



Oncology PGY2 Rotation Descriptions

Core Rotations

Medical Oncology/Infusion (6 weeks):

- Our Boise cancer infusion center is the largest in Idaho, serving an average of 115 patients per day. You will work alongside three SLCI pharmacists and learn the ins and outs of infusion center pharmacy, including chemotherapy verification, checking chemotherapy for proper preparation, managing infusion reactions, and educating patients on how to use their antiemetics. Our pharmacists have a collaborative practice agreement that allows them to initiate or adjust supportive care medications for patients seen in the infusion center. You will also work closely with the infusion nurses to ensure patients receive optimal care.
- This rotation is instrumental in developing your patient education skills. You will become highly proficient in antiemetic counseling and the common side effects of chemotherapy. You will gain extensive experience answering patient questions. Face-to-face patient interactions are often cited by residents as one of their favorite aspects of this rotation.

Oncology Specialty Pharmacy (6 weeks):

- Our oncology specialty pharmacists (OSP) play a vital role in managing care for patients receiving oral cancer treatments. During this rotation, you will work primarily at our Boise site, where we have 2-3 OSP pharmacists working each day. You will learn how to counsel patients starting new medications, coordinate deliveries, and follow up after therapy initiation. Through our collaborative practice agreement, pharmacists can adjust supportive care medications, giving you hands-on experience managing side effects. Because we are located in the same building as our medical oncology and BMT clinics, you'll be close to providers if you need to discuss a patient's therapy or provide education during their visit.
- This rotation offers an excellent opportunity to build a strong understanding of the wide range of oral chemotherapy and specialty medications our cancer patients are on. You'll participate in topic discussions covering the major drug classes and gain valuable experience addressing patients' questions about side effects and treatment expectations.

Inpatient Oncology (5 weeks):

- This rotation takes place on our inpatient oncology floor, where you'll work alongside our solid tumor pharmacist. Each morning, you'll round with a medical oncologist and nurse practitioner. Average census is 10 patients. You'll see a range of cases from patients admitted for scheduled chemotherapy, to those hospitalized due to cancer-related complications. This consult-based service allows you to focus specifically on cancer-related care. Common responsibilities include verifying treatment plans, adjusting supportive care medications, providing new-start counseling, and managing therapy-related issues.
- This rotation provides ample exposure to interprofessional collaboration. You'll work closely with our medical oncologists/APPs, nurses, social workers, and the meds-to-beds team to help coordinate inpatient chemotherapy and ensure patients receive high-quality, individualized care. By the end, you'll be confident in adjusting treatment plans and navigating the complexities of inpatient oncology.



Blood and Marrow Transplant (5 weeks):

- We have the unique privilege of being a community hospital that offers advanced oncology services, including autologous and allogeneic stem cell transplants and CAR-T therapy. During this rotation, you will work alongside our heme/BMT pharmacists on our inpatient oncology floor, managing an average census of 15 patients. Responsibilities include rounding each morning, managing immunosuppression for transplant patients, HD MTX management, insulin adjustments, and providing transplant discharge education. You will also spend some time on this rotation in our BMT clinic. Our pharmacists are an integral part of the heme/BMT team, working alongside our providers and serving as a valued resource throughout the day.
- On this rotation, you'll care for some of the most complex and interesting patients, with daily rounds that are both challenging and engaging. Supporting patients through transplant or induction chemotherapy and helping them manage side effects and medications is highly rewarding. This rotation offers excellent experience in therapeutic drug monitoring, complex clinical decision-making, and interprofessional collaboration.

Pediatric Oncology (5 weeks):

- Our pediatric oncology pharmacist manages patients receiving treatment in the pediatric infusion center and serves as a resource for inpatient pediatric oncology care. During this rotation, you will work up and verify medications for the infusion center, attend daily inpatient rounds, and provide guidance to nurses and providers on treatment plans and supportive care. You'll gain extensive experience with common pediatric malignancies, including ALL, CNS tumors, and lymphoma.

Hospice/Palliative Care (4 weeks):

- You'll experience a unique side of oncology patient care during this rotation. You'll spend time with our hospice pharmacy team, home hospice providers, psycho-oncology specialists, and palliative care team. This rotation offers a behind-the-scenes look at the complex, compassionate care that happens beyond chemotherapy administration and will give you a deeper appreciation for the many therapies available to help patients find comfort, whether pursuing curative treatment or end-of-life care. The providers you will get to work with are truly exceptional, and you'll get to sit in on meaningful patient visits and hear their experiences firsthand. You'll become familiar with pharmaceutical and holistic management of cancer patients with anxiety, depression, pain, constipation, diarrhea, insomnia, and more. Topic discussions will cover areas such as goals of care, the transition to hospice, death and dying, and the pharmacist's role in these important areas.

Precepting (4 weeks):

- You will be paired with a learner, either a PGY1 resident or an APPE student, who will be assigned to inpatient solid tumor, the medical oncology infusion center, oral specialty pharmacy, or a combination of all. You will curate their calendar and coordinate their topic discussions and projects. You'll work alongside them to help build their confidence and independence week by week. This rotation offers a great opportunity to strengthen your teaching skills, and you'll be surprised by how much you've learned and can share with your learner. In addition, you'll participate in topic discussions (with your own preceptor) focused on teaching styles, learning preferences, and strategies to effectively engage your preceptee.



Modified Rotations

Radiation Oncology (3 weeks):

- For this rotation, you will work in Nampa alongside our radiation oncology team and in the cancer infusion center. While in RadOnc, you'll follow the complete radiation journey, from simulation and dosimetry to treatment and follow-up. You will participate in patient visits with radiation oncologists and nurses, serving as a resource for medication and supportive care-related questions. Topic discussions will cover subjects such as radiation side effects and radiosensitizers. You will also spend time working in the Nampa cancer infusion center.

Rural Oncology (1 week):

- Our Fruitland cancer infusion center is a small rural facility with a daily census of about 25 patients. The infusion pharmacy is staffed by a single infusion pharmacist alongside 1-2 technicians. During this rotation, you will spend a week there learning firsthand what it's like to manage a smaller center, where there may be fewer daily tasks but greater individual responsibility. You'll educate patients, deliver medications, and verify and check chemotherapy preparations.

Elective Rotations

Advanced core rotation (4 weeks):

- You'll have the opportunity to get additional time in one of the core rotation areas and expand on your experiences by taking on additional responsibilities and projects. If you're interested in a specific specialty and want to deepen your expertise, this option is an excellent way to further build your skills and knowledge.

Oncology Precision medicine (2-4 weeks)

- This position was created as the result of a resident project. During this elective rotation, you will be immersed in the rapidly evolving field of precision medicine and pharmacogenomics. You'll contribute to ongoing initiatives aimed at expanding genetic testing across our health system, review patient test results, communicate treatment recommendations to providers, and explore a wide range of genetic testing platforms.

Cardio-oncology (2-4 weeks):

- This position was also created as the result of a resident project. During this elective rotation, you will work in the cardio-oncology clinic alongside our specialized provider. This unique role focuses on medication management for cancer patients with underlying cardiovascular conditions or complications related to their treatment. As part of this referral-based clinic, you will participate in patient visits, provide recommendations to the care team, and write comprehensive notes for new patients. Topic discussions will cover cancer drug classes associated with cardiovascular toxicities, including strategies for monitoring and management.



Oncology electronic medical record (EMR) concentration rotation (1-2 weeks):

- This elective opportunity will provide you with comprehensive exposure to all aspects of the EPIC electronic medical record system, including physician order entry, chart information retrieval, and electronic documentation. You will gain insight into the role of pharmacy in technology and automation-related decision-making. Additionally, you will collaborate closely with the oncology pharmacist to develop proficiency in troubleshooting issues related to the electronic medical record.

Longitudinal Rotations

Oncology Research

- The longitudinal research rotation offers in-depth exposure to the role of oncology research pharmacists at SLCI. You'll gain hands-on experience and become familiar with key aspects of research, including protocol development, patient enrollment, and investigational drug management. Over the course of the year, you'll follow research patients longitudinally and critically evaluate clinical trial protocols, enhancing your understanding of oncology clinical research from both clinical and operational perspectives.

Oncology Administration

- The longitudinal administration rotation offers the opportunity to work closely with leadership at SLCI. You'll meet monthly for discussions on key topics such as servant leadership, leading change, interview techniques, and more. In addition, you'll spend a dedicated week shadowing one of our leaders, participating in ongoing initiatives and advancement projects at the Cancer Institute. This rotation provides valuable behind-the-scenes insight and a deeper understanding of leadership and management roles within the organization.

Project Time

- Residents are given two concentrated research weeks during the residency year to work on their projects.

Staffing

- Residents are required to staff one weekday every other week (on average) or a total of 2 shifts per 4-week schedule. These shifts are in our cancer infusion center and oral specialty pharmacy.