

PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

PHYSICIAN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



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to apply

2026
2027

TABLE OF CONTENTS

What is Pharmaceutical Medicine?.....3

About Bristol Myers Squibb.....4-5

Program Description and Benefits.....6

Fellowship Program Details.....7

What Past Fellows Have to Say8-9

Program Governance.....10

Rutgers Institute for Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowships and Application Information11

FELLOWSHIP CAMPUS LOCATIONS:



PRINCETON PIKE (PPK)

Lawrenceville, NJ
(Main Campus)



GIRALDA FARMS

Madison, NJ

WHAT IS PHARMACEUTICAL MEDICINE?

PHYSICIANS IN THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY:



Evaluate medicines



Ensure patient safety



Analyze risks and benefits



Review medical information



Advance public health

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Medical Affairs

Clinical Development

Drug Safety

Pharmaceutical physicians play a vital role across all stages of the drug development process, utilizing their specialized knowledge to **progress innovative medicines and ensure the safety, efficacy, and appropriate use of medicines for patients.**

Worldwide, the current drug development pipeline is comprised of **thousands of new medicines.** Skilled physicians with expertise in pharmaceutical medicine leverage their clinical aptitude and scientific knowledge to drive these advancements, with the goal of **enhancing patient well-being** and translating science to **patient care.**

ABOUT BRISTOL MYERS SQUIBB



OUR MISSION

To discover, develop, and deliver innovative medicines that help patients prevail over serious diseases



OUR VISION

To be the world’s leading biopharma company that transforms patients’ lives through science



OUR VALUES

INTEGRITY | INNOVATION | URGENCY
PASSION | ACCOUNTABILITY | INCLUSION



ABOUT BRISTOL MYERS SQUIBB

Bristol Myers Squibb focuses on discovering and developing innovative medicines that address serious diseases in areas of significant unmet medical need. We concentrate our research efforts in the following core therapeutic areas: Oncology, Hematology, Immunology, Cardiovascular, and Neuroscience.

150+

PROJECTS IN CLINICAL
DEVELOPMENT

841 M

PATIENTS REACHED THROUGH
ACCESS & EDUCATION PROGRAMS

11.2B

IN RESEARCH &
DEVELOPMENT SPEND

50+

INVESTIGATIONAL
THERAPIES

[SEE OUR FULL PIPELINE HERE](#)

Cutting edge technologies
& discovery platforms

Cell & gene therapy
Protein homeostasis
Biologics
Small molecules
Chemistry

Therapeutic areas
with unmet needs

Oncology
Hematology
Cardiovascular
Immunology
Fibrotic diseases
Neuroscience

IMMUNOLOGY & NEUROSCIENCE

 **ORENCIA**
(abatacept)

 **SOTYKTU**
(deucravacitinib) 6 mg tablets

 **ZEPOSIA**
(ozanimod) 0.92 mg capsules

 **COBENFY**
(xanomeline and trospium chloride) capsules
50mg/20mg, 100mg/20mg, 125mg/50mg

CARDIOVASCULAR

 **Eliquis**
(apixaban) tablets 5mg, 2.5mg

 **CAMZYOS**
(mavacamten) capsules 2.5, 5, 10, 15mg

HEMATOLOGY

 **Reblozyl**
(luspatercept-aamt)
for injection 25mg • 75mg

 **SPRYCEL**
dasatinib 100 mg tablets

 **ONUREG**
(azacitidine) tablets 200mg • 200mg

ONCOLOGY

 **KRAZATI**
(adagrasib) 200 mg tablets

 **OPDIVO**
(nivolumab)

 **YERVOY**
(ipilimumab)

 **AUGTYRO**
(repotrectinib) 40 mg capsules

 **Opdualag**
(nivolumab and relatlimab-mbaw)
Injection for intravenous use | 480 mg / 160 mg

 **OPDIVO Qvantig**
nivolumab + hyaluronidase-nvhy
SUBCUTANEOUS INJECTION 120 mg + 2,000 units (100)

CELL THERAPY

 **Breyanzi**
(lisocabtagene maraleucel) SUSPENSION FOR IV INFUSION

 **Abecma**
(idecabtagene vicleucel) SUSPENSION FOR IV INFUSION

 **INREBIC**
(fedratinib) capsules 100mg

 **Empliciti**
(elotuzumab)

 **IDHIFA**
(enasidenib) tablets 100mg • 50mg

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND BENEFITS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A one-year training program in collaboration with the **Rutgers Institute for Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowships**.

Program consists of **one-year in Medical Affairs** (US or Worldwide) with exposure to 1 of the following functions through projects:

- **Clinical Development**
- **Worldwide Patient Safety**

** Program Assignments are determined by the Physician Fellowship Steering Committee and are determined by balancing applicant interests and available opportunities.*

In addition to participation as a contributing team member at BMS, fellows will benefit from **monthly professional development sessions** hosted by the Rutgers Institute for Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowships.

BMS and Rutgers will be recruiting 2 Physician Fellows for the 2026-2027 Program

BENEFITS

» **Special credential designation** upon successful completion of the program, **Rutgers University Certified Industry Fellow (RUCIF)** «

- **Key insights** and training to **facilitate transition from clinical practice** and lead a successful career in biopharmaceuticals
- **Exposure** to the drug development process, including clinical trial planning and execution, safety monitoring, and medical strategy globally and across major markets
- **Mentorship** by industry leaders across clinical trial research, epidemiology, health economics and outcomes research, and medical strategy
- **Participation** in clinical conferences and other training opportunities



MEDICAL AFFAIRS RESPONSIBILITIES

WORLDWIDE MEDICAL AFFAIRS

WW Medical Affairs plays a critical role in developing the scientific narrative around our medicines through medical communications, strategic evidence generation and insights synthesis to shape company strategy around our medicines.

- Plan and manage logistics and content development for advisory boards, Thought Leader encounters, and symposia
- Review key medical insights and disseminate them to the core team
- Provide strategy-driven feedback on investigator led research proposals
- Provide strategic input on clinical development plans and trial planning
- Align strategically with Health Economics and Outcomes Research for dossier and key data deliverables to support market access

US MEDICAL AFFAIRS

US Medical Affairs plays a critical role in forging broadly aligned medical strategies, translating them into tactical plans, and leading the execution of these plans

- Collaborate with Global Drug Development (GDD) and Worldwide Medical Affairs in the development of long-term strategies that include understanding emerging trends and anticipating future obstacles, risks, and business opportunities
- Identify data gaps, develop strategies for US non-registrational data generation, and drive US investigator sponsored research
- Partner with US Commercial & Access organizations to integrate medical perspectives into commercialization processes and ensure appropriate alignment between medical and commercial teams

CROSS-FUNCTIONAL EXPERIENCES

WORLDWIDE PATIENT SAFETY

Worldwide Patient Safety (WWPS) is responsible for providing strategic oversight and delivery of medical safety assessments to enable development and optimal use of BMS medicines through innovative pharmacovigilance and risk management

CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT

Clinical Development is responsible for the architecture of clinical trial concepts, protocol development, study startup, study execution, data cleaning, clinical interpretation of data, publication contributions, and are a clinical resource for regulatory filings and queries



WHAT PAST FELLOWS HAVE TO SAY

ALEXANDER MOZEIKA, MD, PHARM D, RUCIF

Clinical Development and Worldwide Medical Affairs Fellow (2024-2025)

The RPIF-BMS Physician Fellowship program was an amazing year for my educational, professional, and personal growth. The steering committee at BMS takes pride in thoughtfully crafting a longitudinal experience across functional areas to shape you into a dynamic and impactful industry physician. Beyond the direct work experience, I have found countless mentors that have become friends and colleagues who, to this day, help me in navigating the interplay between clinical medicine and the biopharmaceutical world. I can say, without a doubt, that I learned more in my one year as an RPIF-BMS fellow than if I worked in the industry for five years. It is not an experience I would ever trade, and I am excited to continue contributing to the clinical development of novel therapies and bridging the gap between clinical practice and sponsored supported drug development.



ATIF SIDDIQUI MD, MS, RUCIF

US Medical Affairs & Worldwide Patient Safety Fellow (2023-2024)

"The Bristol Myers Squibb Physician Fellowship is an exceptional program, uniquely designed to offer MDs a comprehensive understanding of the pharmaceutical industry while helping them carve out their specific niche. My fellowship experience, with rotations in US Medical Affairs and Worldwide Patient Safety in Oncology, laid a strong foundation for my career. The year I spent at BMS was not just about the knowledge I gained but also about the meaningful relationships I built. I highly encourage any physician interested in exploring career options in pharma to consider the fellowship program. BMS is the place to be!"



MAHA SYED, MD, RUCIF

Clinical Development and Worldwide Medical Affairs Fellow (2023-2024)

Current Role: Associate Clinical Trial Physician, Oncology

"The Physician Fellowship at Bristol Myers Squibb is a great primer into the multifaceted world of the pharmaceutical industry. It allowed me to gain a fundamental understanding of the drug development process and numerous opportunities for collaboration across different functional areas. With the guidance of passionate and dedicated preceptors, who ensured I was an integral part of the team, I was offered a breadth of rewarding experiences. I highly recommend this program for physicians seeking to ease their transition into the industry and to embark on a highly fulfilling career."



ALEEF RAHMAN, MD, MPH, MBA, MSc, RUCIF

Clinical Development & Worldwide Patient Safety Fellow | 2022-2023

"The Bristol Myers Squibb Physician Fellowship program was a transformative and enriching experience that provided a stimulating and supportive environment for my professional development within the pharmaceutical industry. The unparalleled mentorship and collaboration during my time in the Oncology Global Drug Development & Worldwide Patient Safety organizations empowered me to tackle the complexities of the drug development process. I am truly grateful for the opportunities provided by this fellowship, as they have undoubtedly shaped me into a more competent and skilled pharmaceutical physician. Bristol Myers Squibb's commitment to advancing medical knowledge through this fellowship is commendable, and I enthusiastically recommend it to any aspiring physician seeking an exceptional training experience within the industry."



MICHAEL PLEWINSKI, MD, PharmD, RUCIF

US Medical Affairs & Worldwide Medical Affairs Fellow | 2022-2023

Current Role: Clinical Trial Physician

"The BMS Physician fellowship program was an exceptional introduction to the emerging field of pharmaceutical medicine in the United States, which offers physicians an opportunity to leverage their highly specialized skills in innovative and impactful ways in the pharmaceutical industry. My work throughout the physician fellowship program at BMS encompassed several therapeutic areas within Oncology and Hematology Medical Affairs, providing a comprehensive and engaging experience which serves as the foundation for my career growth and trajectory. I would highly recommend the program for 2026 any physician interested in clinical research, the pharmaceutical industry, or looking to explore non-clinical career paths."



WHAT PAST FELLOWS HAVE TO SAY



ENIOLA YEATES, MD, PhD, RUCIF

US Medical Affairs & Clinical Development Fellow | 2021-2022

Current Role: Clinical Trial Physician

"The Physician Fellowship at BMS is a great introduction into the world of the pharmaceutical industry. My fellowship year, split between clinical development and medical affairs, allowed me to gain an understanding of the role of a physician in both functional areas and find my niche in the broader matrix team. I was able to gain the fundamental skills to transition into the role of Associate Clinical Trial Physician at BMS. I recommend this fellowship for physicians hoping to ease their transition into the pharmaceutical industry with a support system of passionate mentors and peers."

LOLA ALAKIJA, MD, RUCIF

Worldwide Medical Affairs & Worldwide Patient Safety Fellow | 2021-2022

Current Role: Senior Director, Medical Safety Assessment Program Lead

"The BMS Physician Fellowship program provided a valuable opportunity to gain a comprehensive understanding of the pharmaceutical industry and drug development process. During my time in Worldwide Medical Affairs and Worldwide Patient Safety, I had the privilege of working with dedicated preceptors who were committed to my professional growth. They provided numerous opportunities for collaboration, leadership, and participation in cross-functional activities. These experiences laid a solid foundation for a career in the pharmaceutical industry. I highly recommend this program as an exceptional opportunity for physicians seeking a seamless transition into the pharmaceutical industry."



AARON CINER, MD, RUCIF

US Medical Affairs & Clinical Development Fellow | 2020-2021

"During my fellowship at BMS within US Medical Affairs and Clinical Development, I have actively participated in drug launch activities, review of investigator-sponsored trial proposals, protocol writing and monitoring of industry-sponsored trials, and data analysis. This is a hands-on experience offering broad exposure to the pharmaceutical industry, supportive mentorship and networking opportunities. I highly recommend it to anyone interested in learning more about the industry or considering a career in pharma."

HINA KHAN, MD, RUCIF

US Medical Affairs & Clinical Development Fellow | 2019-2020

"I had a terrific experience during my fellowship year which was focused on Medical Affairs and Clinical Development. It was really exhilarating and highly motivating to work in an environment where everyone is so dedicated and passionate and to learn about drug development with the support of great preceptors, mentors, and co-fellows. I would highly encourage those interested in an alternative career path and with an interest in industry to apply for this well-tailored and rewarding opportunity."

GRACE CROCKET, MD, RUCIF

US Medical Affairs Fellow | 2018-2019

"The most refreshing part of the Rutgers Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowships program was the willingness of my preceptors and colleagues to teach me about industry. Even since completing fellowship, I recognize in my peers a genuine enthusiasm for bringing medicines to market and making Bristol Myers Squibb the best company in the industry."

Current Fellows



ELLEN B. PEPRAH MB.ChB, MPH, MBA

US Medical Affairs, Cell Therapy Fellow



MICHAEL ANTZIS, MD

Global Medical Affairs Oncology, Thoracic and H&N Cancers Fellow

POST-DOCTORAL PROGRAM GOVERNANCE

SENIOR LEADERSHIP ENDORSEMENT



TANIA SMALL, MD

Senior Vice President
and Head of Medical



MELISSA HARRIS, PHARM D

Senior Vice President of
Regional Clinical Operations

STEERING COMMITTEE & PRECEPTORS



PRATIK THAKKAR, MPHARM

Executive Director, US Medical
Affairs, Disease Area Head,
Thoracic and H&N Cancers



MICHAEL CANTRELL, PHD

Executive Director, Head, US
Cell Therapy (CT) Medical



KIM TRAN, PHARM D

Vice President, US Oncology
Field Medical



PRIYA DAROUIAN, PHARM D

Senior Director, Medical
Customer Experience Strategy



GARY ZUCKERMAN, MD

Executive Director and MSA
Therapeutic Area Lead,
Oncology (Solid Tumors)



Training Opportunity for Physicians Interested in Pharmaceutical Industry as Career Path

Rutgers Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowship (RPIF) Program

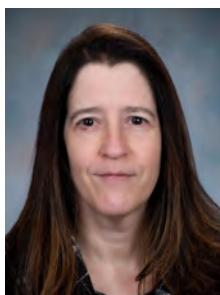
Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy (EMSOP)

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

The RPIF Program has thrived under the leadership of the founder, Dr. Joseph A. Barone, Dean and Distinguished Professor of EMSOP, Dr. Carolyn Seyss, the Executive Director for the Institute for Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowships, and Dr. Michael Toscani as the Director Emeritus.



Joseph A. Barone, PharmD, FCCP
Dean and Distinguished Professor



Carolyn Seyss, PharmD, RUCIF
Fellowship Executive Director



Michael Toscani, PharmD
Research Professor, Fellowship Director Emeritus



Connect with us on social media: @RutgersFellow

Program History

1984

EMSOP and 2 pharmaceutical companies began a first-of-its-kind collaborative pilot program to evaluate the potential contributions of clinically-trained pharmacists within a pharmaceutical industry practice setting. Following the successful pilot, the RPIF Program grew significantly and expanded to now include 29 companies within the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industry with over 300 Fellows.

2002

Dr. Ernest Mario generously provided an endowment to establish RPIF as an Institute to enhance and promote the role of pharmacists in industry through the RPIF Program. The Institute staff members:

- Create the Fellowship structure, providing strategic leadership and administrative support
- Promote quality, communication, scholarly activity, and professional development
- Arrange specialized training opportunities within the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industry

2018

RPIF expanded to offer interdisciplinary Fellows' training by adding physician Fellowship opportunities to our well-established program.

2023

The RPIF Certificate is recognized with special credentials so our alumni can now proudly identify themselves as **RUCIF (Rutgers University Certified Industry Fellow)**.

Well over 1,800 Post-Doctoral Fellows have completed the RPIF Program, most of whom are experiencing influential and rewarding careers in the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industry throughout the US and abroad. The RPIF Program has Preceptors and Mentors from industry who share their knowledge and experiences with the Fellows through an intense but closely-guided training program. Assignments and projects are challenging, meaningful, and designed to enhance understanding of the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industry and the Fellow's functional area(s). Our goal is to provide the environment for Fellows to build the foundations to fuel their careers as future leaders in the industry.

Professional Development Series

All Fellows gather once monthly as a group to participate in the Professional Development Day (PDD) series, an important component of their training that complements the hands-on experience provided at the sponsor companies. The PDDs are steered by a committee of Fellows and are designed to enhance the Fellows' leadership skills such as emotional intelligence, communication, critical decision making, and presentation skills. Fellows develop skill sets under the guidance of external trainers and accomplished RPIF alumni. PDDs also provide general knowledge about various aspects of drug development/commercialization and issues facing the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industry, and promote connectivity and a sense of community among Fellows and alumni from different companies and disciplines.

The Fellows can learn from each other through individual and group presentations on topics and issues related to the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industry. In addition, outside experts provide training and professional development in a variety of areas (e.g., tools for corporate success, professional writing, presentations, meeting facilitation, negotiating, influencing, networking, conflict resolution, giving and receiving feedback, and business etiquette). Other PDD guest speakers include senior industry executives, including our successful RPIF Program alumni, who share their career paths, insights, and experiences. Importantly, PDDs provide an excellent opportunity for Fellows to interact with each other and develop lasting personal friendships and a strong professional network of Fellows, faculty, alumni, and other industry executives.

Key Program Features

RPIF FOSTERS the growth and development of future pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industry professionals and leaders.

Because of its relationship with and close proximity to most of the nation's leading pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical companies, EMSOP and the RPIF Program are uniquely capable of providing Fellows with advanced training in the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industry.

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey is one of the major state university systems in the United States. EMSOP is part of Rutgers Health and is located on the University's main science and technology campus in Piscataway, New Jersey.

While RPIF offers all the benefits of a large program with an extensive network of distinguished professionals, Fellows receive the individual attention of a small program where they are known and supported as individuals.



Family of Leading Companies

Partners include several top global pharmaceutical/biopharmaceutical companies and offer large to small company environments.



Outstanding Alumni Track Record

Well over 1,800 alumni hold prominent positions at many leading companies, including VP and C-suite levels.



Strong Network

Fellows develop valuable, lasting connections with each other, alumni, Preceptors, and Rutgers EMSOP faculty.



Trusted and Proven Since 1984

The Rutgers Fellowship Program is nationally recognized, trusted, and proven as the key pathway to industry, developing foundations for future leaders.



Enhanced Career Development

Breadth of experiences informs career path choices, increasingly challenging assignments build depth of experience, and visibility creates opportunities - enhancing the potential for accelerated career paths.



Rigorous Academic Component

Rutgers affiliation provides academic and professional development opportunities, and adjunct faculty appointments at EMSOP.

Application Process and Eligibility Requirements

Physician Fellows for the RPIF Program are selected on a nationally competitive basis. Candidates must have an MD or DO with clinical experience such as completed residencies or fellowships preferred before July 1 of the fellowship term.

HOW TO APPLY:

The RPIF Program is highly competitive. **Candidates will be selected for interviews on a rolling basis, so we strongly encourage you to submit your application as soon as possible.**

Interested candidates may submit their application with short-answer questions and supporting materials (letter of intent, curriculum vitae, and 3 letters of recommendation) as soon as **October 8, 2025** by visiting our website at: <https://pharmafellows.rutgers.edu/physicians/how-to-apply/>

All application materials must be submitted electronically to the RPIF website per instructions on the site.

REQUIRED ITEMS:

Application with short-answer questions

Letter of Intent (LOI)

Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Letters of Recommendation (LORs)

SUBMIT BY:

October 17th

October 17th

October 17th

December 1st

ADDRESS LOI AND LORs TO:

Joseph A. Barone, PharmD, FCCP
Dean and Distinguished Professor
Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
160 Frelinghuysen Road
Piscataway, NJ 08854-8020



"The RPIF Program hasn't just opened doors. It has changed the way I walk through them—more grounded in where I stand and more intentional in how I move forward. It has given me the opportunity to use my PharmD education to serve patients in new ways, shaping the conversations and decisions that impact their care. It has given me the confidence to speak up, the space to grow, and the kind of mentorship that sees your potential before you do. If you're ready to take the next step toward a career in the pharmaceutical industry, let RPIF be where your journey begins."

Pooja Singh, PharmD
Global Regulatory Affairs and Global Value & Access Fellow
RPIF Chief Fellow



"Being a Rutgers Fellow has been such a pivotal part of my professional story, truly exceeding my expectations. This journey has transformed my leadership skills, giving me the confidence and tools I know I'll use every day. I'm grateful to be part of this community!"

Ginika Nwokeabia, PharmD
USMA/Medical Science Liaison - Neuroimmunology Fellow
RPIF Chief Fellow



"As a Rutgers Fellow, I have experienced an incredibly wide variety of opportunities through RPIF and my partner company. Through these opportunities I have learned and expanded my network more than I had ever imagined. The RPIF program encourages and facilitates all fellows growth into leaders and prepares us for our bright futures in the pharmaceutical industry."

Olivia Violette, PharmD
Global Medical Information Fellow
RPIF Chief Fellow