



Miami VA Healthcare System Chiropractic Residency

Program: Integrated Clinical Practice

Established: 2020

Accreditation: Miami VA Healthcare System's (MVAHS) Chiropractic Residency Program application to the Council on Chiropractic Education is projected for submission by October 2020

Period: 12 months, July 1 to June 30 annually

Positions: One

Director

- Charles W Penza, DC, PhD

Attending DC Faculty

- John D'Amico, DC

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Miami VA Healthcare System (MVAHS) Chiropractic Integrated Clinical Practice Residency is to prepare chiropractic residents for clinical practice in hospitals or other medical settings, and/or academia, through hospital-based clinical training, interprofessional education, and scholarly activities

Brief Description

The Miami VA Healthcare System (MVAHS) is a 1A Complexity Facility that serves Veterans in three South Florida counties: Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe, with an estimated Veteran population of 149,704. The Bruce W. Carter Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center (Miami VAMC) is located on 26.3 acres with an attached four-story Community Living Center. The MVAHS chiropractic clinics are administratively aligned within physical medicine and rehabilitative services. Chiropractic residents rotate in primary care, PM&R, pain medicine, mental health, neurosurgery, women's clinic, GRECC, spinal cord injury and other sub-specialty clinics. Residents learn from or participate in chiropractic faculty's ongoing research projects and engage in scholarly activities at the facility.

Resident Goals/Objectives

- Residents will acquire postgraduate clinical experience in hospital-based chiropractic care
 - Residents will provide supervised patient care at satisfactory levels of competence, to a broad population of musculoskeletal cases, most commonly spinal, in the context of collaborative team-based care
 - Residents will gain experience in managing a range of complex/multimorbidity cases

- Residents will engage in interprofessional educational experiences with relevant medical, surgical and associated health specialties
 - Residents will complete clinical rotations in primary care, physical medicine and rehabilitation, other relevant medical or surgical specialties, behavioral medicine and other associated health disciplines
- Residents will participate in scholarly activities to gain experience relevant to integrated practice and/or academia
 - Residents will complete scholarly assignments, online didactic courses, and collaborate with other chiropractic residents to complete group assignments
 - Residents will attend scholarly presentations among available hospital and/or academic affiliate offerings
 - Residents will engage in research activities, and/or present scholarly material, and/or clinical workshops to staff and/or trainees at VA and/or academic affiliate venues

Program DC Faculty

Charles W Penza, DC, PhD (Director)

Dr. Penza received a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science from James Madison University (2000), his Doctorate in Chiropractic from Palmer College of Chiropractic Florida Campus (2006), and his PhD in Rehabilitation Science from the University of Florida (2014). Dr. Penza joined the Miami VAMC in 2019, with over a decade of prior experiences across a variety of integrated clinical settings, including an academic medical center (University of Florida, Gainesville, FL) and rehabilitation hospital (Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital, Jacksonville, FL). In addition to his VA staff privileges, Dr. Penza serves as an adjunct assistant clinical professor at the College of Chiropractic Medicine at Keiser University an adjunct assistant clinical professor at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine.

John D'Amico, DC, DABCO – Primary Residency Faculty

Dr. D'Amico was a biology major at Stony Brook University and received his Doctorate in Chiropractic from New York Chiropractic College in 1992. He completed a rigorous postdoctoral educational program and earned his Diplomate American Board of Chiropractic Orthopedics (DABCO) in 2000. Dr. D'Amico was one of the first chiropractic pioneers to enter the Veterans Affairs (VA) Health Care System. In 2005, he became the first chiropractor appointed to the medical staff at the Miami VA Healthcare System where he developed processes for integrating hospital-based clinical services and interprofessional clinical education. In 2008, he established an academic affiliation with New York Chiropractic College (NYCC) for a DC student-training program. He serves as an adjunct assistance clinical professor at NYCC, provides peer mentorship for newly appointed VA staff chiropractors and has served on numerous VA chiropractic professional boards.

Location

Training takes place at the *Bruce W. Carter Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center* (Miami VAMC, 1201 NW 16th St, Miami, FL 33136) and *William "Bill" Kling Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic* (9800 West Commercial Boulevard, Sunrise, FL 33351) campuses. The MVAHS is well-known for its excellence in healthcare provider training. The Miami VAMC is affiliated with the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and Jackson Memorial Hospital and trains approximately 700 residents and fellows per year. Additional affiliations with Florida International University for medical students and nursing, along with multiple ancillary staff training affiliations, exist in the pharmacy, social work, dietetics, radiology, and other medical and allied health specialties.

Clinical Facilities

The Miami VAMC chiropractic department is collocated with physical and occupational therapy in the outpatient rehabilitation gym within the PM&R wing located on the second floor of the hospital. The chiropractic service has three dedicated 120 sq. ft. individual private treatment rooms, one shared 120 sq. ft. individual private treatment room, two dedicated administrative desk/work stations, one dedicated workstation on wheels (WOW), two shared desk/work stations, and one shared/overflow WOW in the outpatient rehabilitation suite, which is adjacent to the PM&R offices, EMG lab, and inpatient therapy gym. To enhance the on-site chiropractic facilities, two of the three dedicated treatment rooms have been upgraded with new state-of-the-art flexion distraction chiropractic tables

The chiropractic department at the William "Bill" Kling VA Clinic is collocated with physical and occupational therapy in the outpatient rehabilitation gym. The chiropractic service has two dedicated 120 sq. ft. individual private treatment rooms and two dedicated administrative desk/work stations.

Compensation

The resident stipend is set annually, based on geographic location, by VA Office of Academic Affiliations. For Academic Year 2020-21 the stipend for a MVAHS chiropractic resident was \$39,245. The resident receives paid Federal holidays and accrues vacation and sick leave. The resident is also eligible for life and health insurance. The resident is protected from personal liability while providing professional services at a VA health care facility under the Federal Employees Liability Reform and Tort Compensation Act, 28 U.S.C. 2679 (b)-(d).

Certificate of Completion

Upon satisfactory completion of program requirements, the graduate will receive an official Certificate of Residency, and records will be maintained at the MVAHS and the VHA Chiropractic National Program Office.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must hold or be scheduled to receive a DC degree from a CCE-accredited school prior to the start of the residency program. Applicants must be eligible for, or hold a current, full, active, and unrestricted chiropractic license in a State, Territory or Commonwealth of the US, or in the District of Columbia. Applicants must meet all VA employment requirements including US citizenship, and Selective Service registration when applicable.

Application Process

The program follows the VA Chiropractic Residency Match process. A call for applications is issued each year on the second Monday of January. Applications are only accepted during the open call. Applicant assessment is through a competitive process considering factors such as academic background, relevant experience, personal statement, letters of recommendation, and telephone, video, and/or in-person interviews. Applicant rankings are made by a review committee of the residency director and DC faculty.

Additional Information

For additional information contact: charles.penza@va.gov

