

# Pharmacy Faculty



**James Valentine, Pharm.D., BCPS, CPh**

**VP Pharmacy, PGY-2 Health-System Pharmacy Administration & Leadership  
Residency Program Director**

**Education and training:** University of Florida

**Learning experience:** Health System Pharmacy Leadership

**Joined Health First:** 2006

**What do you enjoy the most about your position?**

I love my job because everyone shares the same vision and is dedicated to the mission. This truly creates a family environment where everybody is there for each other. Healthcare is always changing — always evolving — I love taking a simple idea and growing it into a large initiative that makes a difference in peoples' lives.



**Michael Sanchez, Pharm.D., BCCCP**

**PGY1 & PGY2 Critical Care Residency Program Director, Residency Coordinator**

**Education and training:** University of Florida

**Learning experiences:** Orientation, Administration, Clinical Research, Trauma

**Joined Health First:** 2010

**What motivates/inspires you to serve as a preceptor?**

Our team has a long history of preceptorship origin stories. Our system clinical manager precepted my first rotation when I was an APPE student, which inspired me to pursue hospital pharmacy. It's rewarding to see our teaching pass success forward by our students turning into residents, residents wishing to stay at Health First to become colleagues, and then precept to give back to the profession.



**Norman Tomaka, BS.Pharm., MS., FAPhA**

**Clinical Consultant Pharmacist**

**Education and training:** Duquesne University, University of Florida

**Learning experiences:** Geriatrics, Consultant Pharmacy Practice, Ambulatory Care Services Management

**Joined Health First:** 1992

**What motivates/inspires you to serve as a preceptor?**

Our collaborative ambulatory practice is a fusion of clinical, regulatory and direct patient care. Working with Student and Resident Pharmacists provides insight into new perspectives that empower tomorrow's finest practitioners and achieve superior quality outcomes.



**Margaret James, Pharm.D.**

**Clinical Staff Pharmacist**

**Education and training:** University of Florida

**Learning experience:** Hospital Practice, Pharmacy Operations

**Joined Health First:** 2009

**What motivates/inspires you to serve as a preceptor?**

One of my passions is working with others. I truly enjoy helping to educate staff and mentoring students and watching their growth and development. I had some really great experiences as a student which helped me grow and gain the confidence, training, and skills I needed to succeed in hospital pharmacy. Without those preceptors who challenged me to do my best I'm not sure that I would have accomplished as much as I have in my career thus far. I strive to ensure my students have a good learning environment and a various array of experiences so that they can grow and be prepared for their pharmacy journey ahead of them.



**Jason Perry, Pharm.D., BCPS, LHRM, CPh**

**Medication Safety Officer**

**Education and training:** University of Florida. PGY1 Residency Sibley Memorial Hospital Johns Hopkins Medicine, Washington DC.

**Learning experiences:** Medication Safety, Drug Policy and Procedure Development

**Joined Health First:** 2011

**What do you enjoy the most about your position?**

The Medication Use Process is exceptionally complex. Improving health outcomes for our patients requires not only knowledge of clinical pharmacology but also a deep understanding of High Reliability Organization (HRO) sciences, risk mitigation, regulatory compliance, accreditation preparedness, robust process improvement (RPI), and familiarity with tools such as Root Cause Analysis and Action (RCA2), Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA), and Plan Do Study Act (PDSA). I enjoy helping our future Pharmacy leaders understand how to apply a scientific approach to Continuous Quality Improvement in this unique non-patient care rotation.

**Lindsay Rogers, Pharm.D., BCCCP**

**Clinical Staff Pharmacist**

**Education and training:** University of Florida

**Learning experiences:** Hospital Practice, Pharmacy Operations, Critical Care Staffing

**Joined Health First:** 2012

**What do you enjoy the most about your position?**

I enjoy having the ability to make an impact on a variety of different levels. My job never gets boring and is constantly rewarding. Whether the impact is direct via patient counseling or indirect via order intervention or more global via protocol development, there is always a way to make a difference in the community.



**Steve Gilbert, Pharm.D.**  
**eICU Clinical Pharmacy Specialist**

**Education and training:** University of Florida

**Learning experiences:** PGY1: eICU elective; PGY-2: eICU, eICU Longitudinal

**Joined Health First:** 2008

**What do you enjoy the most about your position?**

As one of only three programs in Florida, the Health-First eICU offers a unique opportunity to simultaneously manage a high volume of critically ill patients in our six ICU's system-wide. The two-way audio/visual capabilities are phenomenal, allowing for an accurate patient assessment despite not being at the bedside. In the eICU I'm able to work side-by-side with a physician and nursing team throughout the night which allows me to have an immediate impact on patient care. Additionally, the nature of the workflow allows for a lot of time to precept and have students/residents involved with direct patient care.



**Joseph Edwards, Pharm.D., BCPS**  
**Clinical Staff Pharmacist**

**Education and training:** Palm Beach Atlantic University

**Learning experiences:** Hospital Practice, Pharmacy Operations

**Joined Health First:** 2011

**What motivates/inspires you to serve as a preceptor?**

I understand becoming a hospital pharmacist has an extensive but enjoyable learning curve. I am always happy to come alongside anyone new to this field and help guide them through this process.



**Kimberly Hunger, Pharm.D., BCPS**  
**Viera Hospital Pharmacy Manager**

**Education and training:** University of Florida

**Learning experiences:** PGY2 HSPAL: Inpatient Operations Community Hospital

**Joined Health First:** 2007

**What motivates/inspires you to serve as a preceptor?**

I have had the opportunity to precept students/residents now for many years. I have enjoyed teaching students the practice of clinical pharmacy and seeing them change their career goals of working retail to doing a residency and becoming a clinical pharmacist. I have a passion and dedication to inpatient as well as patients in the Anticoagulation clinic. The closeness of our team is what I enjoy the most about my position. Together, we are able to work together to make a better learning experience for everyone.



**Joseph Bratsch, Pharm.D.**

**Antimicrobial Stewardship Pharmacist**

**Education and training:** University of Florida, PGY1 Residency Holmes Regional Medical Center

**Learning experiences:** Infectious Diseases, Advanced Infectious Diseases

**Joined Health First:** 2015

**What do you enjoy the most about your position?**

As an APPE student I was assigned to Holmes Regional Medical Center for several consecutive months. During that time I truly experienced the effect that great preceptors can have on someone's life. Through their guidance and mentorship, I fell in love with inpatient pharmacy and my career path forever changed. That experience inspired me to precept and pass on the enthusiasm for the profession. It is rewarding to watch students and residents grow as they are exposed to new concepts and experiences. What I enjoy most about my position is the ability to impact several areas of the IDN (Integrated Delivery Network).



**Matthew Moser, Pharm.D., CPh**

**Lead Clinical Pharmacy Specialist – Hematology/Oncology**

**Education and training:** University of Florida

**Learning experiences:** Hematology/Oncology

**Joined Health First:** 2013

**What motivates/inspires you to serve as a preceptor?**

Being a part of advancing a resident or APPE student's knowledge and seeing how much they grow throughout rotations, educationally and professionally, is very rewarding. Hematology/oncology can be a difficult subject to master, but there are so many ways pharmacists can be a part of educating patients, care givers, nurses and even physicians.

**Philip Morrison, Pharm.D., BCPS**

**Clinical Pharmacy Specialist**

**Education and training:** University of Florida, PGY1 Residency at Florida Hospital Health System

**Learning experiences:** Internal Medicine

**Joined Health First:** 2018

**What motivates/inspires you to serve as a preceptor?**

The experiences students and residents have on clinical rotations help shape them as pharmacists and influence their future path in the pharmacy field. I enjoy seeing the next generation of pharmacists-in-training develop and apply skills they will use for the rest of their professional careers.



**Heather Morrison, Pharm.D., BCPS**

**Clinical Pharmacy Specialist**

**Education and training:** University of Florida, PGY1 Residency Holmes Regional Medical Center

**Learning experiences:** Critical Care, Advanced Critical Care, Medical ICU I/II, Advanced Medical ICU,

**Joined Health First:** 2011

**What motivates/inspires you to serve as a preceptor? OR – What do you enjoy the most about your position?**

I enjoy working with an amazing team. We thrive on each other's motivation to provide the best care to our patients and help grow our students/residents.

**Ted Heierman, Pharm.D.**

**Clinical Pharmacy Specialist**

**Education and training:** University of Florida

**Learning experiences:** Pharmacy Consult Service, Ambulatory Care II/III (Anticoagulation focus), Cardiac Critical Care/Cardiology

**Joined Health First:** 2002

**What motivates/inspires you to serve as a preceptor?**

Sharing my knowledge with others and watching them grow into outstanding pharmacists.



**Kristina Larizadeh, Pharm.D., BCPS**

**Critical Care Clinical Pharmacy Specialist**

**Education and training:** University of South Florida College of Pharmacy; PGY1 Residency at Bayfront Health St. Petersburg

**Learning experiences:** Pharmacy Consult Service, Cardiac Critical Care/Cardiology, Cardiovascular ICU, Advanced Cardiovascular ICU

**Joined Health First:** 2018

**What do you enjoy the most about your position?**

I love how well my pharmacy team works with other healthcare providers and the relationships we've established. The level of trust between the multidisciplinary teams allows me to have a deeper impact on patient care. I also love being able to precept students and residents because it allows me to continue to grow in my career and it's rewarding to see their progress from beginning to end.

**Scott Neel, Pharm.D.****Program Director Pharmaceutical Services**

**Education and training:** University of Florida, Residency Florida Hospital Orlando

**Learning experiences:** Administration, Pharmacoeconomics, Contracts and Procurement, Financial Stewardship

**Joined Health First:** 1999

**What do you enjoy the most about your position?**

Learning and researching studies to develop evidenced based practices within the system. Using this knowledge to negotiate practice change with medical and professional staff within our organization. Engaging in therapeutic discussions and exchanging perspectives where opportunities are identified. Mentoring students and residents through the caveats of clinical study interpretation and proper application to ensure selection of cost-effective therapies and best practices. Collaboration with executive leadership and various hospital departments to ensure staff are informed so practice change is implemented safely and smoothly. I view student and residency programs as an opportunity to give back to our profession and patients on a scale larger than a single person can directly accomplish.

**Brekk Feeley, Pharm.D., CPh, DPLA, MA****Lead Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Specialist**

**Education and training:** University of Wisconsin, PGY-1 Residency at the University of Wisconsin, PGY-2 Residency at Health First, Inc.

**Learning experiences:** Ambulatory Care

**Joined Health First:** 2019

**What motivates/inspires you to serve as a preceptor?**

I have a passion for expanding access to healthcare. Once a patient leaves the hospital there can be gaps in care. Pharmacists have a unique opportunity to fill some of these gaps within the community. I precept to share my passion and show new pharmacists how they can expand the practice of pharmacy and work to the top of their licensure outside of the hospital.

**James Breslin, Pharm.D., BCPS****Clinical Pharmacy Specialist**

**Education and training:** University of Florida College of Pharmacy; PGY1 Residency at Orlando Regional Medical Center

**Learning experiences:** Internal Medicine, Community Critical Care

**Joined Health First:** 2018

**What do you enjoy the most about your position?**

I enjoy being part of a multidisciplinary team that values and respects my contribution. I enjoy the opportunity to work on projects that can potentially improve the healthcare system. I enjoy watching the growth and development of students and residents throughout their rotations. Having dedicated preceptors during my training was an integral part of my professional development and I enjoy the opportunity to pass that along.