St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center

Internal Medicine RESIDENCY PROGRAM
The mission of the Internal Medicine Training Program is to create and sustain, within a distinguished community-based academic medical center, a stimulating learning environment in which physicians at all stages of their careers can maximize their professional growth in the challenging discipline of internal medicine. The program affirms the importance of inculcating and fostering the highest degree of professionalism amongst attending physicians, residents, and medical students practicing and training at the medical center. Professionalism includes an expectation that every physician continuously dedicate him/herself to acquiring, maintaining, generating, and sharing the knowledge, skills and attitudes essential to the practice of internal medicine. Moreover, these clinical attributes must be applied with enthusiasm, honesty, an empathic concern for the welfare of patients and their families, and with a respect for the medical center’s goal of improving the health of all members of the community including the underserved. The mission of the Internal Medicine Training Program is to serve as a catalyst for the creation of a “learning community” that will promote both individual growth and institutional achievement.
St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center

Founded by the Sisters of Mercy, St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center has achieved worldwide recognition for its contributions to patient care, medical education and research. As a tertiary care teaching hospital licensed for 477 beds, St. Joseph’s provides medical and surgical care to all ages and offers specialized programs in oncology, women’s services, pediatrics, gerontology, rehabilitation, sports medicine and neurosciences. The hospital’s Level 1 Trauma Center provides quality care to critically injured patients. St. Joseph’s Hospital is also a major teaching facility for the University of Arizona College of Medicine.

Throughout a century of caring for an ever-expanding community, St. Joe’s has never lost sight of the dedication that inspired its founders. Today its reputation for medical excellence is fueled by a carefully tended balance between the spirit of compassion and state-of-the-art technology.

St. Joseph’s Graduate Medical Education Programs

St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center believes in nurturing the individual’s growth, and our residency programs express this commitment by emphasizing both clinical and personal development. The Philosophy of the Sisters of Mercy, as the primary focus of the teaching services, incorporates a spirit and tradition of compassion in patient care and plays an integral role in the individual’s passage from medical student to practicing physician. Residents, attending physicians, medical students, and allied health professionals use a team approach to individual patient care and share the common goal of quality medical education.

The graduate medical education programs sponsored by St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center include: Family Practice, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Surgery, Pathology, Diagnostic Radiology, Neurology, Child Neurology, Neurological Surgery and Neuroradiology.

With more than 1,000 voluntary teaching physicians and 20 full-time faculty physicians, St. Joseph’s draws upon the best clinicians in Arizona for its resident training programs. The teaching milieu, which encourages recognition that attending and resident physicians are colleagues, creates an optimal learning environment. Many of our faculty hold academic appointments at the University of Arizona and at other universities.

The academic structure of our programs is based on a rich and diverse clinical patient experience; a flexible curriculum designed for the individual resident’s needs and a balance between tertiary and primary care experiences.

Many opportunities exist for the interested resident to pursue both clinical and basic research within the hospital, particularly in the neurosciences. St. Joseph’s Hospital and Barrow Neurological Institute often participate in landmark national multi-center clinical protocols that define standards of care. By collaborating with attending physicians who serve as the principal investigator, the resident has an opportunity to not only hone analytical skills, but to also learn and understand how research is conducted in a clinical setting.

Considerable basic research is conducted in a variety of fully equipped laboratories. Funding for basic research continues to grow and totals more than 7 million dollars. Opportunities for collaboration with investigators in other institutions, such as the University of Arizona or Arizona State University, also exist for the interested resident.

The St. Joseph’s Health Sciences Library supports medical practice and research with a collection of over 3,000 books, 300 active journal titles and an ever-expanding network of electronic resources. Current databases include, but are not limited to OVID Medline, MDConsult, StatRef, and Ebsco Health and Business. Library staff includes a professional medical librarian who can assist with literature searches. The library has six computers available for use by hospital staff.
Internal Medicine Teaching Staff

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Subspecialty Education Coordinator
Internal Medicine Residency Program Overview

The Internal Medicine Training Program is committed to a comprehensive inpatient and ambulatory training experience designed to produce compassionate and highly skilled general internists. An academically rigorous program teaches residents state-of-the-art medicine, critical thinking skills, self-study habits, and techniques of information access that promote lifelong learning in our ever-changing field. A significant number of our residents pursue further training in subspecialty programs at highly-regarded academic centers. The majority of graduates choose to practice general internal medicine, a profession that is in high demand in both the inpatient and outpatient settings in this evolving health care environment.

Inpatient Training Facilities and Resources

One of the program’s greatest strengths is the patient population. As a major tertiary referral center, St. Joseph’s is the busiest hospital in the state as defined by the number of patient contacts. St. Joseph’s also has a large primary care referral base allowing house staff to receive extensive training in common ambulatory problems as well as the more unusual disorders referred to tertiary care institutions. Other resources range from advanced technology to the human touch of excellent nurse educators and a large ancillary staff. The superb core medical library with extensive information services is complemented by internet and CD-ROM reference search capabilities that exist on medical wards. Internal Medicine residents also take full advantage of learning from their peers who work within the other 10 residency training programs at St. Joseph’s.

St. Joseph’s 477-bed acute care facility serves as the core of the inpatient experience. The inpatient medical service consists of 168 medical beds, a telemetry unit, and over 70 Adult ICU beds encompassing Medical, Cardiac, Surgical, Trauma and Neuroscience Critical Care Units. During the Critical Care rotation, Internal Medicine Housestaff play an integral role in the management of Medical and Cardiac ICU patients under the supervision of board certified medical intensivists who provide critical care unit staffing “24/7”. Housestaff play a major role in the care decision making for their patients at every level of acuity from the Ambulatory environment to the Critical Care Unit.

During the three-year program, house staff have opportunities to take electives in all Internal Medicine subspecialty fields and in such important related disciplines such as Sports Medicine, ENT, and Radiology.

Ambulatory Training Facilities

The Mercy Health Care Center mission focuses on caring for all members of our community with dignity and respect. In 2004, the Mercy Health Care Center moved to our new modern facilities after a $600,000 renovation. This new center has a patient education center, a new resident workroom with built-in desk space and each room is wired to allow us to implement a facility-wide EMR. Patients are seen with and without insurance utilizing a hospital-based plan that provides full access to physician care and formulary medications within an evidence-based clinic setting. Mercy Health Care Center provides well-rounded educational opportunities in an ambulatory setting to its residents. The clinic’s feedback and evaluation system has been presented at the national APDIM (Association of Program Directors Internal Medicine) conference.

All categorical residents participate in our outpatient clinic while preliminary interns have the option of having a continuity clinic. Residents assume responsibility for their panel of patients throughout the spectrum of care. Subspecialty consultation is available to patients as needed. The Health Care Center provides specialized individual experiences through its on-site social workers and interpreters, diabetic education, pulmonary rehabilitation, dietician services and subspecialty clinics. Current subspecialty clinics include: Podiatry, Dermatology, Cardiology, Infectious Disease, Pulmonary, Breast Evaluation and Treatment, Gastroenterology, Wound Care, and Anticoagulation Clinic. Residents take an active role in decisions on management of the Health Center, including formulary changes, through their input at monthly ambulatory center meetings.

Residents learn both ambulatory medicine and important aspects of billing and practice mechanics that will prepare them for a career in the current healthcare environment. The resident physicians benefit from precepting by full-time and community-based faculty. The Health Center is currently participating in two nationwide studies on hypertension including one working with the Neurology department on hypertension and stroke.

Teaching Experiences and Scholarly Activity

Formal teaching occurs at several different levels. There are daily didactic noon conferences with topics ranging from advanced critical care to board review sessions, from ambulatory medicine to geriatrics. Lectures include monthly Tumor Board, a Med-Path conference, and Morbidity and Mortality Conferences. Morning report emphasizes both practical management and formal evidence based decision-making. Daily bedside teaching rounds with our inpatient academic hospitalist faculty members include learning proper bedside examinations and basic pathophysiology of managing inpatients In each of these settings, the emphasis is and always will be on appropriate patient care. Also, approximately, half of the University of Arizona College of Medicine students rotate through the medical center for third year clerkships and variety of fourth year electives. This opportunity provides interns and residents the chance to become teachers and learners, a necessity in modern medical practice.

Instruction is given in basic statistics, through weekly journal club meetings, which are essential for the interpretation and utilization of medical literature to solve complex clinical issues. Residents are counseled in the use of modern techniques by faculty and staff to obtain information that is critical in patient care. These are the skills required of every modern physician, which is one of the many goals of education at St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center.

The internal medicine residents at St. Joseph’s also participate in many various scholarly activities. As part of the ambulatory experience the intern is encouraged to present an interesting case and topic at a noon conference. Additional opportunities include a clinical vignette/poster presentation at the regional meetings at the American College of Physicians. There is ample opportunity to participate in research and clinical projects within the Department of Internal Medicine.

Residency training at St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center provides all the attributes of a large University Medical Center with the benefits and unique learning opportunities of a major metropolitan community hospital. Graduates of St. Joseph’s Internal Medicine Residency program are well equipped to flourish in our modern, constantly evolving healthcare environment, for any specialty, including outpatient general internal medicine, inpatient hospitalist or one of the many subspecialties of medicine.
Pay & Benefits

Resident Salaries
(applies only to the 2005-2006 Academic Year)

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<td>$44,177</td>
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Benefits
- Medical insurance for resident and dependents
- Dental insurance for resident and dependents (two levels of coverage offered)
- Vision care, including eye exams, frames, lenses and contacts
- 403(b) Retirement Plan – Employees are eligible to participate at time of employment. St. Joe’s will match employee contributions up to 4% of pay.
- Health care reimbursement accounts
- Discount Child Care – All employees are eligible for a 10% discount at Children’s World, La Petite Academy and Sunrise Preschool
- Life insurance of 2x annual salary, plus $10,000 at no cost. Additional coverage may be purchased.
- Life insurance for dependent spouse and child(ren) may be purchased.
- Long term disability insurance at the maximum allowable of 66 2/3% of base salary at no cost.
- Accidental death/dismemberment insurance of 2x annual salary, plus $10,000 at no cost. Additional coverage may be purchased.
- Worker’s compensation insurance
- Professional liability coverage is provided for residents.
- Residents are entitled to 23 days paid time off (PTO) per year based on a 7-day duty schedule, or 15 weekdays based on a 5-day duty schedule. This PTO may be used for vacation or sick leave. PTO does not accrue from year to year.
- Residents may request leaves of absence in accordance with the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 or for other reasons. For leaves of absence due to maternity or residents own illness, the first week is paid from the Resident’s paid time off (PTO) and then an additional 5 weeks may be approved with pay. Leaves of absence beyond the 6 weeks described above or for other reasons may be approved without pay for up to 12 weeks in a 12-month period.
- On-call meal allowance is provided through payroll.
- Tuition reimbursement of work related courses are available at 50% of course cost.
- U.S. Savings Bonds available through payroll deduction
- Credit union available to residents and their immediate family members
- Fitness Center Discounts
- Auto/Home Insurance Program – METPAY is a voluntary benefit program that allows employees the opportunity to purchase quality property insurance at special group rates. Coverages included are: auto, home, boats, renters, condominium and recreational vehicles.
- Email address

Application and Matching Information

The Internal Medicine Training Program at St. Joseph’s participates in the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP). Information regarding the NRMP can be obtained on-line at http://www.aamc.org/nrmp or call (202)828-0676. All applications will be received through the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) from the Association of American Medical Colleges. Please contact your student affairs office for information regarding your schools processing procedures for ERAS applications and ERAS 2001 software.

If you have additional questions or would like more information about our Internal Medicine Residency program, please call (602) 406-3375 or visit our website at www.ichoses-tjoes.com/aboutus/education/internal_med.asp