

## Jeremy D. Price PharmD



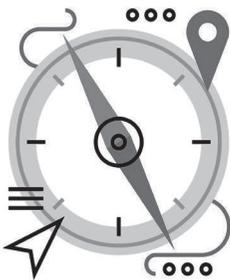
### *Every Day of Residency Is a Unique Learning Opportunity*

Jeremy began his professional journey at Riverside University Health System as a postgraduate year 1 (PGY1) resident pharmacist with interests in acute care, critical care, and emergency medicine. As part of the inaugural class of residents, he was instrumental in providing information for ASHP accreditation surveyors for the newly accredited residency and also provided feedback for the overall improvement of the residency program.

Jeremy has shown tremendous growth as a pharmacist and a person. His involvement with quality improvement projects and provider education has contributed to improved drug therapy management. Jeremy has formed strong relationships with healthcare staff of various disciplines and has become a trustworthy and reliable member of the healthcare team. His personable manner and steadfast work ethic has earned him the respect of his colleagues throughout his training and as a staff member.

Jeremy is currently a Clinical Pharmacist at Riverside University Health System. He completed his PGY1 residency at Riverside University Health System, Riverside, California and received his PharmD degree at the University of Iowa, College of Pharmacy, Iowa City and his BS in Biology at San Diego State University, California.

Jeremy's advice is: ***If you are not 100% certain about what you want to do after graduation, you are not alone. Simply weigh the risks and benefits, and if the benefits of residency outweigh the risks, then go for it!***



### *Dear Pharmacy Colleague,*

Whether you are in your first year of pharmacy school or your last, you have at some point either thought about or been asked about residency. For many of you, the choice to pursue residency after graduation is clear. For others, it is hazy at best.

It can be an agonizing decision with many factors to consider: *What are your short- and long-term goals? What kind of position(s) are you interested in? Are you interested in a particular specialty? What type of facility? Is location important?* If you are still weighing your options, perhaps you would be interested in hearing about my experience before, during, and after residency.

For me, residency was a foregone conclusion. I have always been interested in acute care pharmacy and the thought of having a year or two to practice as a licensed pharmacist, under the watchful eyes of experienced preceptors, was very appealing. I also did not want to have any regrets should I opt out of residency and find that the opportunities I thought would be available to me were, in fact, not. Unfortunately, the job market is not as favorable for new graduates as it once was and setting yourself apart is more important than ever. Now, residency does not guarantee you your dream job, or any job for that matter, but it does make you a more attractive prospect in a very competitive market. Even if the jobs you are interested in do not currently require residency training, that may not always be the case. In fact, both ASHP and the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) have suggested that by 2020, residency training or equivalent experience should be a prerequisite for all pharmacists in direct patient care roles. In any case, I can assure you there are many good reasons to consider residency.

## **OPPORTUNITY**

Residency gives you the opportunity to apply what you learned in pharmacy school, expand your base of knowledge, and gain experience in various settings with diverse patient populations. You also have the opportunity to improve your problem-solving skills, develop your communication skills, and become a stronger leader and a more mature, confident pharmacist. You will become more familiar with drug therapy management and the drugs, doses, routes, frequencies, and durations involved. You may be involved in and learn to work under the stress of a code situation or navigate the complicated health insurance system. I still remember the first code I responded to. I was so nervous—my heart was pounding. I had a hard time finding the medications, and then I fumbled with them once I found them. I had trouble remembering doses and timing of administration. Luckily, one of my preceptors was there to help me. Since then I have responded to many codes. I still fumble with medication from time to time, but my heart doesn't beat quite as fast, and I am much more confident thanks to my preceptors and the experience I gained during residency.

## **TIME MANAGEMENT, COMMUNICATION SKILLS, AND WORKING WITH TEAMS**

Being a successful resident requires excellent time management, communication skills, and the ability to work effectively as a team member. You will be involved in