



## ASHP Foundation News Release

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### **ASHP Foundation Announces Oncology Patient Care Trainees**

BETHESDA, Md. (January 14, 2008) — The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Research and Education Foundation has selected eight outstanding pharmacists to complete its 2007-2008 Oncology Patient Care Traineeship.

This traineeship, one of several targeted educational programs offered by the ASHP Foundation, is a 10-day, experience-based certificate program designed to train pharmacy practitioners to establish and maintain specialized services for the management of patients with cancer. Supported by a grant from Amgen, Inc., the traineeship is intended to provide individualized, intensive self-study and didactic and clinical training for selected candidates.

“The ASHP Oncology Patient Care Traineeship is an excellent opportunity for pharmacists for a variety of reasons,” says Debbie Blamble, Pharm.D., BCOP, a clinical specialist in leukemia and manager of the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center’s Clinical Pharmacy Services in Houston, Texas. Blamble also served on the Oncology Traineeship’s selection panel. “When changing positions or career paths, pharmacists may find themselves working with patient populations they have had minimal exposure to previously. For most people, it is not practical to pursue specialized residency training in response to every fork in the road. The Oncology Traineeship provides this in-depth exposure to assist pharmacists in advancing their knowledge and patient care skills in the area of oncology. There also may be clinicians who have worked with the oncology population for some time but lack any formalized training in the area of oncology and feel there are additional services they could be providing their patients. The Oncology Patient Care Traineeship provides these individuals with additional insight into ways to advance their patient care and expand their services.

“Regardless of the individual reason, the ASHP Oncology Patient Care Traineeship offers an excellent opportunity for pharmacists to obtain a focused educational and practical experience providing clinical pharmacy services to the oncology population. We are truly lucky to have the support of the ASHP Foundation and sponsorship of the pharmaceutical industry to provide such a training program.”

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The 2007-2008 trainees, specified by site and preceptor, are:

**Duke University Medical Center  
Durham, North Carolina**

*Preceptor: Julia Hammond, Pharm.D., BCOP*

Shannon B. Booth, Pharm.D., R.Ph.  
Clinical Pharmacist  
South County Hospital  
Wakefield, RI

Jennifer L. McDonald, Pharm.D.  
Oncology Clinical Pharmacy Specialist  
VA Connecticut Healthcare System  
West Haven, CT

**The Johns Hopkins Hospital  
Baltimore, Maryland**

*Preceptor: Lauren Decloe, Pharm.D., and Rowena Schwartz, Pharm.D., BCOP*

Shara L. Hutchinson, M.S.  
Director of Pharmacy  
Florida Hospital Fish Memorial  
Orange, FL

Melissa E. Rambin, B.S.  
Clinical Administrator of Hematology/Oncology and Infusion Services  
Kelsey-Seybold Clinic  
Houston, TX

**University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center  
Houston, Texas**

*Preceptor: Debbie Blamble, Pharm.D., BCOP, and Judy Chase, Pharm.D., FASHP*

Rachelle C. Carter, Pharm.D.  
Clinical Support Pharmacist  
North Mississippi Medical Center-Tupelo  
Tupelo, MS

Gina D. Policarpo, Pharm.D.  
Clinical Pharmacist  
Pennsylvania Oncology Hematology Association  
Philadelphia, PA

**University of Washington Medical Center  
Seattle, Washington**

*Preceptor: Ann Poon, Pharm.D.*

Miranda K. Jackson, Pharm.D.  
Clinical Pharmacist  
Memorial Health University Medical Center  
Savannah, GA

Joyce L. Leung, Pharm.D.  
Pharmacist  
University of California, San Diego  
La Jolla, CA

*The ASHP Research and Education Foundation was established in 1968 by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists as a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization. The mission of the Foundation is to improve the health and well-being of patients in hospitals and health systems through appropriate, safe and effective medication use. The Foundation provides leadership and conducts education and research activities that foster the coordination of interdisciplinary medication management leading to optimal patient outcomes. Emphasis is given to programs that will have a major impact on advancing pharmacy practice in hospitals and health systems, thereby improving public health.*

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