Fellowship in Healthcare Quality, Medication Safety, and Population Health

The post-graduate training program, established in January 2011 at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy and College of Medicine, trains pharmacists to establish and lead clinical quality improvement and patient safety programs and perform population health interventions. The trainee works collaboratively with the fellowship director (Dr. Scott Martin Vouri). Areas of focus are medication safety, assessment of prescribing quality, consultant pharmacy, process improvement, healthcare administration, population health interventions, evaluation of interventions, and outcomes research. Trainees will learn how to effectively lead in an interdisciplinary environment to continuously improve healthcare using a team-based approach. Training is focused in the administrative, research, and ambulatory (outpatient) care settings. The trainee may also be asked to participate in a variety of activities at the UF College of Pharmacy including seminar and journal clubs within the Department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy. Additional information can be obtained by emailing Scott Martin Vouri at svouri@cop.ufl.edu.

PURPOSE
The specialized fellowship in healthcare quality, medication safety, and population health is a 24-month, post-graduate program. The purpose of this program is to prepare the trainee for one of several roles, including a clinical faculty position focused in interdisciplinary healthcare quality and safety, for leadership roles in healthcare settings, particularly in areas focusing on medication safety, consultant pharmacy, healthcare information technology use, managed care organizations or for roles in national organizations focused in safe healthcare practices (e.g. Food & Drug Administration, Institute for Healthcare Improvement). Opportunities in this area are expanding and growing rapidly.

TRAINING SITE
Training takes place in the UF Health Physicians (UFHP) administration department and within over 50 UFHP clinics.

MISSION
The mission of this program is to prepare pharmacists for a career in healthcare quality improvement, medication safety, and population health by providing the opportunity to gain important skills and knowledge in this area. These skills include interpreting literature in medication safety and healthcare quality, understanding nuances of quality improvement science and research, understanding national healthcare quality initiatives, using billing and electronic health record data to evaluate quality, conducting performance improvement projects, and conducting disseminable quality improvement and/or outcomes research. The trainee will work closely with the fellowship director and will play a central role in several healthcare groups, including the UFHP Clinical Safety Committee and the Quality and Safety Team. The trainee will provide vital medication information and safety perspectives. In addition, the trainee will become a licensed consultant pharmacist for the UFHP practices (working directly under the consultant pharmacist of record). In this role, the fellow will maintain relationships with the administration teams of the clinics, provide education, and assist in the oversight of medication use practices in the UFHP clinics. During the second year, the trainee will serve as the primary investigator of a research project or performance improvement project in the area of healthcare quality and safety.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMPONENTS: SERVICE
- Assume consultant pharmacist responsibilities for UFHP clinics such as clinic inspections
- Answer clinic drug information requests
• Evaluate drug literature and biostatistics, particularly in healthcare quality, to drive clinical and process improvement
• Provide meaningful contributions to the Clinical Safety Committee
• Produce written communications, including contributions to the peer-reviewed literature
• Evaluate quality prescribing, identify appropriate targets for improved medication use, and evaluate outcomes related medication use interventions

EDUCATION PROVISION
• The trainee will have opportunities to take didactic courses through UF College of Pharmacy Department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy with the option to complete a MS degree.
• Opportunity to give lectures or facilitate active learning sessions involving quality improvement/medication safety content to PharmD students along with clinic nurses and managers

RESEARCH
The trainee will assist on several projects and lead one project within the UFHP ambulatory practices, which will provide important data for improving healthcare of patients, and develop research design, statistical analysis, presentation, and publication skills.

START DATE
The preferred start date of the Fellowship is June 1, 2020. This is 2-year program where the 2nd fellowship year focuses on quality improvement research.

BENEFITS
Benefits (e.g., health insurance) are available.

APPLICATION
Please submit a 1) personal statement/cover letter (1 page), 2) CV, and 3) a list of 3 references to svouri@cop.ufl.edu by January 15, 2020.