Outcomes Research Fellowships
Purpose
The Novartis Outcomes Research Fellowship Program provides training and hands-on experience in a broad-range of health economics, outcomes research and comparative effectiveness research (CER) opportunities. These two-year programs are structured to allow the fellow to gain proficiency in the field of health economics, outcomes research and CER as conducted in academic, managed care, hospital, health policy, and/or pharmaceutical industry settings.

Overview
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation is pleased to offer three 2-year Outcomes Research Fellowship positions in 2015. The objective of the first year are to educate the fellow on general principles and methods applied in health economics and outcomes research. Concurrently, the fellow will participate in ongoing outcomes research projects. All fellows will spend the second year of the fellowship at the US-based headquarters of Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation located in East Hanover, New Jersey. While at Novartis, a “field-based” training will be undertaken as part the fellowship training. Fellows will participate in health economics and outcomes research projects at Novartis and gain experience in how a pharmaceutical manufacturer uses clinical, economic, and humanistic data to support the development and commercialization of its products.

Fellowship compensation includes a competitive stipend, basic medical insurance, holiday and vacation time, plus other benefits associated with each specific academic/managed care institution.

Contact
Please contact current fellows for any site-specific question.
For inquiries regarding general application or interview process, please contact:

John Ko PharmD, MS
Email: john.ko@novartis.com

Tom Karagiannis PharmD
Email: tom.karagiannis@novartis.com
Outcomes Research Fellowship Programs

Novartis is a world leader in the research and development of products to protect and improve health and well-being. Novartis was created in 1996 from the merger of the Swiss companies Ciba-Geigy and Sandoz. Novartis Pharmaceuticals is dedicated to discovering, developing, manufacturing, and marketing prescription drugs to prevent and cure diseases, to ease suffering, and to enhance quality of life. Novartis’ portfolio of products is directed towards cardiovascular, multiple sclerosis, dermatology, organ transplantation, oncology and hematology, and other therapeutic areas.

Novartis, derived from the Latin novae artes, meaning “new skills,” is committed to using new skills to improve health and well-being through innovative products and services. Recognizing an increasing need for outcomes information, resources, and expertise, the Health Economics & Outcomes Research (HE&OR) and Worldwide Health Outcomes, Value, and Access (WHOVA) departments were formed at Novartis, with the vision to be the best-in-class in the generation of outcomes evidence that demonstrates value and optimizes patient access to Novartis products. This is accomplished through execution of burden and cost of illness studies, economic evaluations alongside clinical trials, comparative effectiveness research, cost-effectiveness analyses, prospective observational studies such as effectiveness registries, retrospective claims database analyses, and patient-reported outcomes research.

The Fellowship sites are as follows:

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation / Scott & White Health Plan / University of Texas Fellowship
1st year:
Scott & White Health Plan, Temple, TX / The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX
2nd year:
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, East Hanover, NJ

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation / Rutgers University Fellowships (fellowship offered in even years only)
1st & 2nd year:
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, East Hanover, NJ

Novartis Oncology / Rutgers University Fellowships (fellowship offered in even years only)
1st & 2nd year:
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, East Hanover, NJ

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation / University of Maryland School of Pharmacy
1st year:
Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD
2nd year:
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, East Hanover, NJ

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation/ Thomas Jefferson University
1st year:
Jefferson School of Population Health at Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA
2nd year:
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, East Hanover, NJ
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation / Scott & White / The University of Texas

Fellowship Sites & Preceptors

- **Scott & White Health Plan**
  Paul Godfrey, PharmD, FASHP, BCPS, Associate Vice President, Pharmacy Services, Temple, TX
- **The University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy**
  James Wilson, Ph.D., PharmD, FASHP, Associate Professor, Austin, TX
- **Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation**
  Stephen Arcarana, PhD, Head, Outcomes Research Methods & Analytics

Health Economics & Outcomes Research
East Hanover, NJ

Scott & White Health Plan / The University of Texas at Austin

Scott & White is an integrated healthcare system in central Texas that includes a 550-bed acute care hospital, a 600-physician clinic organization, and a staff-model health maintenance organization with 220,000 covered lives. Scott & White is affiliated with the College of Medicine, Texas A&M University Health Science Center and the College of Pharmacy, The University of Texas at Austin.

The Department of Pharmacy at Scott & White provides progressive and innovative pharmaceutical services in a variety of environments for all components of the institution. Included are clinical and distributional services for the hospital, clinic, and health plan, as well as sponsorship of pharmaceutical care programs and ambulatory care clinics focusing on lipid, diabetes and anticoagulation management.

Fellows will gain significant understanding of the key issues involved in pharmacy services provided by prescription benefits management and managed care organizations. The integrated character of the fellowship provides significant opportunities for pharmacy practice, research, and education.

The Health Outcomes and Pharmacy Practice Division, College of Pharmacy, The University of Texas at Austin, is one of the preeminent educational institutions for pharmacy education in the nation. The college is located in downtown Austin, and the fellow is presented with the option of pursuing the Master of Science degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Texas, Austin. The degree would be granted at the end of the fellowship provided that the required coursework and thesis have been completed. The recommended course of study is designed to assist the fellow in coordinating required and recommended coursework along with the fellowship requirements. However, the coursework is tailored based on individual interests, background, and career goals. Additionally, the College has a Center for Pharmacoeconomics Studies which currently has 12 researchers on staff and conducts a variety of outcomes research studies each year.

The unique nature of the Scott & White integrated healthcare system, combined with the pharmaco-economic expertise at the College of Pharmacy, offers significant opportunity for individuals interested in the Novartis Fellowship experience.

Current Fellows

**Second Year Fellow: John Ko, PharmD, MS**

John is the second year Health Economics & Outcomes Research Fellow with Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, Scott & White Health Plan, and the University of Texas at Austin.

John received his Doctor of Pharmacy and Master of Regulatory Science degrees from the University of Southern California (USC). During pharmacy school, he focused on understanding healthcare decision making, the drug development life cycle, and managed care pharmacy. He gained valuable experiences at Genentech, the Food and Drug Administration, the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (LA DHS), and West Hills Hospital. In his second year, John and his USC teammates won 1st place in the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy’s (AMCP) National Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Competition. His internship at LA DHS gave him opportunities to present clinical and financial analyses for formulary addition requests during monthly P&T meetings. In his third year, he was selected as the first AMCP/FGMP/Gentech intern and completed projects for Genentech’s Managed Care Marketing department, where he gained substantial insight into vendor management and cross-functional collaboration. He worked closely with brand teams, managed care marketers, and field reimbursement managers to standardize billing and coding guides in order to facilitate reimbursement for oncology practice managers. This internship also allowed him to visit the AMCP headquarters and participate in the first FMCP Educational Institute.

In his first year of fellowship, John conducted several funded and unfunded research projects at Scott & White Health Plan. His main research project was an evaluation of the clinical and financial impact of Scott & White’s Diabetes Medication Management Program, which utilizes pharmacists to educate high risk diabetic patients and adjust diabetes medications when appropriate. He was also responsible for evaluating and presenting financial analyses for the health plan’s P&T committee. As the current second year fellow, he manages several research projects to support Novartis’ multiple sclerosis franchise. He is working towards a Master’s degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the Division of Health Outcomes and Pharmacy Practice at the University of Texas at Austin.

**First Year Fellow: Melody Tran, PharmD**

Melody is the first year Health Economics & Outcomes Research (HEOR) Fellow with Novartis Pharmaceuticals, Scott & White Health Plan (SWHP), and the University of Texas at Austin.

Melody received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of the Pacific (UOP) in California. Prior to the fellowship, she had a variety of experiences in research, managed care, pharmacy administration, and patient care. At Lilly, the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology of UOP, she studied the role of Leucine-Rich Repeat Kinase 2 (LRRK2) in the molecular pathogenesis of Parkinson’s Disease using a Drosophila model. During her time there, she co-authored a manuscript and gained valuable insight into research design and data analysis. At the Health Plan of San Mateo, Melody was involved in various clinical pharmacy projects as well as formulary management. She authored a drug monograph, and presented clinical and economic evidence to aid in formulary review at monthly Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) meetings. During her various internships at Kaiser Permanente (KP), she gained experience in pharmacy administration, facilitating the grand opening of an outpatient, inpatient, and oncology pharmacy in a newly established medical center. She also implemented drug conversion initiatives at KP and provided academic detailing to physicians to reduce health care costs and improve patient care. At Gillette Children’s Sciences, Melody worked cross-functionally between the HEOR and Medical Affairs teams to support launch of a new product for treatment of Hepatitis C, gaining an appreciation for drug development and commercialization.

Currently at SWHP, she conducts outcomes research and financial analyses to support Scott & White’s clinical and operational decisions in the midst of their merger with the Baylor Health Care System. Among these are an industry-sponsored project assessing clinical and economic outcomes of hospitalized COPD patients, and another project evaluating long-term outcomes of a diabetes medication management program. Melody is working towards earning a Master’s degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the Division of Health Outcomes and Pharmacy Practice at the University of Texas at Austin.
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation / Rutgers University

Eligibility

Eligible candidates should have an advanced degree in health services research, public health, economics, epidemiology, pharmacy, pharmacy administration, or a related discipline. A background in pharmacy or medicine and experience in outcomes research, health economics, or another related field of research is preferred. Candidates must have excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Information

For questions or additional information, please contact:
Engels Obi, BPharm, PhD
Health Economics and Outcomes Research Fellow, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Phone: (862) 778-7438
Email: engels.obi@novartis.com

All questions regarding potential visa sponsorship should be directed to the collaborating institution.

This fellowship is offered every even year and will be open to applicants in fall 2015 for the 2016 applicant year.

Eligibility

In Fall 2015 for the Eligibility should have an advanced degree in health services research, public health, economics, epidemiology, pharmacy, pharmacy administration, or a related discipline. A background in pharmacy or medicine and experience in outcomes research, health economics, or another related field of research is preferred. Candidates must have excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Fellowship Sites & Preceptors

- Rutgers University
  Kimberly A. McGuigan, PhD, MBA
  Executive Director Institute for Health Outcomes, Policy, and Economics
  Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy Rutgers University
  Piscataway, NJ
- Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
  Stephen Arcona, PhD, Head, Outcomes Research Methods & Analytics
  Health Economics & Outcomes Research
  East Hanover, NJ

Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers University

Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers University, was founded in 1892 as the New Jersey College of Pharmacy by a group of citizens dedicated to the interest of pharmacy. It was incorporated into the university in 1927. The School, part of Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences, is located less than an hour away from Novartis at the Busch campus in Piscataway. Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHS) is comprised of 13 schools and units, including: Cancer Institute of New Jersey, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, School of Nursing, School of Public Health and the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research. The School, widely known as one of the finest educational institutions for pharmacy instruction in the nation, combined with the expertise of Novartis’ HE&OR department, offers a significant opportunity to individuals interested in health economics and outcomes research and teaching experience.

The fellowship is comprised of practical research experience, didactic courses, and seminars. Upon being selected for the program, the fellow will be employed for two years by Rutgers University; however, the fellow will spend most of his/her time during the fellowship at Novartis, with the HE&OR department, located in East Hanover, New Jersey. The fellow will gain training in the principles of health economics and outcomes research as they relate to the pharmaceutical industry.

Additionally, the fellow will acquire experience in designing and conducting outcomes research studies that examine economic, clinical, and humanistic outcomes. The fellow will also regularly interact on cross-functional teams at Novartis in an effort to gain a better understanding of how health economics and outcomes research can be used in the decision making process associated with the development and commercialization of Novartis’ products.

The fellow will also have the opportunity to learn about the application of health economics and outcomes research in an academic setting at the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers University. Didactic training is available and includes up to 3 courses per year. Course emphasis will be determined by the fellow in cooperation with the fellowship primary preceptors. There are also opportunities to provide lectures and receive an adjunct faculty appointment at the School of Pharmacy.

The Novartis Pharmaceutical Corporation / Rutgers University Fellowship is not available for the current 2014 applicant year.

Current Fellow

First Year Fellow: Engels Obi, BPharm, PhD

Engels Obi received his Bachelor of Pharmacy from the University of Nigeria and had a variety of work experience as a regulatory officer at the Nigeria Food and Drug Administration (NAFDAC), clinical pharmacist at a State-owned hospital, and medical representative at a multinational pharmaceutical company. He then received his Master of Science in Medicines Management from the University of Sunderland, United Kingdom, and Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmacy Administration from Purdue University, Indiana, in 2013 focusing on Outcomes Research and Pharmaceutical Economics. During his doctoral studies at Purdue, Engels served as a teaching and research assistant at the College of Pharmacy and completed a summer internship at GlaxoSmithKline’s Global Health Outcomes Neuroscience group.

Engel’s interests include retrospective database analyses, use and measurement of patient reported outcomes, and economic modelling. For his doctoral dissertation, he examined patients’ perceptions of provider characteristics and associations with inappropriate medication use among Medicare beneficiaries. Sample research projects he was involved in at graduate school include examination of hospitalization rates for bacterial pneumonia in Medicaid beneficiaries and associations with care organization, and evaluation of internet-based protocols used in cardiac arrhythmia management.

As a first-year fellow, Engels has been involved in projects involving retrospective database analyses of heart failure patients, application of new methodologies to evaluate costs in chronic kidney disease patients, and assessment of metrics used to present pharmacoeconomic information to payers. He is looking forward to further exposure to Health Economics & Outcomes Research (HE&OR) methodologies, HE&OR project/vendor management, and HE&OR strategy formulation.

Rutgers Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy

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Rutgers Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy

First Year Fellow: Engels Obi, BPharm, PhD

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Rutgers Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy

First Year Fellow: Engels Obi, BPharm, PhD

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As a first-year fellow, Engels has been involved in projects involving retrospective database analyses of heart failure patients, application of new methodologies to evaluate costs in chronic kidney disease patients, and assessment of metrics used to present pharmacoeconomic information to payers. He is looking forward to further exposure to Health Economics & Outcomes Research (HE&OR) methodologies, HE&OR project/vendor management, and HE&OR strategy formulation.
Novartis Oncology / Rutgers University

Eligibility
Eligible candidates should have an advanced degree in health services research, public health, economics, epidemiology, pharmacy, pharmacy administration, or a related discipline. A background in pharmacy or medicine and experience in outcomes research, health economics, or another related field of research is preferred. Candidates must have excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Information
For questions or additional information, please contact: David Ray, PharmD, MBA
Rutgers Fellow
Worldwide Health Outcomes, Value & Access, Oncology Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Phone: (973) 777-7226
Email: david.ray@novartis.com

All questions regarding potential visa sponsorship should be directed to the collaborating institution.

This fellowship is offered every even year and will be open to all programs in Fall 2015 for the fellowship period July 2016 - June 2018.

Eligibility
- Rutgers University
  Kimberly A. McGuigan, PhD, MBA
  Executive Director Institute for Health Outcomes, Policy, and Economics
  Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers University
  Piscataway, NJ
- Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
  Helen Lau, MS, Director Health Economics
  Worldwide Health Outcomes Value & Access (WHOVA)
  East Hanover, NJ

Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers University
Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers University, was founded in 1892 as the New Jersey College of Pharmacy by a group of citizens dedicated to the interest of pharmacy. It was incorporated into the university in 1927. The School, part of Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences, is located less than an hour away from Novartis at the Busch campus in Piscataway. Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHS) is comprised of 13 schools and units, including: Cancer Institute of New Jersey, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, School of Nursing, School of Public Health and the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research. The school is widely known as one of the finest educational institutions for pharmacy instruction in the nation.

Combined with the expertise of the Worldwide Health outcomes, Value, & Access (WHOVA) department, this fellowship position offers a significant opportunity for individuals interested in health economics, outcomes research, global pricing strategy, and market access implementation as part of the global Oncology business unit of Novartis. The fellowship is centered on on-site practical research experiences at Novartis, with opportunities for didactic course work and seminars through Rutgers University. Upon being selected for the program, the fellow will be employed for two years by Rutgers University; however, the fellow will spend most of his/her time during the fellowship at Novartis, with the Oncology WHOVA department, located in East Hanover, New Jersey. The fellow will have opportunities to engage in meaningful projects and learn by working with mentors from the Oncology WHOVA team. Possible activities/projects may include:

- Contributing to trial design discussions (Phase II-Phase III) related to selection of patient reported outcomes (PROs) and health economic assessments (e.g. healthcare resource utilization), in Novartis Oncology global clinical trials
- Learn critical elements of evidence generation and value communication through coordination with global product teams in order to build strong product value propositions and prepare Global Value Dossiers and related communication tools for use by regional and country colleagues
- Conduct outcomes research studies such as burden of illness evaluations to better characterize patient and population unmet needs through database analysis and literature review

- Conduct health economic evaluations to characterize and communicate the budget impact and cost-effectiveness of new oncology therapeutics
- Understand the development of global pharmaceutical pricing strategy through payer insight research, product pricing analogues, and examination of prior reimbursement decisions
- Present and/or publish research findings to support product differentiation and market access

The fellow will also have the opportunity to learn about the application of health economics and outcomes research in an academic setting at the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers University. Didactic training is available and includes up to 3 courses per year. Course emphasis will be determined by the fellow in cooperation with the fellowship primary preceptors. There are also opportunities to provide lectures and receive an adjunct faculty appointment at the School of Pharmacy.

The Novartis Oncology / Rutgers University Fellowship is not available for the current 2014 applicant year.

Current Fellow
First Year Fellow: David Ray, PharmD, MBA
Dave Ray is the first year Rutgers Oncology fellow working with the Novartis Worldwide Health Outcomes, Value and Access (WHOVA) team on the East Hanover campus.

Dave graduated with his Doctorate of Pharmacy degree from Saint John’s University in Queens, New York in 2009. After graduation from pharmacy school, Dave worked at Hackensack University Medical Center (HUMC) as a staff pharmacist. During his time at HUMC, Dave had the opportunity to work on numerous quality improvement programs and the implementation of a variety of technological enhancements to improve patient care. Some of the programs included pharmacist-based medication reconciliation, medication consultation rounding, the decentralization of staff pharmacists, and an evaluation of the effect of pharmacist consultation rounding on HCAHPS scores. Dave filled many roles while working at the pharmacy, most recently working as a decentralized pharmacist in the emergency room.

Dave also completed a Master in Business Administration in Management at Seton Hall University in 2011 and is currently enrolled at the Rutgers School of Public Health in pursuit of a Master in Public Health in quantitative methods.

During his first year at Novartis, Dave is looking forward to working with the WHOVA team on outcomes research projects, patient reported outcome measures and economic modeling.
Eligibility

Eligible candidates should have an advanced degree in health services research, public health, economics, epidemiology, pharmacy, pharmacy administration, or a related discipline. A background in pharmacy or medicine and experience in outcomes research, health economics, or another related field of research is preferred. Candidates must have excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Information

For questions or additional information, please contact:
Yuen Tsang, PharmD, MPH
Health Economics and Outcomes Research Fellow
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Phone: (862) 778-7458
Email: yuen.tsang@novartis.com
All questions regarding potential via scholarship should be directed to the collaborating institution.

The University of Maryland, School of Pharmacy

The University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, founded in 1841, is the fourth oldest school of pharmacy in the nation. The School is one of seven professional schools and a graduate school located at the University of Maryland Baltimore, a thriving center for health services practice and research. Through its education, research, and service programs, the School of Pharmacy strives to improve the health and well-being of society by acting in the discovery, development, and optimal use of medicines. One of these departments within the School, the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research strives to improve the health of diverse populations through pharmaceutical health services research, education, service and community outreach.

PHSR scholarship spans the disciplines of behavioral sciences, pharmacoeconomics, pharmacoepidemiology, and policy. Fifteen faculty members conduct research sponsored by Federal and State governmental agencies, foundations, and the pharmaceutical industry. Work clusters around issues inherent in the Department’s Centers: The Peter Lamy Center on Drug Therapy and Aging, the Center on Drugs and Public Policy, and the Center for Drug Safety. Pharmaceutical Research Computing, a fourth Departmental center, provides computer programming, data management, and analytic support to faculty, students, and staff. The Department houses numerous, comprehensive databases, including the Chronic Condition Data Warehouse (CCW) 5% sample of Medicare beneficiaries linked to Part D data; the Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey; Medicaid and MAX data; and other proprietary and public data sets.

This two-year fellowship focuses on the development of research skills relevant to health policy, with a particular focus on pharmaceutical policy. Fellowships will spend the first year at the University of Maryland Baltimore honing research and policy skills and the second year at Novartis, where they will apply training and interests in an industry environment. Broad domains of interest include research focusing on medication management and outcomes in geriatric patients suffering multiple chronic illness, Medicare policy, long-term care policy, mental health policy, patient-centered outcomes research, and comparative effectiveness research. The successful applicant will work closely with a Mentoring Team to identify relevant research areas and training opportunities. The unique combination of rigorous academic training with industry experience in the second year will provide the Fellow considerable experience to conduct policy-relevant health services and outcomes research.

Fellowship Sites & Preceptors

- University of Maryland Baltimore School of Pharmacy
  Linda Simon-Wastila, BSPharm, MS, MPH, PhD
  Professor and Vice Chair of Research
  Sarah Tom, PhD
  Assistant Professor
  Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research
  Baltimore, MD
- Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
  Stephen Arcona, PhD
  Head, Outcomes Research Methods & Analytics
  Health Economics & Outcomes Research
  East Hanover, NJ

Second Year Fellow: Yuen Tsang, PharmD, MPH

Yuen Tsang is a second year Novartis Health Economics and Outcomes Research (HE&OR) fellow with the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, and Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation.

Tsang received his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from the University of Maryland Baltimore and his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Temple University School of Pharmacy; and his Master of Public Health degree from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Before joining the Novartis HE&OR Fellowship Program, Tsang served as a pharmacist with the United States Army. In his six years of military service, Tsang held positions of Director of Pharmacy Services at Weed Army Community Hospital in California, and Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center in Maryland. As Director of Pharmacy Services, Tsang supervised administrative and technical duties of pharmacy staff, managed the annual pharmacy budget, served as team leader, and led joint Commission medication management readiness, and was coordinator for the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee. In 2009, he was deployed to Iraq with the 10th Combat Support Hospital. His responsibility was to oversee the pharmaceutical care and logistics in support of combat operations for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

During his first year at University of Maryland Baltimore, Tsang conducted a retrospective longitudinal cohort study using Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey to evaluate the relationship between visual impairment and hospitalization. He also collaborated in execution of a US Food and Drug Administration funded research project to assess safety and effectiveness of selected generic drugs that use alternate, but controversial bioequivalence tests. As a second year fellow, Tsang is involved in a variety of projects which include reviewing an evidence dossier and gathering information from literature to support an economic burden of illness study as well as an analysis of treatment patterns for biological agents.

First Year Fellow: Jina Park, PharmD

Jina Park is currently a first year Novartis Health Economics and Outcomes Research fellow at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research.

During the first year of her fellowship, Jina contributed to writing a manuscript analyzing prevalence and trends in use of anticholinergic drugs among Medicare nursing facility residents with dementia. She led a descriptive analysis of marijuana medicalization and legalization issues, focusing on use and perceptions of risk among youth. Jina is involved in a National Institute of Aging - funded project evaluating whether treatment of depression impacts chronic obstructive pulmonary disease medication adherence and outcomes. She is also completing a literature review and launching surveys for patients and physicians on a US Food and Drug Administration - funded project evaluating three generic drugs approved via alternative methods.

Jina received her Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Pharmacy degrees from The Ohio State University (OSU) College of Pharmacy in 2014. Jina was an AMPD and Rho Chi chapter president. She also served as Chief Justice of Inter-Professional Council. Jina’s pharmacy work experience includes internships at Medco (now Express Scripts), OSU Health Plan, and AMCP/FMCP/Allergan Health Outcomes, At Allergan, Jina conducted systematic literature reviews on clinical/human benefits, complications, and cost of intrathecal baclofen to understand market size and therapy costs in comparison to a new pipeline drug. During this time, she also worked on a BOTOX® differentiation project with Xenda for Allergan’s Global marketing team.
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation / Thomas Jefferson University

Fellowship Sites & Preceptors

- Thomas Jefferson University
  Victoria Mac, PharmD, MS, MSPH, Associate Professor
  Director, Health Economics and Outcomes Research Fellowship
  School of Population Health
  Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA
- Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
  Stephen Arcona, PhD
  Head, Outcomes Research Methods & Analytics
  Health Economics & Outcomes Research
  East Hanover, NJ

School of Population Health, Thomas Jefferson University

The Jefferson School of Population Health (JSPH), founded in 2006, was built upon the 18-year history of Jefferson’s Department of Health Policy. JSPH is one of six schools that comprise Thomas Jefferson University, which includes Sidney Kimmel Medical College (formerly Jefferson Medical College), the nation’s oldest private medical school. JSPH’s involvement in health policy and outcomes includes outcomes management, pharmacoeconomic research, clinical evaluative sciences, and health services research. The School is proud to have one of the oldest and most established outcomes research fellowship programs in the country. To date, more than forty individuals have graduated from School fellowships and have been successful in their pursuits of careers in the healthcare industry, health insurers, and consulting.

During the first year, the Fellow will work at JSPH at Thomas Jefferson University in Center City, Philadelphia. The Fellow will be assigned to manage specific outcomes research projects. The primary role of the Fellow is to serve as a member of the research team. Fellows also have the opportunity to attend and present at JSPH’s research meetings, journal clubs, Population Health Forums, sponsored educational programs, and may contribute to any one of several graduate-level classes taught by faculty for JSPH’s public health, applied health economics and outcomes research, health policy, healthcare quality and safety, and chronic care management programs. Fellows’ writing skills are developed through completion of a writing seminar, peer review of continuing education articles for P&T, and authorship of manuscripts for publications edited by JSPH, including P&T, American Health and Drug Benefits, American Journal of Medical Quality, Population Health Management, and the Population Health Matters Newsletter.

Networking is also an important activity during the first year, as the Fellow will interact with decision-makers from both within the University and from a broad variety of organizations, including pharmaceutical and device manufacturers, health plans, and other employers. The Fellow will regularly meet with faculty and staff from JSPH to discuss research projects and academic experiences, and he/she will be assigned a faculty mentor to coach him/her during the first year. Completion of master’s level coursework at Jefferson is a formal component of this Program, and serves to develop the knowledge and skills required for health economics and outcomes research. The Fellow has the option and is provided adequate support to pursue a master’s degree in any of JSPH’s programs over the two years of their fellowship, including public health, health policy, and applied health economics and outcomes research.

The second year of training will take place at Novartis, located in East Hanover, New Jersey. During this time, under the guidance of a Novartis preceptor, the Fellow will work directly with the HEOR department at Novartis for a period of one year in order to further their educational objectives by gaining applied experience in health economics and outcomes research. In addition to project work, the Fellow will participate in meetings to share his or her work, and further develop networking and presentation skills.

Current Fellows

Second Year Fellow: Tom Karagiannis, PharmD

Tom Karagiannis is the second year Health Economics and Outcomes Research (HEOR) Fellow with Jefferson School of Population Health (JSPH) and Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation. Currently, he supports both early product and late product development teams under the US HEOR Integrated Hospital Care business division.

During his first year, Tom contributed to multiple projects spanning pharmacoeconomics, health policy, and health services research. Through support of JSPH faculty, Tom assisted in design and implementation of epidemiology studies examining relationships between pancreatic cancer mortality and anti-hypertensive agents. Additionally, with the guidance of his mentor, Robert Leibert, Tom helped support the Agency for Health Quality and Outcomes Research (AHQR) - funded study examining the costs associated with the implementation of the Patient-Centered Medical Home in all stages of project development. To date, Tom’s efforts during his first year have resulted in multiple poster presentations at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR), the 2014 Annual Research Meeting of AcademyHealth, and several manuscript opportunities.

Tom received his Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) College of Pharmacy in 2013. At UIC Tom was an active member of the Rho Chi Honors Society, the Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, and the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP) as UIC’s AMCP Student Chapter President. His pharmacy school experience included a two-year pharmacy administration internship at the Jesse Brown Veteran Affairs (VA) Medical Center. While at the VA, Tom implemented a number of quality improvement projects and policies focused on reducing medication errors, near-misses, and adverse drug reactions. Highlighting his work concerning value assessment and clinical proficiency in multiple therapeutic areas, Tom’s team placed third in the annual AMCP Pharmacy & Therapeutics Competition and he later competed in the annual American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Clinical Skills Competition.

First Year Fellow: Ashok Vegesna, PharmD

Ashok Vegesna is the current first year Novartis Outcomes Research Fellow at the Jefferson School of Population Health (JSPH) in Philadelphia. While working at JSPH, Ashok will also be completing didactic coursework towards a Master’s Degree in Applied Health Economics and Outcomes Research.

During the first year of his fellowship Ashok has collaborated with JSPH faculty members on a number of projects at various phases of the research process, with specific focus on quality metrics and new models of patient care. He is a key member of a collaborative study to investigate quality measures of care in osteoporosis, and is also responsible for data analysis of a study designed to measure cost of transforming small practices into patient-centered medical homes. In addition, Ashok is scheduled to author multiple manuscripts centered on value and population health-based approaches to novel medical technologies and drugs.

Ashok received his Doctor of Pharmacy from the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University in 2014. He completed two internships in the pharmaceutical industry during his time at Rutgers. At Novartis, Ashok worked as a research and development intern and completed projects related to the flowability of active pharmaceutical ingredients and excipients used in tablet and capsule formulation. At Janssen, he was a health economics and outcomes research (HEOR) intern. His work included an in-depth analysis of literature related to the economic and clinical impact of hypoglycemia on diabetes patients, as well as drafting of abstracts and posters related to clinical utilization for presentation at scientific conferences. More recently, Ashok worked as a freelance medical writer for an agency focused on health care quality and population health, where he developed presentation and marketing materials related to adult vaccines.
Previous Fellows

Neetu Agashivala, MS
Associate Director, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

William Boyko, PharmD
Owner, Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy

Cat Bui, PharmD
Senior Manager, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Astellas Pharma US, Inc.

Scott Bull, PharmD
Director, Clinical Development
Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical Research & Development

Belel Cai, PhD
Manager, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Boehringer Ingelheim Corporation

Jane Chang, MPH
Deputy Director, Global Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals

Paul C. Cockrum, PharmD, DPh
National Managed Care Sr. Medical Science Liaison
Galderma, L.P.

QuynhChau Doan, MS, RPh, PhD
Regional Clinical Executive
AbilVie

Joseph Doyle, MBA, RPh
Director, Health Quality and Outcomes Research Liaisons
Optimer Pharmaceuticals

Shilpa Elbote, PharmD
Staff Pharmacist
Rite Aid Pharmacy

John Fastenu, MPH, RPh
Senior Director, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Ortho McNeil Janssen Scientific Affairs

Kelly Fee-Bell, PharmD, MSPhr
Lead, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
AstraZeneca

Feride Frech-Tamas, MPH, RPh
Senior Director, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Daichi Sankyo, Inc.

Boris Gorsch, PharmD
Associate Director, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Bristol-Myers Squibb

Geneen Graber, PharmD
President and CEO
DrG’s Pharmacy By The Sea

Bill Grant, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics
James Madison University

Amy Grogg, PharmD
President, Xcenda

Kristy Hanson, PharmD, MS
Scientific Consultant, Outcomes Research
United BiocureSource Corporation

Arch Jackson, PharmD
President
A&S Healthcare Consulting and Analytics, Inc.

Jennifer Kim, PharmD
Director, Global Payer Evidence
AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals

John Kim, PharmD
Director, Global Pricing & Payer Planning
Amgen, Inc.

Yoona Kim, PharmD
Associate Director, Medical Affairs
Gilead Sciences

Amy Law, PharmD, MS
Deputy Director, US Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals

Jackie Lu, PharmD, MS
National Clinical Account Liaison
AstraZeneca

Mario Luong, PharmD, MPH
Clinical Pharmacist II, Medicare & Retirement
United Healthcare

Jeanie Menz, PharmD
Associate Director, Medical Training
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

Gilbert Ngan, PharmD
Clinical Manager
DVS Caremark

Lina Nol-Heiring, MBA, RPh
Executive Sales Consultant, NE - Princeton
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

Jacqueline B. Palmer, PharmD
Associate Director, Health Economic & Outcomes Research
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

Hoa Pham, PharmD
Manager, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Astellas Pharma US, Inc.

Craig Plauschinat, PharmD, MPH
Director, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Sanofi

Shibani Pokras, MPH
Principal, Product Offerings
IMS Health

Karina Prasla, PharmD, MS
Vice President, Clinical Outcomes Analytics and Research
Magellan Health Services

Karina Raimundo, MS
Health Economist, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Genentech, Inc.

Swetha Raparia
Network Analytics
Cigna

Seonyoung Ryu, PharmD
National Managed Care Liaison
Genentech, Inc.

Rahul Sasané, PhD, MS, B.Pharm
Business Partner, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

Rahul Sasané, PhD, MS, B.Pharm
Business Partner, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

Stuart Turner, BPharm, PharmD
Associate Director, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

Dev Thaker-Mehta, PharmD, MS
Senior Clinical Consultant
PharmacoAnalytics

Express Scripts

Stuart Turner, BPharm, PharmD
Associate Director, Health Economics & Outcomes Research
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

Joel Wallace, PharmD, MPH, MBA
Senior Specialist, External Affairs
Chugai Pharmaceuticals / Genentech / Roche

Krista Yokoyama, PharmD
Sr. Manager, Pharmacy Analytics & Reporting Pharmacy Services
Blue Shield of California
APPLICATION MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Application form
- Letter of intent
- Curriculum vitae

The following should be sent only upon request by selection committee at Novartis:

- Three letters of recommendation (must be forwarded directly by the authors of these letters)
- Official academic transcript(s) (must be forwarded directly from the Registrar’s Office)

List schools from which transcript(s) will be requested

Please mail or email the completed application materials and the Outcomes Research Fellowship Application Form by December 31, 2014 to:

Stephen Arcona, PhD
Head, Outcomes Research Methods & Analytics
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
One Health Plaza
East Hanover, NJ 07936
Email: steve.arcona@novartis.com

November 2014