

Message from the Chief



According to ASHP, “Pharmacy residencies allow you to apply the knowledge and skills you've learned in school to real patients, situations, and settings. You will also be exposed to different facets of practice and learn about the many and varied career paths available to pharmacists today.” At the Portland Veterans Affairs Medical Center (PVAMC), you will have this exposure. PVAMC is a 277-bed facility serving more than 85,000 unique Veterans with 880,000 outpatient Veteran visits each year in Oregon and Southwest Washington. PVAMC consists of the main tertiary care medical center overlooking the city of Portland, the Vancouver Campus in Vancouver, Washington, and 10 outpatient clinics across Central and Northwest Oregon. PVAMC provides a full continuum of inpatient, outpatient, long-term, and emergent care. We are proud to host 12 national-level Centers of Excellence leading research efforts from mental illness to Parkinson’s, Epilepsy to auditory research, and others.

The PVAMC Pharmacy Enterprise is integrated amongst all episodes of care, providing pharmacists amazing opportunities to practice and improve the lives of our Veterans. With over 150 staff members, our department is dedicated to a Veteran-centric practice model of providing safe, appropriate, and evidence-based therapy and education. Many of our pharmacists have advanced scopes of practice that are not possible in many states across the country. By training at PVAMC, residents have access not only to acute care rotations but to rotations in the rural Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) and everything in between. The opportunities to train are highlighted in more detail throughout this brochure.

The VA has been a leader in pushing the scope of practice for pharmacists for the past decades. The benefits of training in the VA are abundant, but will quickly grant you access to the Nation’s largest health care system. This access will open you up to endless professional opportunities across the country.

Determining the appropriate location to receive your residency training is critical in reaching your professional goals. I strongly encourage you to look through this brochure to see what residencies and educational opportunities we offer. Choosing PVAMC to train will be one of the best professional decisions you make.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacob M. Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jacob M. Thompson, PharmD, MS
Chief, Pharmacy Services