



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ABD, UNE Launch Specialty Pharmacy Residency

Novel Program Prepares Pharmacists for Fast-Growing Field

PORTLAND, Maine — Dec. 1, 2016 — Apothecary By Design and the University of New England have teamed to launch a residency training program in specialty pharmacy – one of only a few such postdoctoral education programs in the U.S. with this concentration.

The ABD-UNE PGY1 Community Pharmacy Residency in Specialty Pharmacy will allow pharmacists to learn from real-world experience with “specialty” medications, which typically involve high costs, complex administration and unique handling requirements, as well as intensive patient education and support. Specialty pharmacy is the sole focus of ABD, and the fastest-growing segment of the pharmacy industry.

There are currently more than 1,700 pharmacy residency programs in the country, according to the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, but it’s estimated that fewer than a dozen concentrate in specialty pharmacy.

The first pharmacist is expected to enroll in the ABD-UNE residency program in July 2017. The one-year, Portland-based program will provide hands-on management and clinical training around conditions such as infertility, organ transplant, hepatitis C, HIV and rheumatoid arthritis.

“ABD’s commitment to patients today includes preparing pharmacists to provide specialty care tomorrow,” said Denali Cahoon, ABD chief operating officer and director of the residency program.

“The residency is an example of the way ABD is investing in the future of specialty pharmacy, while embracing innovation and new knowledge in our clinical work each day.”

Kenneth McCall, a UNE associate professor who serves as a key preceptor of the program, added: “With recent advances in science, specialty care is at the forefront of pharmacy, and ABD is at the forefront of specialty. The University of New England College of Pharmacy is thrilled to be partnering with ABD to offer this unique opportunity, which complements the other rich resources we bring to the profession of pharmacy.”

About the University of New England

The University of New England is Maine’s largest private university, an innovative educational community with two distinctive coastal Maine campuses, a vibrant new campus in Tangier, Morocco, and a robust offering of degree and certificate programs online. UNE attracts accomplished faculty and internationally recognized scholars who engage students in research and scholarship. It is home to Maine's only medical and dental schools – part of a comprehensive health education mission built on a pioneering interprofessional approach that includes pharmacy, nursing and an array of allied health professions.

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About Apothecary By Design

Apothecary By Design, a BelHealth Investment Partners portfolio company, is a rapidly growing specialty pharmacy with a high-touch service model and a focus on advocating for patients with complex, chronic diseases. Headquartered in Portland, Maine, with pharmacies there and in the Boston and Chicago areas, ABD provides intensive case management services regionally and nationally to patients with infertility, hepatitis C, HIV, rheumatoid arthritis and other conditions. Through support, education and advocacy, ABD (www.abdrx.com) puts patients on a path toward better health and quality of life.

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