

Frequently Asked Questions
PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency Program
MHSI/24-Month Practice & Academic Leadership Emphasis

1. What sort of qualities do you look for in a resident that you believe would be successful in your program?

I think that time management skills are extremely important because you will be responsible for many things in teaching, clinic, and your masters coursework at the same time. Communication, positive attitude, flexibility, and a desire for continued growth are all things that will also be important.

2. What is a typical week like for you?

I spend 2.5 days in clinic where I am responsible for direct patient care and practice development. At MLK, I worked with my preceptors to see patients for DM, HTN, hyperlipidemia, and smoking cessation as well as to conduct projects for the clinic. The other 2.5 days per week I'm teaching at Concordia in a variety of courses for pharmacy students. These experiences grow more in-depth as you move through the program and culminate with developing and teaching your own elective.

3. What sort of relationship does the pharmacy team have with the physicians and other members of the healthcare team?

We work in a team with physicians, PAs, NPs, RNs, and the community pharmacy staff. Our model is referral-based and the providers send patients to use for additional management in managing chronic diseases and ensuring access to their medications.

4. How much patient interaction does the resident have?

Residents gain a tremendous amount of experience in direct patient care. After you onboard and are licensed and comfortable, you will see several patients per day. The preceptors will work with you so that you will follow the same patients all year and build strong relationships with them.

6. What disease states are commonly managed by the pharmacists at the MLK?

DM, HTN, and hyperlipidemia are the most common. We also have collaborative practice agreements for asthma, COPD, and smoking cessation.

7. Are there opportunities to be involved in public health & wellness promotion, such as health fairs or point of care testing clinics?

There are opportunities to engage with the community throughout the year at MLK. You can be as involved with these opportunities as you would like.

8. What specific teaching opportunities does the resident have with the students from Concordia University School of Pharmacy?

During your 2.5 days on campus every week, you will participate as an instructor in our Applied Patient Care lab series. This course focuses on communication, education, assessment, and care plan development. Also, during the first year you will co-coordinate a lab course with another faculty member and deliver a lecture in pharmacotherapy. In the second-year, you will still be involved in Applied Patient Care and coordinate a unit within a pharmacotherapy course. Teaching activities finish with designing and teaching your own elective course in the Spring of year 2.

9. What does the Master of Science in Education program entail?

Throughout the two years of the program, you will work towards a Master of Science in Education degree. Along with your teaching responsibilities, this degree program is meant to give you advanced education training. The courses can be a mix of face-to-face and online based upon your schedule and interests. I found that the courses align well with the teaching you are doing in the school of pharmacy.