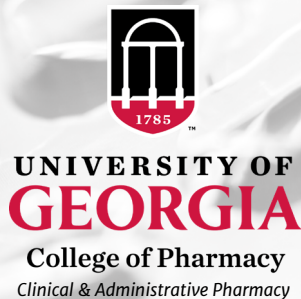


POST GRADUATE YEAR TWO (PGY2)

AMBULATORY CARE RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT



LOCATION: Athens, GA



Victoria Creo, PharmD
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Hometown: A bit of everywhere, now living in Athens.

Pharm.D. University of Georgia
College of Pharmacy

PGY1: Carl Vinson VA Medical Center in Dublin, GA

PGY2: UGA College of Pharmacy Ambulatory Care

Pharmacy Interests:

Chronic Care Management, Diabetes,
Osteoporosis, Women's Health, Academia

What is one piece of advice you have for future PGY2 residents?

One piece of advice I received during my PGY1 experience that I think is good for any future PGY2 and anyone in pharmacy is to 'Be flexible over frustrated.' Oftentimes, pharmacists find themselves in challenging and dynamic situations. When expectations of a situation or clinical encounter do not align with reality, it can be easy to be frustrated. However, adaptation in the moment can help make the most out of any situation. We can start to look at situations through a different lens and come up with alternative solutions.

How do you think you have grown since starting the PGY2?

The longitudinal nature of this PGY2 has really helped me grow in my confidence to practice as an ambulatory care pharmacist. During PGY1, I may have only been able to see a patient once or twice during a 4-week rotation, but now I get to see the outcomes of interventions that I make. I've been able to continue to sharpen my clinical knowledge, as well as, develop my style of note writing. I've also been able to take full advantage of the academic opportunities in this PGY2 and have grown to understand what it's like to be a clinical faculty member at College of Pharmacy. I've expanded my preceptor and presentation skills in interactions with students both in clinic and in the classroom as well. I feel like I'm breaking in my pharmacist shoes.

Favorite thing about living in Athens, GA?

It is so hard to pick just one thing. I think the thing that I love most is that there is always something new to explore. I went to UGA for both undergrad and pharmacy school and always find new things to try. From the food to the music scene, shopping to walks around campus and the botanical gardens, living in Athens is never boring. The city is always

Fun Facts:

I grew up as a military dependent and had the opportunity to live in a lot of different places (including Ramstein and Stuttgart in Germany). I am also a huge Disney fanatic and as of May of this year can say that I've been to Disney in 3 different countries and have marked off 8 of the 12 Disney theme parks. I've been to the 4 parks in Orlando, FL; the 2 parks near Paris, France; and the 2 parks in Tokyo, Japan.

Tell us about your PGY1 experience and how it prepared you for your PGY2:

My PGY1 experience at the Carl Vinson VA in Dublin GA had a great amount of ambulatory care experiences. I think my rotations really helped me to develop my patient interview ability, note-writing techniques, and clinical decision-making skills. Coming from a VA to another VA practice site also helped as I had a general idea of the offerings of the VA. I had many opportunities to develop continuing education or informational presentations which has been helpful stepping into this role. I also had the opportunity to precept several students which is serving me well when transitioning into my role as a PGY2 with opportunities to interact with students at the college.

Recent Significant Projects:

During my PGY1, I was able to work on a project titled "Reducing Disparities in Blood Pressure Control Among Female Veterans with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus." I worked closely with a Women's Health clinical pharmacist and identified patients who would be appropriate to enroll in a pharmacotherapy clinic based on elevated blood pressure readings identified by a VA created dashboard. We were able to achieve our goal by increasing the percentage of female veterans with at goal blood pressure based on our local facility metric.

What are your favorite aspects of the PGY2 residency so far:

One thing I really like about this program is that my week is broken up to spend time at each of my practice sites. I get to spend several days of the week practice at the VA and another half day a week practicing at Piedmont. I get to spend time with two different clinic practices and two different patient populations. I've appreciated the opportunity to work to develop collaborative practice agreements as well as a business plan which strengthens my skills for working in a practice setting someday. I have been excited to dive into the world of academic and have enjoyed working alongside the UGA clinical faculty that were teaching me just a few short years ago as a student at UGA. It has been such a blessing to be able to give back to the school and the program that gave me so much.