



Physician Assistant Post Graduate Residency

PRIMARY CARE RESIDENCY

Preparing Effective Leaders and Members of Patient Aligned Care Teams

This program will prepare two Physician Assistant graduates, per year, to become effective leaders and primary care team members in the Veterans Administration Medical Center's outpatient clinics delivering care to veterans in Patient Aligned Care Teams.

PACT is the cornerstone of the New Models of Care transformation initiative intended to transform the way veterans receive their care. It assists VHA in transforming veterans' care by providing patient-driven, proactive, personalized, and team-based care oriented towards wellness and disease prevention which results in improvements in veteran satisfaction and improved outcomes and costs of healthcare.

CURRICULUM

12 Month Didactic & Clinical Education

- Core rotations in Primary Care, Geriatrics and Cardiology
- Select rotations in such clinical specialties like Hospital and Emergency Medicine, Behavioral Health, Pulmonary Medicine, GI Medicine and Endocrinology.
- Select projects in quality and performance improvement, telemedicine, and healthcare informatics.

This training program, the first primary care PA Residency in the country, will include 12 months of didactic and clinical educational experiences focusing on PACT concepts, clinical leadership, systems-based practice, chronic disease management, practice process improvement, patient engagement in their own care, and seamless but timely transitions of care between primary and specialty care.

The goals of the program include implementation of a model PA postgraduate curriculum in the PACT delivery system, and delivery of an outstanding educational experience for residents to become VA employee leaders and change agents. The ultimate outcomes will promote improved outcomes in quality of care, patient and provider experience and cost efficiency.

Eligibility criteria:

- Graduate from an ARC-PA accredited PA Program
- Minimum PA Program GPA of 3.5
- Eligible for a Georgia license and the PANCE
- Letter of recommendation from the PA Program Director
- Meet the technical standards of the PA Program
- Narrative describing the reason for interest in this residency
- Successful interview with Residency Program faculty

BE A LEADER

- Gain valuable practice leadership skills in transforming primary care
- Increase your sense of confidence as you step into future roles
- Position yourself to lead change
- Equip yourself with critical decision making skills

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER

- Competitive stipend & health benefits
- Gain competency in patient & family centered care, care management, practice leadership, system based practice, team-base practice, patient advocacy, health information technology, quality improvement, and more
- Use the latest health information technology and evidence-based medical approaches as well as maintain updated electronic personal health records
- Participate as a high functioning member and as a leader in the healthcare teams



▶ Primary Care Services

The Institute of Medicine's definition of primary care provides the foundation of VHA primary care. "Primary care is the provision of integrated, accessible health care services by clinicians who are accountable for addressing a large majority of personal health care needs, developing a sustained partnership with patients, and practicing in the context of family and community." (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 2017)

THE PACT MODEL



THE TRAINING MODEL



What is a PACT?

A Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) is each veteran working together with health care professionals to plan for the whole-person care and life-long health and wellness. They focus on:

- **Partnerships** with veterans
- **Access** to care using diverse methods
- **Coordinated care** among team members
- **Team-based care** with veterans as the center of their PACT

(U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 2016)

The Triple Aim Goals

“The IHI Triple Aim is a framework developed by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement that describes an approach to optimizing health system performance.

- "Improving the patient experience of care (including quality and satisfaction);
- Improving the health of populations; and
- Reducing the per capita cost of health care.

Atlanta VAHCS Training

The training model— guided by the Triple Aim goals of improving health outcomes, containing cost, and improving the patient experience and provider experience— will prepare the trainee to serve as an effective clinical team leader and member of the PACT's in VA community-based primary care clinics. The trainee will learn to coordinate care to meet the continuum of care health services needs of the VA population in inpatient, outpatient, and community settings.

Accepting Applications
November 2020
Starting April 2021

For Instructions on How To Apply
Contact:
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