pediatric primary care ambulatory clinic area with a plan to expand to other clinics across the system.
- Implemented new EHR-based tools that detect potential adverse drug events (ADEs) and send them to pharmacists for review to identify root cause, trending of patterns, and identification of improvement initiatives to reduce risk.
- Submitted three medication errors and/or near misses to the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) that were published in their Medication Safety Alert distributed nationwide.
- Provided on-camera interviews and safe practice tips with a local news station, highlighting the risks of benzocaine-containing products after a patient presented to Hasbro Children's Hospital when an adverse event occurred due to use of an over-the-counter product.
- Revised order set development and approval workflows to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the process.
- Action plan developed based on gap analysis of newly released ISMP Targeted Medication Safety Best Practices (TMSBP) for ambulatory/community pharmacy.
- Collaborated with pharmacy clinical services in their ongoing efforts to complete and present the results of medication use evaluation (MUE) and therapeutic class reviews to the Lifespan Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
 - Four medication use evaluations were completed. Results from the vancomycin MUE have initiated the development of a pharmacist-managed dosing protocol and supporting policy and procedure for adult patients. Results from the vasopressin MUE in adult septic shock patients led to a system-wide revision to the dosing from 0.04 units to 0.03 units/min as recommended in the literature.
 - Thirteen therapeutic class reviews have led to formulary standardization with preferred agents for angiotensin enzyme inhibitors, angiotensin receptor blockers, beta-adrenergic receptor blockers, medications for overactive bladder disease, and lidocaine transdermal patches.
- Supporting the efforts of converting drug therapy and therapeutic guidelines into a pharmacy practice guideline format. The guidelines will be transferred into the system-wide online policy database (PolicyStat) to allow for enhanced searching capabilities. In response, the following was accomplished:
 - Two new guidelines were developed to manage patients with pain with an opioid use disorder and skin and soft tissue infections.
 - Thirty-nine guidelines were revised based on the literature and institutional use trends.
- Evaluated and modified several First Data Bank (FDB) dosage ranges, drug-drug interactions, and drug-disease interactions to improve targeted alert firing without compromising alert fatigue.
- Reviewed automated dispensing cabinet (ADC) override lists for appropriateness and reduced the number of drugs on the lists by between 10-50 percent based on area.

Medication Outcomes

- Coordinated working group of providers, pharmacists, and quality/safety leaders that led
 to improvements in Vizient quality and accountability metrics for warfarin/INR and insulin/
 hypoglycemia.
- Performed data analysis that led to actionable outcomes for the following projects:
 - Comparison of dextrose 10 percent vs. dextrose 50 percent in hypoglycemia protocols. Results of the multivariable linear regression analysis revealed that there were no differences in the rate of recurrence of hyper- or hypoglycemia when either presentation of dextrose was administered. As a result, dextrose 10 percent was added as the standard for hypoglycemia protocols across the organization. Analysis of hypoglycemia rates for insulin and hyperkalemia revealed higher than expected rates of hypoglycemia with the current standard protocol, which included a standard insulin dose of 10 units intravenously. This analysis led to updates to standard insulin dosing for hyperkalemia of 5 units. Ongoing review of data following this change in process.
- Providing collaborative statistical consultation for a wide scope of ongoing pharmacy-led research projects, including: opioid metrics project, buprenorphine patch project, ICU alcohol withdrawal research project, code blue research project, and the impact of denosumab or zoledronic duration in the prevention of skeletal-related events (SREs) in malignancy and dalbavancin.
- Launched pharmacy outcomes gallery that makes the work done by pharmacy outcomes team shareable to all pharmacy staff.

Business Continuity Planning

Business continuity planning is a system of prevention and recovery from potential threats to a company. The potential threats can include natural disaster or cyber-attacks. The pharmacy service line has undertaken a review and upgrading of its business continuity plan given increasing cyber-attacks targeting healthcare systems. The goal is to continue to provide consistent and safe pharmacy services during any disruption that may present itself. The following are some key highlights of the committee's activities.

- The pharmacy's Business Continuity Committee consists of six subgroups (clinical services, IV/ compounding services, order review and distribution, pharmacy operations, retail and specialty, purchasing), which were charged with documenting a business continuity plan for their respective areas.
- The subgroups created processes to ensure their respective services would be able to continue
 operations during unexpected downtimes such as a loss of computer connectivity. Examples of some
 of these activities to date include:
 - Creation of a "paper chart" and filing system for each hospitalized patient, including the latest medication administration record, provider order forms, and generic patient labels.
 - Pre-printed labels for the most common intravenous medications to help minimize handwriting of labels while also assuring documentation of two patient identifiers.
 - Review, assess, and test optional medication purchasing processes in case computer connectivity is lost.
- A staff education plan is in development.
- PDSA (plan-do-study-act) quality improvement cycles are being implemented to optimize the business continuity of pharmacy services.

LIFESPAN AMBULATORY CARE PHARMACY NETWORK (LACPN)

Overview

The Lifespan Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Network (LACPN) is an extensive offering of integrated outpatient patient care services. These primarily consist of:

- Four retail pharmacies integrated with LifeChart, the system's electronic medical record.
- A dual-accredited specialty pharmacy serving patients with diagnoses in more than 20 specialty disease states.
- Administrative support for clinicians with assistance with prior authorizations, patient financial assistance, and maintenance medication refill approvals by the Medication Access Program (MAP).
- Clinical pharmacist specialists performing top-of-licensure patient care under collaborative practice agreements in ambulatory practices.

Retail Pharmacy Services

- Lifespan Pharmacy Partnership with RI Free Clinic
 - RI Free Clinic provides health services to adult patients who cannot afford medical treatment and have no medical insurance.
 - When the clinic was unexpectedly in need of a new pharmacy partner, Lifespan pharmacy jumped in to fill that void, believing that all patients in this vulnerable population deserve access to equitable health care.
 - Lifespan pharmacy was the first in the state to partner with a charitable medication distributor and has donated our time to provide a wide variety of prescription medications to patients of the clinic free of charge.
 - The program has served more than 250 patients and provided more than 500 prescriptions in the first few months, with the intention to expand significantly in the future.
 - Television appearance on Community Focus segment of local news to spread awareness.



Raymond Spinella, RPh, serves as manager and pharmacist-in-charge, RIH Retail Pharmacy.

- Preferred pharmacy for beneficiaries of Lifespan's Employee Health Plan.
- Expansion of Adherence Packaging Services to Bradley Residential Programs.
 - Previous partnership between Bradley and external pharmacy ending.
 - Transition to integrated pharmacy to provide greater continuity of care.
 - Bradley Center is a residence for short-term intensive behavioral health treatment for adolescents.
 - Expansion to five additional residential programs.
- Expansion of Meds to Beds Service to Bradley Hospital.
- More than 400,000 retail prescriptions filled.
- 21 percent retail prescription growth.
- Winner of second Annual Pharmacy Innovation Challenge: Collaborative Expansion of Hasbro Emergency Department (HED) Meds to Beds.
- Adherence packaging services provided to residents of AIDS Care Ocean State homes.
- Multiple staff members recognized as part of Lifespan System Great Catch patient safety program.
- Collaboration with Gateway leadership on quality and safety improvements.
- Continued COVID support offering updated vaccines and antiviral agents to the public and employees.
- Registration with mifepristone Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) to provide access to services.

A Successful Partnership Forms With Rhode Island Free Clinic

When the Rhode Island Free Clinic (RIFC) learned that their existing pharmacy partner would no longer be providing free medications, they considered their options. In December 2022, the Providence clinic approached Lifespan Pharmacy.

66 We met with Rhode Island Free Clinic leadership, who had identified a charitable medication distributor but needed a pharmacy partner," explains Vincent Salerno, PharmD, director of retail pharmacy services for Lifespan. "We understood that their patients are uninsured and have limited access to services. They need medications to maintain a baseline of health."



Vincent Salerno, PharmD, director, retail pharmacy services, appeared on Providence TV to describe the RIFC partnership.

A partnership was quickly forged, but there was much work to do. "The charitable medication provider requires that their medications are stored separately from our regular inventory, so we had to build a second pharmacy within our Rhode Island Hospital retail pharmacy," says Salerno. "We also needed to put IT enhancements in place. By June 2023, the RIFC was sending us their prescriptions, and we were delivering them."

By the end of FY2023, Lifespan had filled more than 500 prescriptions for more than 250 RIFC patients; the numbers have increased since then. The RIFC served 2,500 patients in 2023.

Lifespan Pharmacy is donating pharmacists' time and the overhead costs of filling prescriptions. "We're happy to do it, because it's the right thing to do," Salerno says.



Tanvee Wali, CPhT, pharmacy tech specialist, waits on a patient in the RIH Retail Pharmacy.

- Presentation on community medication disposal program accepted for presentation at Vizient meeting.
- Administration of newly approved RSV vaccine.
- Identification and prevention of fraudulent prescription activity and collaboration with risk management to develop reporting protocol.
- Collaboration with inpatient pharmacy to develop protocol for Paxlovid initiation upon admission.
- Collaboration with inpatient pharmacy to develop protocol for oral contraceptives for admitted patients at Bradley Hospital.
- Collaboration with TMH immunology clinic to provide new injectable HIV therapies.

Specialty Pharmacy Services

- Positively impacted the lives of nearly 3,000 specialty patients.
- Approximately 34,000 prescriptions dispensed.
- 40 percent patient population growth year over year.
- Founded a new PGY-1 community residency program with a focus in specialty pharmacy.
- Successfully obtained URAC accreditation under the new specialty pharmacy 5.0 standards.
- · Continued tier 1 employee engagement.
- Streamlined processes for clinic-administered medications, speeding time to treatment.
- Established a pulmonary hub to better serve patients with severe asthma and pulmonary hypertension.
- Expanded care to pediatric patients with certain neurologic disorders and to patients at the Tomorrow Fund Clinic at Hasbro Children's Hospital.
- Developed collaborative practice agreements in pediatric GI services and cystic fibrosis.
- Expanded the use of treatment plans for oral chemotherapy, streamlining best practices in dosing, monitoring, and patient follow-up.
- Became a preferred pharmacy for Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (NHPRI) and joined the Accelerate Specialty Network.
- Became the preferred specialty pharmacy for Lifespan's Employee Health Plan.

Medication Access Program (MAP)

- Medication Access Program (MAP) services have expanded to include several specialty spaces that were
 previously managed by a third-party vendor and include oncology, inflammatory, pediatric endocrinology,
 immunology and cystic fibrosis. There are now 23 clinic locations receiving MAP services, including prior
 authorizations, patient financial assistance, and assisting with refill authorizations.
- This fiscal year, the MAP team:
 - Gained seven pharmacy ambulatory liaisons, increasing the team to 25 members.
 - Provided services to more than 33,000 unique patients.
 - Assisted over 750 unique providers.
 - Performed >11,000 benefit investigations (61% increase from previous year).
 - Submitted >7,000 prior authorization cases (166% increase from previous year).
 - Processed 115,000 refills within 1.7 days on average.

Ambulatory Care Clinical Pharmacy Service Line

- New collaborative practice agreements for smoking cessation, medication opioid use disorder, and weight management.
- New service lines established: medication opioid use disorder clinic at the Center for Primary Care; polypharmacy service clinic at the Center for Primary Care; pulmonary service clinic at RIH Cooperative Care Center.
- Katherine Duprey is the recipient of a \$1,500 grant award through RI Pharmacy Foundation for research at the Center for Primary Care and Medicine Pediatrics Clinic: "Exploring Access Barriers to Women's Reproductive Health Medication in Primary Care."



Laura McAuliffe, PharmD, BCACP, CDCES, senior clinical pharmacist specialist, ambulatory care, chats with a patient.

- Patricia Hoffman at the Suite C clinic at TMH and Alyssa Capuano and Alexa Donovan at the Endocrinology Clinic at the Center for Primary Care are recipients of a \$40,000 Pharmacy Quality Improvement Initiative grant through the Care Transformation Collaborative of Rhode Island for Improving Population Health/Reducing Low-Value Care in Primary Care through Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring (ABPM) or Professional Use of Continuous Glucose Monitoring (proCGM).
- Ambulatory care Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE) clinical rotation structure remodel for team-based precepting: created a "track" model based on different ambulatory care services and created a consolidated Lifespan Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Network (LACPN) learner education and presentation series.
- Academic affiliations lecture coordination remodel across ambulatory care and inpatient pharmacy.
- Pharmacist medication administration policy creation and implementation to align with new RI regulations.
- Mifepristone provider registration and REMS implementation initiatives at Lifespan Pharmacy.
- Pharmacogenomics (PGx) service line was established. The major accomplishments of this new service line include patient visits at the outpatient PGx clinic, establishing inpatient and outpatient referral processes, collaboration with interventional cardiology for PGx screening ahead of elective catheterization procedures, creation of a patient education brochure, and PGaccess advocacy efforts for Medicare beneficiaries. The service looks forward to welcoming PGY-1 and APPE learners in the next academic year.



Lauren Lemke, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist, pharmacogenomics, Genetics Clinic, explains the genetic testing process to a patient.

- CDC Grant/Quality Improvement Project awarded to Alexa Donovan and the Endocrinology Clinic: Vaccination Rates in the Adult Endocrinology Clinic Influenza, Pneumococcal, and COVID-19.
- Diabetes outpatient order panel creation by ambulatory care clinical pharmacist specialists to streamline ordering of insulins, glucometers, and accompanying supplies in outpatient clinics or when patients are being discharged from the hospital. Order sets and panels will also decrease errors and standardize orders among practices and clinics.
- Endocrinology Clinic and Alexa Donovan transferred the clinic's glucometer/blood sugar monitor platform to Tidepool instead of Glooko (saving the clinic about \$13,000) and provided implementation support and training to staff.
- Kristina LaPerriere and the CVI clinic: participated in the conversion of the heart failure clinic from the Dudley location to the George Building at RIH; this transition required extensive coordination and efforts to successfully convert patients and prescriptions to the new site.
- HIV collaborative practice agreement updated to include new pharmacist-driven pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) services.

In the Endocrinology Clinic, Going the Extra Mile

Most of the patients who receive care at Rhode Island Hospital's Endocrinology Adult Clinic have diabetes. Between physician visits, they often need monitoring of their blood sugar levels and possible adjustment of their insulin or other medications.

**Comparison of the clinic's physicians needed extra help, so I was asked to get involved," says Alexa Donovan, PharmD, RPh, BC-ADM, CDCES, CDOE, clinical pharmacist specialist in endocrinology. There was more to be done, because when individuals with diabetes become infected with influenza, pneumonia, or COVID-19, they are at greater risk for developing complications.



Alexa Donovan, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist, endocrinology, talks with a patient about the importance of vaccinations.

"However, many patients don't receive preventive care through recommended immunizations," Donovan explains. A grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funded a project that has Donovan working with Geetha Gopalakrishnan, MD, an endocrinologist at The Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University. "We want to make sure everyone is vaccinated."

The clinic's medical assistants now ask patients when they received their last flu shot and, if appropriate, the pneumonia vaccine. The initiative will expand to include other vaccines. "Our goal is to educate patients to understand why vaccines are so important. We're tracking information to understand why certain patients are hesitant."

Clinic staff may begin handing out vaccine cards, similar to those used for COVID-19. "This program will benefit a lot of people."

- Implementation of injectable cabotegravir for HIV PrEP services at TMH Immunology Clinic.
- Implementation of long-acting buprenorphine multidisciplinary clinic protocol at the TMH Immunology Clinic.
- Amy Brotherton and TMH immunology clinic: TPOXX (tecovirimat, treatment for mpox virus)
 treatment dispensing in partnership with immunology clinic, TMH, Corliss Lifespan Pharmacy,
 and the Department of Health (DOH). Developed collaborative process for outpatient dispensing
 of TPOXX through TMH infectious disease and immunology clinic, becoming the first clinic to
 dispense TPOXX in the state. Developed process for reporting systemwide TPOXX dispensing to
 DOH.
- Transitioned rabies vaccine post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) treatment from the emergency department (ED) to the immunology clinic in partnership with TMH and the DOH; decreased burden on ED.
- The anticoagulation team supports approximately 180 providers. Patient encounters have nearly doubled since FY22, rising from 23,749 to 41,375.
- Partnered with URI College of Pharmacy to initiate the RxSynergy Project, leveraging respective expertise to deliver population health services to vulnerable populations in our state.

RxSynergy Will Harness the Expertise of Pharmacy Staff

The need to improve outcomes and reduce the cost of care, notably for vulnerable individuals, led to a promising collaboration in 2023. It began with a retreat where leaders from Lifespan Pharmacy Services and the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy gathered to discuss a goal: how to design a high-value, pharmacy-led model of care.

66 There is an increasing opportunity to harness the expertise of pharmacists and pharmacy students, residents, and technicians to create innovative solutions," says Michael Poirier, PharmD, MHL, system director, pharmacy ambulatory services. "We have a strong relationship with the College of Pharmacy and are one of the largest preceptor groups for their students; this partnership has incredible potential to deliver equitable care to our disadvantaged neighbors."



Melissa Wilk, PharmD, a clinical pharmacist at Rhode Island Hospital, administers a COVID-19 vaccine.

Approximately 30 individuals met in June to discuss health issues in Rhode Island and how pharmacy can have an impact. Breakout sessions produced a variety of recommendations, followed by a summary document. The RxSynergy for Health RI project, as it is known, is taking shape.

"Work groups have been defined and are developing a project plan for a pilot model that we hope to launch in 2024," says Poirier, who notes that RxSynergy is a fairly novel concept. "We know that our two organizations, working together, can provide a higher level of patient care than would be achieved in isolation. We are optimistic about RxSynergy."

PHARMACY BUSINESS OPERATIONS

Overview

The Pharmacy Business Operations Team is composed of a diverse set of individuals: pharmacists, technicians and finance professionals. We support all facets of the pharmacy service line under the auspices of our pharmacy supply chain, revenue-cycle integrity, 340B, and pharmacy finance teams. Collectively, we are responsible for budget preparation and monitoring, 340B program integrity and compliance, pharmaceutical contracting, systemwide medication inventory management, and assistance with pharmacy revenue cycle, specifically related to patient assistance. Those broad categories greatly understate the volume and value of work produced by the pharmacy business operations teams on a daily basis.

This year presented us with unprecedented challenges relative to the 340B program. The constant assault by pharmaceutical manufacturers took millions of dollars away from the care of Lifespan patients. Because of the diligence of the 340B team and collaboration with our ambulatory and specialty pharmacy teams, legal, compliance and government affairs partners, we were able to retain some of our previous benefit. Through our contracting efforts, we were able to support the pharmacy's strategic plan of contemporizing practices and technology—bringing much-needed efficiency and data transparency to the great work performed by our service line. The pharmacy revenue-cycle integrity team hit their stride and have provided millions of dollars of financial support to seriously ill patients on very expensive medications.

And our pharmacy supply chain, who handles nearly a half-billion dollars worth of inventory per year, maximized the use of new technology to ensure contract parity, which resulted in millions of dollars of savings for the system. All told, the pharmacy business operations team serves a critical infrastructure role for the evolving and innovative best-in-class pharmaceutical care of patients at Lifespan.

Pharmacy Purchasing

- >\$350 million dollars of pharmaceutical products purchased across 100+ pharmacy wholesale accounts.
- Restructured wholesaler accounts to allow for direct delivery of pharmacy products and compounding
 materials to off-site cancer centers—improving efficiency, reducing courier expenses, and increasing
 staff satisfaction.
- Addressed >300 unique pharmaceutical product recalls.
- Enhanced contracted partnership with a third-party vendor to meet the highest standards in validation of pharmaceutical product security and integrity.
 - Currently handle >175,000 unique Drug Supply Chain Security Act (DSCSA) transactions annually.
- Realized >\$1.25 million in pharmaceutical savings through partnership and initiative implementation with Vizient Northeast Purchasing Coalition (NPC).
- Implemented contracting parity and pricing validation software, and realized \$2M in expense avoidance.
- Maintained wholesale acquisition cost (WAC) expense percentage below 7 percent, thereby reducing wasteful expense.
 - Realized \$555,000 in savings through automation of purchasing medications at better contract pricing.
 - Identified key contracting opportunity for the Lifespan retail pharmacies.

Drug Shortages

Drug shortages continue to represent significant challenges to health system operations. This year we created a new function—clinical pharmacist drug shortage management. Through partnership and collaboration across the system, we have identified, tracked and mitigated shortage impact to patients and clinicians. This year has been challenging, with the most significant drug shortages resulting from manufacturer closings.

Some of the highest-impact shortages have required extensive planning and collaboration with pharmacy, including: concentrated albuterol solution, iron dextran, hydrocortisone IV, and platinum-containing oncology agents.

Summary of actions:

- Identified, triaged, and mitigated 275 unique drug shortages.
- Realized \$200,000 in drug savings from practice changes that were adopted in response to a shortage, and subsequently identified as best practice.
- Established contracted partnerships with ABC Sure Supply and Vizient NES Supply Reserve program to provide redundancy when a supply of contracted products is not available.
- Contracted with a pharmacy wholesaler to provide access to short-dated items direct from manufacturers as a step to further mitigate the product not being available.

Pharmacy Revenue Cycle

- Collected \$525,000 in appropriate waste billing transactions.
- Accessed >\$2 million dollars in free medications on behalf of patients who are uninsured or underinsured.
- In collaboration with prior authorization teams, intervention and update to 150 biosimiliar medication orders to align to the insurers' preferred product, preventing potential downstream denials.

340B Drug Pricing Program

The 340B Drug Pricing Program was created by Congress in 1992 to help providers serving low-income Medicare, Medicaid, and uninsured patients. Savings from the 340B program support investment in programs across the region that serve a high proportion of Medicaid and other underserved patients.

FY22 Key 340B Impact Statistics

Uncompensated medical care	\$76M
Charity care and community benefits	\$208M
Rhode Island residents who live in poverty	11.4 percent
RIH's Disproportionate Share (DSH) adjustment	22.84 percent

Examples of how Lifespan uses savings to benefit the community include:

- Partnering with the RI Free Clinic Dispensary of Hope to provide free drugs to vulnerable patients without insurance to improve access to care, ensuring therapeutic benefit for controlling chronic conditions.
- Providing free naloxone to patients for opioid overdose management.
- Maintaining a suboxone induction hotline, offering emergency/urgent suboxone induction and bridge prescriptions, in concert with the Lifespan Recovery Center (LRC).
- Operating the only burn center, comprehensive stroke center, and hemophilia treatment centers in the state.
- The 340B team audited 22,000+ claims in FY23.

The 340B program is experiencing unprecedented attacks by drug manufacturers and lobbying groups. In addition to working with government relations on various advocacy projects, including support of state bills, we responded to requests by Congress for information (RFI) to offer solutions to the legal crisis developing with contract pharmacy.

Beginning in 2020, manufacturers began restricting 340B pricing at contract pharmacies, totaling 24 as of September 2023. We have responded by:

- Retaining \$7 million in program margin through data-sharing.
- Performing financial analysis for 17 manufacturers to determine the most advantageous contract pharmacy site to designate.
- Expanding 340B hospital billing to include MassHealth beneficiaries.
- Pursuing additional data-sharing options that are expected to bring in \$2.2 million in margin for FY24.
- Considering additional operational changes that align with language within the original statute upon which manufacturers focus their arguments.

Other Key Business Operations Accomplishments

- Negotiated contract to implement carousel technology at three Lifespan campuses.
- Negotiated contract to support implementation of Home Infusion Service.
- Coordinated three virtual hiring events.

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

Innovation Challenge

The purpose of the innovation challenge is to provide an opportunity for a department competition where individuals or teams can work together to cultivate creativity toward making improvements. We encouraged our team members to think of ideas such as:

- Do you have a recommendation for a different way of doing something that seems inefficient or wasteful to you?
- Is there a new or expanded pharmacy service you feel would help our patients?
- Do we need a new type of equipment, automation, or software that would make us safer, more efficient, or improve job satisfaction?



Christine Collins congratulates the 2023 Innovation Challenge winners.

• Is there something that frustrates you that you have an idea for fixing?

The selection of the winners was based on:

- Alignment with the Pharmacy Services Strategic Plan and with Lifespan Vision 2025
- Impact of the proposed innovation
- Ease and cost of implementation

Of the 21 submissions that were received, two were related to projects that were in progress within the service line. Two projects, from our second- and third-place winning submissions, were started, with work continuing into FY24.

An update on the three winners is below:

	Winner Name(s)	Idea Title	Project Update
First Place	Patrick Lee Vincent Salerno Raymond Spinella	Collaborative Expansion of Hasbro Emergency Department Meds to Beds	The Meds to Beds program was successfully expanded to the Hasbro Emergency Department in December 2023.
Second	Lyndsey Garde	Improving Disposal of Oral	Patients of Lifespan Specialty Pharmacy were offered prepaid postage envelopes to return unused oral medications beginning in 2023, with a goal of 100 percent implementation into the Lifespan Specialty Workflow by the end of 2024.
Place	Ian Willoughby	Chemo Agents	
Third	Guilia Conley	Implementation of Pain/	A business plan will be drafted and submitted for resource expansion in FY25.
Place	Shawn Whitehead	Palliative Care Pharmacist	

Honorable mentions include:

	Name(s)	Idea Title
Honorable	Shriji Amin Patrick Lee Kendra Walsh Steve Willis	Interprofessional Shadowing at Rhode Island Hospital
Mentions	Robert Brunault	Pretreatment Lab Standardization for the Lifespan Cancer Institute
	Vanessa Lachance	New Hire Implementation
	Karen Nolan	Game Changer Challenge or Dynamic Creators of Innovation

Providing Full Care For Families— And Avoiding Delays

The Hasbro Children's Hospital Emergency Department (ED) is the site of more than 60,000 annual visits. Last year, the volume rose due to COVID-19 and RSV cases. Something else got the attention of Lifespan pharmacists.

from community pharmacies about prescriptions that were out of stock, clarification questions, and prior authorization from health insurance," says Patrick Lee, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist who trained in pediatrics. "This led to delays in patients receiving the prescriptions they needed, from antibiotics to seizure medications to epi-pens."



Patrick H. Lee, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist.

Lee and his colleagues knew that the way to get ahead of this problem was to have patients use the Lifespan Pharmacy—something true for only 2 percent of those seen in the ED. "We decided to expand the successful Meds to Beds program, which was established for adult inpatients at Rhode Island Hospital, into the Hasbro Emergency Department so that families have medications in hand when the patient is discharged," Lee says.

Families are eager to get home with their sick child, so they appreciate having discharge counseling by a pharmacist while avoiding barriers to obtaining prescriptions. "We're seamlessly providing full care," says Lee. "Now 10 percent of patients use the Lifespan pharmacy, and we're just getting started."

Employees of the Month

In October 2022, a Pharmacy Service Line Employee of the Month was implemented, allowing for pharmacy staff to nominate a peer they feel should be recognized for their service. Recognition of the winning nominee, along with remarks from the nominee's manager, has been incorporated into the monthly Pharmacy Town Hall meeting.

Month	Employee of the Month	Site
October 2022	Kayla Farias, CPhT, pharmacy technician specialist	Newport Hospital
November 2022	Shayla Isom, CPhT, pharmacy technician specialist	Lifespan Retail Pharmacy, Rhode Island Hospital
December 2022	Brian Castle, CPhT, medication access specialist	Lifespan Specialty Pharmacy
January 2023	Kelly Young, CPhT, pharmacy technician navigator	Lifespan Specialty Pharmacy
February 2023	Kimberly Roberts, CPhT, medication access specialist	Lifespan Specialty Pharmacy
March 2023	Halley Gibson, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist, antithrombotic stewardship	Rhode Island Hospital
April 2023	April 2023 James Higginbottom, PharmD, pharmacist, controlled substance coordinator	
May 2023	Annaliese Barlow, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist - cardiothoracic ICU	Rhode Island Hospital
June 2023	Diana Maynard, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist, ambulatory care	Rhode Island Hospital
July 2023	Patrick Lee, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist, pediatric emergency medicine	Rhode Island Hospital
August 2023	RxIT Informatics Team Jessica Bellavance, PharmD, pharmacy clinical informatics coordinator Russell Dunn, PharmD, pharmacy clinical informatics coordinator Katelyn Gargano, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist, informatics Sandra Juckett, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist, informatics Kimberly Messa, PharmD, pharmacy business operations automation specialist Phu Thai, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist, informatics	Rhode Island Hospital
September 2023	Ashley Perez, CPhT, pharmacy technician navigator	Lifespan Specialty Pharmacy

Employee Well-being and Celebration Activities

The pharmacy service line hosts various virtual and in-person activities throughout the year for staff. The goal is to enhance the department's culture, provide team-building experiences, expand staff's contribution to innovation, improve work-life balance, and increase opportunities for healthy choices.

A variety of options have been provided to Pharmacy Department during the past year:

- National Pharmacy Week, in October, included expanded activities such as by line-dancing, therapy dog visits, stress management and burnout sessions, national technician day featuring a "Cart on Wheels" visit, building healthy habits presentation, yoga/exercise mini-sessions, and a trivia event.
- Monthly calendars continued post-National Pharmacy Week:
 - Fun holidays included Take the Stairs Day, Hot Chocolate Day, Animal Cracker Day and food celebrations.
 - Patient Safety Week included daily info blasts for staff.
 - Weekly 15-minute exercise or yoga sessions were scheduled via Teams throughout the year.
 - Special department events, RISHP updates and CE opportunities.
- Other activities
 - Thanksgiving Tree for staff members to post their thanks on a leaf.
 - Daily tip on managing holiday stress posted each week during the month of December.



Kathleen Neves, PharmD, medication quality and safety specialist, enjoyed the Pet Therapy Dog Visit, a high point of National Pharmacy Week.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Lifespan Pharmacy Services participated in a number of educational programs during the 2022-2023 academic year, including lecturing to local college physician assistant programs and precepting introductory pharmacy practice experience (IPPE) and advanced pharmacy practice experience (APPE) students.

- The Lifespan pharmacy provided a total of 194 hours of lectures (an increase from 167 hours the prior year) to physician assistant and nurse practitioner programs during the 2022-2023 academic year.
 - This included 36 lectures to Bryant University students, 69 lectures to Johnson & Wales University students, and 13 lectures to Rhode Island College students.



A training session gets underway at Rhode Island Hospital.

- For the academic year 2022-2023, the RIH pharmacy precepted 26 APPE students over the course of 65 rotations. The number of APPE rotations offered increased 10 percent, from 59 rotations the previous academic year.
- This was due in large part to our preceptor pool expanding from 36 preceptors to 42 spanning inpatient, retail, and ambulatory care, and specialty pharmacy.
 - The RIH pharmacy expanded our longitudinal APPE program from three to seven students this calendar year. These students complete all their APPE rotations at Rhode Island Hospital and thus make a larger impact by completing longitudinal projects during their year with us.
 - » Five of the seven longitudinal APPE students from 2022-2023 went on to PGY1 residency programs, with one going on to medical school at Brown University.
 - » Example projects that were completed include:
 - ♦ Updated sterile compounding competencies to meet new USP standards.
 - ♦ Performed a medication use evaluation of anticoagulation in patients with a percutaneous left ventricular support device.
 - ♦ Assessed vancomycin dosing and therapeutic drug monitoring.
 - » Our APPE students were instrumental in the streamlining of our inpatient formulary through therapeutic class reviews, additions of medications to the formulary that are commonly used but not in the formulary, and removal of formulary medications with limited therapeutic use.
- For the academic year 2022-2023, the TMH
 pharmacy precepted a total number of 16 APPE
 students during 17 rotations. Twelve different
 preceptors spanning inpatient, retail, and ambulatory
 care pharmacy provided these experiences. Four of
 these preceptors also mentored six IPPE students
 during the academic year.
- For the academic year 2022-2023, the Newport Hospital pharmacy hosted 2 APPE students and five IPPE students during seven rotations.



Jason Cambra, URI PharmD candidate, chats with Joseph Aquilante, Jr, PharmD, clinical pharmacist.

RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

Postgraduate Year 1 (PGY1) Pharmacy Residency Program at Rhode Island Hospital

Rhode Island Hospital had another successful recruitment season for our PGY1 pharmacy residency program. The program has continued to expand our inpatient and outpatient clinical experiences across the Lifespan health system. Residents gain expertise in clinical pharmacy practice and pharmacy operations, and develop leadership skills throughout the year. Their learning experiences cover a wide variety of areas, including internal medicine, infectious diseases, pediatrics, critical care, oncology, medication safety, formulary management, ambulatory care, pharmacy informatics, research, and healthcare analytics. Residents are involved in teaching activities with practitioners and pharmacy students at Lifespan and across Rhode Island. Residents complete the PGY1 program with the skills to benefit patient care at Lifespan and their future careers.

Major accomplishments in the 2023 fiscal year include:

- Launched a clinical pharmacy on-call program driven by the PGY1 residents.
- All graduating residents continued on to a PGY2 program (seven residents) or successfully found a clinical pharmacy position (one resident).

Postgraduate Year 1 (PGY1) Pharmacy Residency Program at The Miriam Hospital

The Miriam Hospital PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program was established in 2021 and welcomed its first two residents in July 2022. The program offers comprehensive experiences in both inpatient and ambulatory care pharmacy practice sites. Residents gain expertise in clinical pharmacy practice, pharmacy operations, and develop leadership skills throughout the year. Core learning experiences include pharmacy administration, critical care, infectious disease/antimicrobial stewardship, and internal medicine. Residents gain longitudinal experience in academia and preceptorship with the opportunity to obtain a teaching certificate, engage in research, and fulfill a service commitment and staffing requirements. Residents also have the opportunity to apply for early commitment to Lifespan PGY2 programs in ambulatory care, oncology, and critical care.

Major accomplishments in the 2023 fiscal year include:

- Successfully underwent our inaugural American Society of Health System Pharmacist accreditation survey in June 2023, receiving glowing feedback from the surveyors regarding our program, notably the dedication of our preceptors. We anticipate receiving full accreditation in April 2024.
- Both residents in our first graduating class took positions with Lifespan: one as a PGY2 ambulatory care resident and one as a clinical pharmacist at The Miriam Hospital.

Postgraduate Year 1 (PGY1) Community-Based Pharmacy Residency Program – Lifespan Specialty Pharmacy

Specialty pharmacy is one of the fastest-growing sectors in pharmacy today. A team of skilled, specialized pharmacists with a large vulnerable patient population can benchmark and improve outcomes, manage overall costs for payors and patients, and practice pharmaceutical care at an advanced, population-based clinical level rarely found in other pharmacy careers. The success of specialty pharmacy has led to a growing demand for pharmacists in this field. For that reason, Rhode Island Hospital established a residency program at Lifespan's Specialty Pharmacy this fall. This program provides extensive experiences that foster the development of well-rounded leaders in specialty drug management and education with an emphasis on inflammatory conditions, oncology/hematology, pulmonary conditions, and transplant. These learning opportunities are coupled with longitudinal involvement in practice management, staffing responsibilities, population health management, medication therapy management (MTM), and research.

Major accomplishments in the 2023 fiscal year include:

- Received ASHP Foundation's Pharmacy Residency Expansion Grant, providing \$25,000 in financial support for training our first PGY1 community-based pharmacy resident.
- We successfully recruited our first resident, David Young.

Postgraduate Year 1/2 (PGY1/2) Health System Pharmacy Administration and Leadership (HSPAL) Pharmacy Residency Program

Rhode Island Hospital launched a PGY1/2 health system pharmacy administration and leadership pharmacy residency program in 2020. This program offers comprehensive experience in clinical pharmacy, pharmacy operations, and pharmacy leadership throughout the health system. Learning experiences also include medication safety, pharmacy informatics, pharmacy finance and business operations, and specialty pharmacy. Residents are directed in skills critical to patient care, communication, and health system leadership.

Major accomplishments in the 2023 fiscal year include:

- Achieved accreditation by the American Society of Health System Pharmacists.
- James Ning, PharmD, graduated from the PGY1/2 HSPAL Program and was promoted to evening pharmacy supervisor at Rhode Island Hospital.
- Appointment of Bryan McCarthy to the position of residency program director.

Postgraduate Year 2 (PGY2) Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residency Program

Rhode Island Hospital in partnership with the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy developed a PGY2 ambulatory care pharmacy residency program. This program offers comprehensive experiences in ambulatory care pharmacy practice involving collaborative practice and comprehensive medication management in a variety of practice settings. These include adult primary care, dermatology, gastroenterology (inflammatory bowel disease and hepatitis C therapy management), renal transplantation, rheumatology, specialty pharmacy, and transitions of care. Residents are involved in teaching activities at the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy, which specifically focus on skills critical to patient care communication and leadership.

Major accomplishments in the 2023 fiscal year include:

- Elizabeth Salisbury, PharmD, the 2022-23 PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy resident, and her preceptor, Alissa Margraf, PharmD, BCACP, were one of seven recipients nationally of an ASHP Pharmacy Resident Research Grant Award for the project titled: Impact of Pharmacist-Mediated Refill Authorization Program on Proton-Pump Inhibitor (PPI) Deprescribing Success Rates.
- Elizabeth Salisbury graduated from the PGY2 Ambulatory Care Program, was promoted to clinical pharmacist specialist, and is initiating outpatient psychiatric pharmacy services.
- Appointment of Aisha Ashraf, Alyssa Capuano, and Alissa Margraf to the position of residency program coordinator.
- Addition of new learning experiences: medication for opioid use disorder, pulmonology, endocrinology, dermatology, and pediatric inflammatory—GI.

Postgraduate Year 2 (PGY2) Critical Care Pharmacy Residency Program

Rhode Island Hospital launched a PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Residency in fall 2021. This program provides comprehensive training in critical care pharmacy practice, with residents rotating through all intensive care units (ICU) and the Emergency Department at Rhode Island Hospital. Additional responsibilities include emergency response, research, and leadership and teaching activities. The resident is directed in skills critical to patient care, communication, and leadership within a multidisciplinary health care team.

Major accomplishments in the 2023 fiscal year include:

- The PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Residency Program underwent its initial accreditation survey by the American Society of Health System Pharmacists in April 2023, which was successful. We expect to formally receive accreditation this fall.
- In FY22 we successfully recruited our second resident, Christian Silva, PharmD, through the early commitment process.
- Our first resident, Vanamrung (Viva) Isaragumpot, PharmD, graduated from the PGY2 Critical Care Program and secured a position with us as the clinical pharmacist specialist in evening critical care.

Postgraduate Year 2 (PGY2) Oncology Pharmacy Residency Program

The PGY2 Oncology Pharmacy Residency Program at Rhode Island Hospital, in affiliation with the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy, launched in July of 2011, training one resident per year. Learning experiences include adult and pediatric oncology in acute and ambulatory care settings, investigational drug services, research, and leadership activities.

Upon graduation, residents are prepared to function independently as hematology/oncology clinical pharmacy specialists and are considered essential members of a multidisciplinary team caring for patients with cancer. Furthermore, graduates from the program are prepared for roles as adjunct faculty for pharmacy students on rotation and in classroom learning experiences at colleges of pharmacy.

Major accomplishments in the 2023 fiscal year include:

- Appointment of Hannah Kisla, PharmD, BCOP, to clinical pharmacist specialist-outpatient oncology and preceptor for the oncology residency program.
- Appointment of Morgan Wynes to the position of residency program coordinator.
- Publication in the *Journal of Oncology Pharmacy Practice* by former resident Verona Abdelmeseh, PharmD, BCOP; Justin Huynh, PharmD, BCOP; Britny Brown, PharmD, BCOP; and Andrew Zullo, PharmD, PhD, which investigated the comparative cost savings of biosimilar and dose-rounding utilization in oncology care at two major health systems in Rhode Island.

2023 Preceptor Awards

Award	Recipient
Preceptor of the Year	Giulia Conley, PharmD, BCPS
New Preceptor of the Year	Ashlyn Norris, PharmD, BCIDP
Preceptor Commitment to the Profession Award	Diane Parente, PharmD, BCIDP
Resident Commitment to the Profession Award	Viva Isaragumpot, PharmD
Rockstar Resident of the Year	Sabrina Silveira, PharmD



Christine Collins presented Guila Conley, PharmD, BCPS, with the Preceptor of the Year Award.



Christine Collins presented Sabrina Silveira, PharmD, with the Rockstar Resident of the Year Award.

RESEARCH

Overview

Pharmacy practice research in an academic health system encompasses a wide range of objectives and goals aimed at improving the quality of patient care, advancing the pharmacy profession, and contributing to the body of knowledge in healthcare. Key goals include:

- Optimizing Medication Therapy: Improve the safety and effectiveness of medication therapy by conducting research on drug interactions, dosing regimens, and therapeutic outcomes. This includes identifying strategies to minimize medication errors and adverse drug events.
- Clinical Outcomes: Evaluate the impact of pharmacist-led interventions and services on patient clinical outcomes, such as disease management, symptom control, and overall health-related quality of life.
- Health Economics: Analyze the economic implications of pharmaceutical interventions and healthcare services provided by pharmacists. Assess the cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit of various pharmacy practices.
- Patient Safety: Study strategies to enhance medication safety, including error reporting systems, medication reconciliation processes, and the use of technology to prevent medication errors.
- Quality Improvement: Engage in research projects that assess and enhance the quality
 of pharmacy services and patient care within the academic health system. Implement
 continuous quality improvement initiatives based on research findings.

These goals collectively aim to advance the pharmacy profession, improve patient care, and contribute to the overall goals of Lifespan in research, education, and patient care. Lifespan provides a unique environment for conducting this research due to integration of clinical practice, education, and research activities.

Peer-Reviewed Scientific Publications

Pharmacy members published nine peer-reviewed scientific manuscripts between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2023.

- **1.** Abdelmeseh, V., Brown, B. R., **Huynh, J. P.**, & **Zullo, A. R.** (2022). Comparative cost savings of biosimilar and dose rounding utilization in oncology care. *Journal of Oncology Pharmacy Practice*, 29(6), 1437-1442. https://doi.org/10.1177/10781552221134257.
- 2. Cicali, E. J., Lemke, L. K., Al Alshaykh, H., Nguen, K. A., Cavallari, L. H., & Wiisanen, K. (2022). How to implement a pharmacogenetics service at your institution. *J Am Coll Clin Pharm*, *5*(11), 1161-1175. https://doi.org/10.1002/jac5.1699.
- **3.** Collins, C. M., & Corrado, M. C. (2023). Case 3: Medication Access Program. In R. P. Granko, *Financial Management for Health-System Pharmacists* (pp. 179-194). ASHP. https://doi.org/10.37573/9781585287130.
- **4.** Duprey, M. S., **Zullo, A. R.**, Gouskova, N. A., Lee, Y., **Capuano, A.**, Kiel, D. P., Daiello, L. A., Kim, D. H., Berry, S. D. (2023). Development and validation of the fall-related injury risk in nursing homes (INJURE-NH) prediction tool. *J Am Geriatr Soc, 71*(6), 1851-1860. https://doi.org/10.1111/jgs.18277.
- **5.** Lee, P. H., Schwaner, L., Taglieri, G., Mullins, C. F., & Sylvia, L. M. (2022). A Multidisciplinary Educational Approach to Anticoagulation Management for a Percutaneous Endovascular Mechanical Circulatory Support Device. *Annals of Pharmacotherapy*, *56*(10), 1119-1129. https://doi.org/10.1177/10600280211071072.
- **6.** Lemke, L. K., Cicali, E. J., Williams, R., Nguyen, K. A., Cavallari, L. H., & Wiisanen, K. (2023). Clinician Response to Pharmacogenetic Clinical Decision Support Alerts. *Clin Pharmacol Ther*, *114*(6), 1350-1357. https://doi.org/10.1002/cpt.3051.
- 7. Margraf, A. M., Davoodi, N. M., Chen, K., Shield, R. R., McAuliffe, L. M., Collins, C. M., & Zullo, A. R. (2023). Provider beliefs about the ideal design of an opioid deprescribing and substitution intervention for older adults. *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*, 80(2), 53-60. https://doi.org/10.1093/ajhp/zxac282.
- **8.** Rogers, R., Krause, P. J., **Norris, A. M.**, **Ting, M. H.**, Nagami, E. H., Cilley, B., & Vannier, E. (2023). Broad Antimicrobial Resistance in a Case of Relapsing Babesiosis Successfully Treated With Tafenoquine. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, *76*(4), 741-744. https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciac473.
- **9.** Walsh, K. L., Winegarner, A., & Hayward, G. L. (2023). Echocardiographic imaging of a bifurcated double barrel coronary sinus. *J Cardiothorac Surg*, *18*, 41. https://doi.org/10.1186/s13019-023-02105-8.

Presentations, Lectures, and Panel Discussions

Pharmacy members completed seventeen PowerPoint and poster presentations, lectures, and panel discussions between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2023.

- **1. Collins, C.**, Chodhary, K., Park, C. Margin shifting: erosion of health system pharmacy margins by forprofit companies [podium]. Vizient Connections Summit, Las Vegas, NV.
- **2. Corrado, M.** Industry insights panel. Northeast Purchasing Coalition (NPC) Annual Conference.
- **3.** Hopper, A. Role of PCSK9 mAbs in ASCVD and financial assistance [lecture]. Providence, RI.
- **4.** Lachance, L. State career day [panel]. Rhode Island Nursing Education Center.

- **5. Lemke, L.K.** Career path guidance panel [panel]. American College of Clinical Pharmacy Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, and Pharmacogenomics Practice and Research Network.
- **6.** Lemke, L.K. Pharmacogenomics: introduction and overview [lecture]. Rhode Island Hospital.
- 7. Lemke, L.K. Technologies for pharmacogenetic testing [lecture]. University of Rhode Island.
- **8. Margraf, A.** The role of cannabinoids and dietary supplements in PH care [lecture]. International PH Conference and Scientific Sessions: Visions for the PHuture; Atlanta, GA.
- **9. McCarthy, B.C., Jr.** At your disposal: safe and compliant pharmaceutical waste [lecture]. Premier pharmacy member CE webinar.
- **10. McCarthy, B.C., Jr., Nolan, K.** ASHP house of delegates overview and 2022 policy recommendations [webinar]. Rhode Island Society of Health System Pharmacists CE series.
- **11. Naidjate, S.** Improving hypertension patient care: a team-based approach [lecture]. Care Transformation Collaborative Rhode Island, Providence, RI.
- **12. Ning, J.** Development of an inpatient protocol for management of patients who take buprenorphine prior to admission [poster]. American Society of Addiction Medicine 2023 Annual Conference, Washington, DC.
- **13. Poirier, M.A.** Multifaceted quality improvement plan to optimize med-to-beds efficiencies [poster].
- **14. Roberts, M.** Safe approaches to mobility for patients and staff: pharmacy perspectives [lecture]. Vizient Webinar Series.
- **15. Sanzen, K.** Contemporary practices for pharmacists in CKD management: from medication management to remote patient monitoring [lecture]. Alpha Zeta Omega National Pharmaceutical Fraternity, Philadelphia.
- **16.** Walsh, K.L. Medical student perception of pharmacy knowledge and confidence in comparison to pharmacist-reported intervention frequency [poster]. The Warren Alpert Medical School Academic Symposium.
- **17. Walsh, K.L.** Rx for success: enhancing the pharmacy curriculum [poster]. The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

Selected Text and Broadcast Media Quoting Department of Pharmacy Members

- 1. Lachance, L. Lifeworks Inc. Partnering with Lifespan and RINEC [commercial]. Rhode Island.
- **2. Teixeira, E.** Management of iron deficiency anemia: more than just taking a pill [publication]. https://www.lifespan.org/sites/default/files/2023-06/2023-Transfusion-Free-Medicine-Surgery-Publication-28-June-2023.pdf.
- **3. Salerno, V.** Community Focus: Lifespan Pharmacy's Vincent Salerno, PharmD [article]. https://www.wpri.com/news/local-news/community-focus/community-focus-lifespan-pharmacys-dr-vincent-salerno/.
- **4. Salerno, V.** Prescription for partnership: providing meds to uninsured Rhode Islanders [article]. https://rinewstoday.com/prescription-for-partnership-providing-meds-to-uninsured-rhode-islanders-ocean-state-stories/.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Overview

During this past year, project management has been working with pharmacy leadership to define objectives, identify meaningful key performance indicators and set benchmarks for the development of a strategic plan performance scorecard to monitor, analyze and report out on quarterly performance. The design phase is underway in parallel with automation optimization, with the completed scorecard targeted to launch in the coming months. The strategic plan continues to serve a means to prioritize efforts and effectively allocate resources for the upcoming year to achieve the department's and organization's goals.

Pharmacy Services Strategic Plan FY 2023-2025	
Goal 1: Enhance Patient Care and Access	
Goal 2: Provide Disease Prevention, Management, and Wellness Programs and Services	
Goal 3: Ensure System Integration	
Goal 4: Enhance Financial Strength	
Goal 5: Enhance Staff Recruitment, Retention, Development, and Engagement	
Goal 6: Improve the Effectiveness of the Service Line Through Expanded Impact Measurement	
Goal 7: Advance the National Reputation of the Department and Knowledge-Sharing	

Focus areas for next year

- Continue carousel automation implementation.
- Establish a home infusion service, including a home infusion pharmacy.
- Open a centralized retail pharmacy to process home delivery and adherence packaging services.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Lifespan Specialty Pharmacy

Alissa Margraf, PharmD, BCACP, CDOE, clinical pharmacist specialist Elizabeth Salisbury, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist

ASHP Foundation Pharmacy Resident Practice-Based Research Grant Program Award

Lifespan Specialty Pharmacy PGY1 Residency Program ASHP Foundation Residency Expansion Grant for \$25,000

Rhode Island Hospital Pharmacy

Shannon Baker, PharmD, BCSCP, pharmacy manager, oncology and sterile compounding

James Beaulieu, PharmD, pharmacy department coordinator

Dawn Feret, RPh, MBA, BCSCP, pharmacy supervisor, oncology services

Claudia Melo, CPhT, pharmacy technician supervisor

Lauren Piccoli, PharmD, BCSCP, pharmacy supervisor, oncology services

Andrew Salzillo, PharmD, MBA, pharmacy manager, supply chain

Andrea Thomas, PharmD, clinical pharmacist, inpatient

Northeast Purchasing Coalition (NPC) Pharmacy Elevate Award

Kelley Sanzen, PharmD, PAHM, CDOE, clinical pharmacist specialist National Alliance for State Pharmacy Associations Excellence in Innovation Award

Rachel Fortin, PharmD, BCPS, clinical pharmacist specialist IPPE Preceptor of the Year, University of Rhode Island, College of Pharmacy

Rebecca Greene, PharmD, BCCCP, clinical pharmacist specialist 2023 Presidential Citation for outstanding contributions to the Society of Critical Care Medicine

Appointments

James Beaulieu, PharmD, pharmacy department coordinator Vice-Chair, Vizient Northeast Purchasing Coalition

Alyssa Capuano, PharmD, BCACP, CDOE, clinical pharmacist specialist *PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency Program Coordinator*

Michelle Corrado, PharmD, MHA, system director, pharmacy business operations

Member, Committee on Affiliate Relations, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)

Nicholas Cotoia, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist

Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor, Johnson and Wales University Physician Assistant Program

Rebecca Greene, PharmD, BCCCP, clinical pharmacist specialist Member, Scientific Session Committee, Pulmonary Hypertension Association

Joshua Hayden, PharmD, BCPS, clinical pharmacist specialist Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor, Bryant University Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy

Lauren Lemke, PharmD, BCPS, clinical pharmacist specialist Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy Guest Lecturer, University of Florida Precision and Individualized Medicine Program

Alissa Margraf, PharmD, BCACP, CDOE, clinical pharmacist specialist *PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency Program Coordinator and interim Residency Program Director*

Bryan McCarthy, PharmD, MS, MJ, FASHP, system director, inpatient pharmacy Health System Pharmacy Administration and Leadership (HSPAL) Residency Program Director, Lifespan

Ashlyn Norris, PharmD, BCIDP, clinical pharmacist specialist Assistant Professor, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University Associate Editor, Brown Journal of Hospital Medicine

Michael Poirier, PharmD, MHL, system director, pharmacy ambulatory care services President, Rhode Island Pharmacy Foundation Secretary, Lifespan Pharmacy, LLC

Martha Roberts, PharmD, BCCCP, pharmacy department coordinator Member, Council on Therapeutics, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Vice-Chair, Section Advisory Group (SAG) for Emerging Sciences, ASHP Member, ICU Liberation Committee, Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) Co-Chair, Congress Proposal Subcommittee, SCCM

Michelle Ting, PharmD, BCIDP, clinical pharmacist specialist Assistant Professor, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University Associate Editor, Brown Journal of Hospital Medicine

CERTIFICATIONS AND ADVANCED DEGREES

Kimberly Aronoff, PharmD, BCOP, clinical pharmacist, oncology *Board-Certified Oncology Pharmacist (BCOP)*

Andrea Bianco, PharmD, BCMTMS, clinical pharmacist

Board-Certified Medication Therapy Management (BCMTMS)

Adriano Conceicao, CPhT, 340B senior specialist 340B Apexus Certified Expert (ACE)

Erin Connolly, PharmD, BCACP, clinical pharmacist specialist

Board-Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacist (BCACP)

Brian Constant, 340B senior specialist 340B Apexus Certified Expert (ACE)

Michelle Corrado, PharmD, MHA, CPEL, FASHP, FACHE, system director, pharmacy business operations

Certified Pharmacy Executive Leader (CPEL) Fellow of ASHP (FASHP)

Chelsea Dolloff, 340B program manager 340B Apexus Certified Expert (ACE)

Katelyn Gargano, PharmD, CPS, clinical pharmacist, ambulatory

Certified Specialty Pharmacist (CSP)

Christopher Gemming, CPhT, technician group leader

Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) Hazardous Drug Management Certificate

Katherine Harte, PharmD, BCACP, clinical pharmacist specialist Board-Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacist (BCACP)

Jennifer McDonald, PharmD, CSP, clinical pharmacist, ambulatory

Certified Specialty Pharmacist (CSP)

Hannah Kisla, PharmD, BCOP, clinical pharmacist specialist, oncology *Board-Certified Oncology Pharmacist (BCOP)*

Karen Nolan, MBA, RPh, director, inpatient pharmacy, Rhode Island Hospital Graduated from American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Pharmacy Leadership Academy

Ashlyn Norris, PharmD, BCIDP, clinical pharmacist specialist

Board-Certified Infectious Disease Pharmacist (BCIDP)

Elizabeth Paolucci, PharmD, CSP, clinical pharmacist, ambulatory

Certified Specialty Pharmacist (CSP)

Michael Poirier, PharmD, MHL, system director, pharmacy ambulatory care services

Masters in Healthcare Leadership, Brown
University

Lauren Russell, PharmD, clinical pharmacist, ambulatory

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Anticoagulation Certificate

Suzanne Smith, CPhT, pharmacy ambulatory liaison Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) Medication History Certificate Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) Billing and Reimbursement Certificate Advanced Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT-Adv)

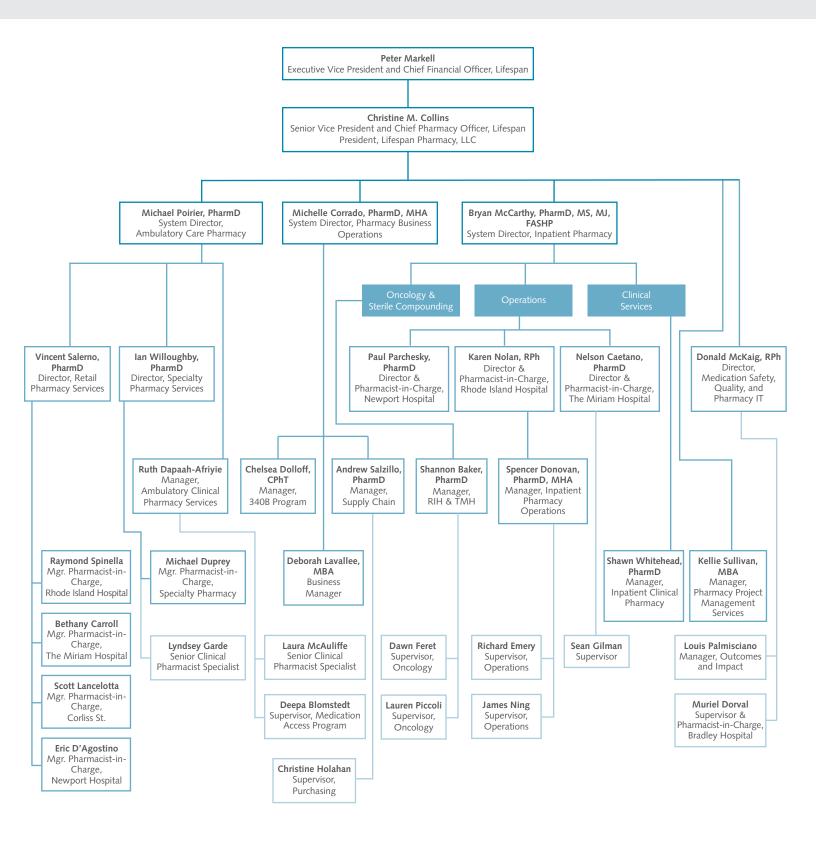
Jacqueline Ward, CPhT, technician group leader, retail

Medication Therapy Management Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) Supply Chain and Inventory Management Certificate

Steve Willis, PharmD, clinical pharmacist specialist Board-Certified Pediatric Pharmacy Specialist (BCPPS)

Allison Zuern, PharmD, BCPS, BCACP, clinical pharmacist specialist *Board-Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacist* (BCACP)

Organizational Chart



Lifespan Pharmacy Leadership Team



Shannon Baker, PharmD Pharmacy Manager, Oncology and Sterile Compounding



Nelson Caetano, PharmD Director, Inpatient Pharmacy, The Miriam Hospital



Michelle Corrado, PharmD, MHA System Director, Pharmacy Business Operations



Chelsea Dolloff, CPhT Pharmacy Manager, 340B Program



Ruth Dapaah-Afriyie, PharmD Manager, Ambulatory Clinical Pharmacy Services



Spencer Donovan, PharmD, MHA Manager, Inpatient Pharmacy Operations



Deb Lavallee, MBA Pharmacy Business Manager



Bryan McCarthy, Jr., PharmD, MS, MJ, FASHP System Director, Inpatient Pharmacy



Donald McKaig, RPh Director, Medication Safety, Quality, and Pharmacy Information Technology



Karen Nolan, RPh Director, Inpatient Pharmacy, Rhode Island Hospital



Louis Palmisciano
Manager, Outcomes and Impact



Paul Parchesky, PharmD Director, Inpatient Pharmacy, Newport Hospital



Michael Poirier, PharmD System Director, Pharmacy Ambulatory Care Services



Vincent Salerno, PharmD Director, Retail Pharmacy Services



Andrew Salzillo, PharmD Pharmacy Manager, Supply Chain



Kellie Sullivan, MBA Manager, Pharmacy Project Management Services



Shawn Whitehead,
PharmD
Manager,
Inpatient Clinical Pharmacy



lan Willoughby, PharmD Director, Specialty Pharmacy Services

2023-2024 RESIDENCY CLASS

Residency Program	Resident(s)	About
PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program at Rhode Island Hospital	Hannah Chapman, PharmD	Graduate of Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
	Jaidyn De Jesus, PharmD	Graduate of the University of Rhode Island
	Eve Hughes, PharmD	Graduate of the University of Rhode Island
	Dagam Jeong, PharmD	Graduate of Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
	Kaitlin Leduc, PharmD	Graduate of the University of Rhode Island
	Taylor Norris, PharmD	Graduate of the University of New England
	Charlie Spuhler, PharmD	Graduate of the University of South Carolina
PGY1 Pharmacy	Bo Yoon (Serena) Kang, PharmD	Graduate of Northeastern University
Residency Program at The Miriam Hospital	Zachary Sawyer, PharmD	Graduate of Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
PGY1 Community-Based Pharmacy Residency Program	David Young, PharmD	Graduate of the University of Rhode Island
PGY1/2 Health System Pharmacy Administration and Leadership (HSPAL) Pharmacy Residency Program	Christina Escobar, PharmD, MS	Graduate of the University of South Florida Taneja College of Pharmacy Completed PGY1 HSPAL Residency at Rhode Island Hospital
	Alyssa Soares, PharmD	Graduate of Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
	Jillian Cerullo, PharmD	Graduate of the University of Rhode Island Completed PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at The Miriam Hospital
PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residency Program	Katherine Owens, PharmD	Graduate of the University of Maryland Completed PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Rhode Island Hospital
	Sabrina Silveira, PharmD	Graduate of the University of Rhode Island Completed PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Rhode Island Hospital
PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Residency Program	Christian Silva, PharmD	Graduate of the University of Rhode Island Completed PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Rhode Island Hospital
PGY2 Oncology Pharmacy Residency Program	Jenna Wu, PharmD	Graduate of Northeastern University Completed PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Rhode Island Hospital

CLINICAL COORDINATORS

Inpatient

Name	Specialty
Samia Baig, PharmD, MPH	Department Coordinator, Outcomes
James Beaulieu, PharmD	Department Coordinator, Formulary Management
Jessica Bellavance, PharmD	Informatics Coordinator
John Comley, PharmD	Oncology and Sterile Compounding Coordinator
Allison Dias, PharmD, BCSCP	Pharmacy Revenue Cycle Coordinator
James Higginbottom, RPh	Controlled Substances Coordinator
Maria Andrea Monckeberg, RPh, MS, BCOP	Investigational Drug Services Coordinator
Annmarie Niewiecki, RPh	Opioid Stewardship and Drug Diversion Coordinator
Edmond Nunes, PharmD, BCSCP	Oncology and Sterile Compounding Coordinator
Martha Roberts, PharmD, BCCCP	Department Coordinator, Medication Use Policy

Ambulatory & Specialty

Name	Specialty
Amy Brotherton, PharmD, AAHIVP, BCIDP	Infectious Diseases Coordinator
Robert Brunault, PharmD, BCOP	Oncology Coordinator
Robin Carey, PharmD, BCACP, CDOE, CVDOE	Cardiology Coordinator
Russell Dunn, PharmD, BCACP	Informatics Coordinator
Katherine Duprey, PharmD, BCACP, CDOE, CVDOE	Ambulatory Care Coordinator
Kathryn McCoart, PharmD, MBA	Specialty Pharmacy Compliance Coordinator
Allison Zuern, PharmD, BCPS, BCACP, CDCES	Inflammatory Diseases Coordinator

CLINICAL PHARMACY SPECIALISTS

Inpatient

Name	Specialty	Site
Shriji Amin, PharmD	Adult Emergency Medicine	RIH
Jessica Arabi, PharmD, BCCCP	Critical Care—Trauma/Burn	RIH
Kasey Audus, PharmD, BCPS	Internal Medicine	TMH
Annaliese Barlow, PharmD, BCPS, BCCP	Cardiology	RIH
Giulia Conley, PharmD, BCPS	Internal Medicine	RIH
Mike Consaga, PharmD	Internal Medicine	RIH
Nicholas Cotoia, PharmD	Critical Care—Medical	TMH
Robert Deveau, PharmD, BCCCP	Adult Emergency Medicine	RIH
Alexis Duncan, PharmD	Pediatrics	RIH
Alex Fairhurst, PharmD, BCCCP	Critical Care – Medical	TMH
Rachel Fortin, PharmD, BCPS	Medication Safety	RIH
Halley Gibson, PharmD, BCPS, BCCP	Anticoagulation	RIH
Rebecca Greene, PharmD, BCCCP	Critical Care—Medical	RIH
Linda Guddie, RPh	Endocrinology—Diabetes	RIH
Britt Harrington, PharmD	Investigational Drug Services	TMH
Joshua Hayden, PharmD, BCPS	Adult Emergency Medicine	TMH
Justin Huynh, PharmD, BCOP	Oncology	RIH
Vanamrung Isaragumpot, PharmD	Critical Care—Medical	RIH
Sandra Juckett, PharmD	Informatics	RIH
Alexander Kashmanian, PharmD, BCPS, BCIDP	Internal Medicine	RIH
Brett Lareau, PharmD	IV compounding	TMH
Mary Lattanzi, PharmD	Investigational Drug Services	RIH

Inpatient (continued)

Name	Specialty	Site
Christine Lawson, PharmD	Adult Emergency Medicine	RIH
Michelle Lee, PharmD	Antimicrobial Stewardship	RIH
Patrick Lee, PharmD	Pediatrics—Emergency Medicine	RIH
Jillian McLlarky, PharmD, BCPS	Internal Medicine	TMH
Timothy McLlarky, PharmD, BCPS	Cardiology	TMH
Krista Mecadon, PharmD, BCTXP	Solid Organ Transplant	RIH
Michael Nadeau, PharmD	Investigational Drug Services	RIH
Jessica Nagy, PharmD, BCPS	Adult Emergency Medicine	RIH
Kathleen Neves, PharmD	Medication Safety	RIH
Marissa Norberto, PharmD	Investigational Drug Services	RIH
Emerald O'Rourke, PharmD	Antimicrobial Stewardship	NH
Diane Parente, PharmD, BCIDP	Antimicrobial Stewardship	TMH
Michael Pasqualicchio, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP	Critical Care—Surgical	RIH
Michelle Payne, PharmD	Critical Care—Neurology	RIH
Jaclyn Roncone, PharmD, MSW	Opioid Stewardship and Drug Diversion	RIH
Paul Shaughnessy, PharmD	Oncology	RIH
Sandra Taber, RPh, BCOP	Investigational Drug Services	RIH
Phu Thai, PharmD	Informatics	RIH
Barbara Wang, PharmD	Transitions of Care	RIH
Steve Willis, PharmD, BCPPS	Pediatrics—Critical Care	RIH
Morgan Wynes, PharmD, MBA, BCPS, BCPPS	Pediatrics—Hematology/Oncology	RIH
Andrew Zullo, PharmD, ScM, PhD	Research	RIH

Ambulatory & Specialty

Name	Specialty	Site
Meav Ainley, PharmD, CDOE, CVDOE	Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)	RIH
Aisha Ashraf, PharmD, CDCES	Primary Care	RIH
Diane Ayuninjam, PharmD, MPH, BCPS, AAHIVP	Infectious Diseases	ТМН
Alyssa Capuano, PharmD, BCACP, CDOE	Endocrinology—Diabetes	RIH
Erin Connolly, PharmD, BCACP	Inflammatory Diseases	RIH
Alexa Donovan, PharmD, CDCES, CDOE	Endocrinology—Diabetes	RIH
Lyndsey Garde, PharmD, BCACP, CDOE	Specialty Pharmacy Services	RIH
Katelyn Gargano, PharmD, CSP	Informatics	RIH
Michelle Gauvin, PharmD, BCACP, BCGP, CDCES	Primary Care	RIH
Katherine Harte, PharmD, BCACP	Neurology	RIH
Madison Huntley, PharmD	Pediatrics—Neurology	RIH
Hannah Kisla, PharmD, BCOP	Oncology	RIH
Kristina LaPerriere, PharmD, CDOE, CVDOE	Cardiology	RIH
Lauren Lemke, PharmD, BCPS	Pharmacogenomics	RIH
Justin Liauw, PharmD, BCOP	Oncology	RIH
Alissa Margraf, PharmD, BCACP, CDOE	Inflammatory Diseases	RIH
Laura McAuliffe, PharmD, BCACP, CDCES	Ambulatory Care	RIH
Elizabeth Medeiros, PharmD	Pulmonary—Cystic Fibrosis	RIH
Safiya Naidjate, PharmD, BCACP, CDCES	Primary Care	RIH
Thu-Trang Nguyen Raheb, PharmD	Inflammatory Diseases	RIH
Amy Phelps, RPh	Inflammatory Diseases	RIH
Diana Maynard, PharmD, CDOE	Primary Care	RIH
Brenna Reilly-Evans, PharmD	Infectious Diseases	ТМН
Elizabeth Salisbury, PharmD	Psychiatry	RIH
Cristina Santos, PharmD	Primary Care	RIH
Kelley Sanzen, PharmD, PAHM, CDOE	Nephrology	RIH
Megan Scalia, PharmD	Primary Care	RIH
Laura Varnum, PharmD, BCACP	Inflammatory Diseases	RIH
Kenneth Wagg, RPh	Hemophilia/Sickle Cell	RIH





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