



HEALTH SERVICES AND OUTCOMES RESEARCH

PH.D. PROGRAM

The WVU School of Pharmacy's Ph.D. program in Health Services and Outcomes Research is internationally renowned and one of the largest of its kind among schools of pharmacy in the United States. It is designated as a Program of Excellence by the West Virginia University Board of Governors. Our doctoral program prepares students to analyze problems and seek solutions to "real-world" healthcare problems related to access, safety, utilization, cost, quality and policy — keeping patient outcomes paramount. We are committed to reducing health disparities through our health services and outcomes research, education and service activities.

PH.D. PROGRAM FEATURES

- Rigorous conceptual and methodological coursework with real-world applications
- Generous, competitively available graduate assistantships
- Located in an academic health sciences center affiliated with a 600-bed, tertiary care teaching hospital along with the Schools of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing and Public Health for collaborative training, research and networking opportunities
- Work with large data sets using sophisticated analytical techniques
- Mentored training to teach at the Pharm.D. and Ph.D. levels
- Outstanding opportunities for internships with various public and private organizations
- Friendly and supportive environment to help you achieve your full potential



WHAT ARE THE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATES?

Job opportunities for individuals with a Ph.D. in this field are excellent and growing. Our students have had 100% job placements at reputable universities, pharmaceutical companies, government agencies, clinical research organizations and in the managed care industry.

Please visit the Alumni section of our website at pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu/PSPalumni to view job placements of our Ph.D. graduates.

Learn more at pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu/HSORprogram

HEALTH SERVICES AND OUTCOMES RESEARCH PH.D. PROGRAM

WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THE PH.D. PROGRAM IN HEALTH SERVICES AND OUTCOMES RESEARCH?

The goal of our Health Services and Outcomes Research Ph.D. program is to prepare highly qualified graduates for successful careers in academia, industry, government and other settings through rigorous training in health services, outcomes and policy research. The core courses include pharmacoepidemiology, pharmacoeconomics, patient-centered outcomes, large data analysis, econometrics, social and behavioral theory, survey methods and the evaluation of health policies, programs and interventions. Several courses include research projects that result in peer-reviewed publications. Based on your research experience and interests, you can select your area of emphasis, which include quantitative, behavioral, health policy, epidemiology, health management, disease management, and/or healthcare administration. The coursework and research experiences are designed to equip you with the conceptual thinking, analytical and problem-solving skills necessary to find innovative solutions to complex healthcare problems.

WHAT IS HEALTH SERVICES AND OUTCOMES RESEARCH?

Health services research focuses on how the structure and process of care can be modified to improve not only patient outcomes, but also the access, quality and affordability of healthcare. Outcomes research refers to the scientific design, data collection and analysis of the end results of medical care. Apart from traditional experimental and quasi-experimental designs, outcomes research methodology embraces epidemiological research designs (such as retrospective or prospective, longitudinal or cross-sectional, case-control or cohort study designs), health economic methods (such as decision-tree analysis, cost-benefit

analysis and cost-effectiveness analysis) and survey research methods (such as quality of life measurements and satisfaction with care).

HOW IS HEALTH SERVICES AND OUTCOMES RESEARCH USED?

Data collected from health services and outcomes research provide patients, healthcare providers, payers and policy-makers with empirical evidence about what does and does not work in real-world settings. It is used to identify which treatment provides the best return on investment, and from a patient perspective, what is the most preferred or satisfying treatment option. Comparative effectiveness research of technology and drugs; structure of healthcare delivery, process, quality and outcomes; pharmacovigilance; patient-centered care; and evaluating the intended and unintended consequences of health policy are some of the major aspects of outcomes research.

CONTACT

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WVU is an EEO/Affirmative Action Employer — Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran

Learn more at pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu/HSORprogram