





POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP USMA Oncology

2027–2029

University of Maryland School of Pharmacy and AstraZeneca

A two-year industry–academic training experience in US Medical Affairs
Oncology

**Shape the inaugural cohort. Translate oncology science into
meaningful strategy, evidence, insights, and patient impact.**

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ABOUT ASTRAZENECA

AstraZeneca is a global, science-led biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development, and commercialization of life-changing medicines. Its scientific leadership spans Oncology, BioPharmaceuticals, and Rare Disease, with Gaithersburg, Maryland serving as a major US research and development location. Fellows will join an organization that brings together scientific expertise, cross-functional collaboration, and a commitment to translating innovation into meaningful outcomes for patients.



Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA



Cambridge, United Kingdom



Boston, Massachusetts, USA



Barcelona, Spain

OUR PURPOSE AND VALUES



We follow the science

Each of our individual perspectives gives meaning to our data and insights. We are encouraged to be curious about our ideas and those of the people around us and explore new innovations and technologies to help develop breakthrough solutions, which will have an impact on our patients lives.



We put patients first

We strive to understand patients' needs considering them in every decision we take.



We play to win

Our different backgrounds and perspectives compliment the work we do and help achieve not only AstraZeneca's goals but our own professional and personal ones too. We have created a safe place, encouraging our people to come together as a team to speak up in order to develop our ways of working and keep striving for continuous improvement and innovation.



We do the right thing

Doing the right thing is an essential part of who we are and is key to achieving our ethical business objectives. It is a behavior that also translates to our personal values. We have created an environment for open communication, enhancing collaboration and encouraging innovation, with team members who continuously strive for the best outcomes and behaviors.



We are entrepreneurial

We encourage our teams to work collaboratively and take ownership of their ways of working to drive continuous improvements that create change. We achieve this by taking smart risks to find effective solutions when bringing new ideas to life.

OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

The University of Maryland–AstraZeneca Post-Doctoral Fellowship in USMA Oncology is a two-year program designed to prepare PharmD and PhD graduates for impactful careers in oncology medical affairs. Based in Gaithersburg, Maryland, the fellowship combines structured mentorship, cross-functional experiences, scientific engagement, evidence generation, and medical strategy. Fellows will contribute to initiatives that translate oncology science into meaningful education, evidence, and insights for health care professionals and patients. Two fellowship positions are planned for the 2027–2029 cycle.

Why choose this fellowship?

Fellows will help shape an inaugural oncology program while gaining hands-on experience in medical strategy, evidence generation, scientific communications, external engagement, and cross-functional leadership. The program combines AstraZeneca’s oncology expertise with academic mentorship from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, offering a differentiated pathway from doctoral training to a career in medical affairs.

Two complementary fellowship positions

Both fellows will share a foundation in USMA Oncology strategy, evidence generation, scientific communication, insights, and external engagement. Individual development plans and assignments will reflect each fellow’s doctoral preparation, experience, career goals, and program needs.

The key learning objectives of the fellowship program are to understand:

- The role of US Medical Affairs in oncology strategy and execution
- Scientific narrative development and communication of clinical evidence
- Evidence generation, including study concepts, data interpretation, and dissemination planning
- Medical insight generation and translation into actionable strategy
- Cross-functional collaboration across Medical, Clinical, Regulatory, Market Access, and Commercial partners
- Engagement with health care professionals, researchers, patient organizations, and other external stakeholders
- Preparation and delivery of scientific presentations, medical education, and written communications
- Professional leadership, project management, and executive communication
- Mentoring and preceptorship opportunities with University of Maryland PharmD students

Program experience

Fellows will begin with onboarding and foundational training, then build experience through core USMA Oncology assignments, cross-functional projects, scientific communications,

evidence-generation activities, congress support, external engagement, and selected academic or clinical experiences. Responsibilities will increase over the two years, culminating in fellow-led deliverables and a capstone presentation that demonstrates scientific, strategic, and leadership growth.

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EXECUTIVE SPONSORS



Roula Quaquish, PharmD
Vice President,
USMA Oncology
Executive Sponsor

A message from our program leaders
We are pleased to welcome applicants to the inaugural University of Maryland–AstraZeneca Post-Doctoral Fellowship in USMA Oncology. This program is designed for emerging scientific leaders who want to translate oncology evidence into meaningful strategy, education, insights, and patient impact. Fellows will be trusted contributors, supported by committed mentors, and encouraged to bring curiosity, initiative, and new perspectives as we build the program together.



Nabil Chehab, PhD
Lung Franchise
Head, USMA
Oncology
Executive Sponsor

A message from our Lung Franchise Head

As Lung Franchise Head, I am proud to support a fellowship that will develop the next generation of oncology medical affairs leaders. Fellows will work alongside experienced colleagues across the lung cancer franchise, strengthening their scientific judgment, strategic thinking, and ability to translate evidence into meaningful impact for patients and the oncology community. We look forward to welcoming curious, collaborative, and purpose-driven fellows who will help shape this inaugural program.



FELLOWSHIP LEADERSHIP



**Rebeca Mora Matus,
MD**

Medical Lead, SCLC, USMA
Oncology
Gaithersburg, MD
Program Director

**Audra Stinchcomb,
RPh, PhD**

Professor of Pharmaceutical
Sciences
University of Maryland School
of Pharmacy
Fellowship Co-Director

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INAUGURAL FELLOWSHIP COHORT

2027–2029 Cohort

This will be the first cohort of the new USMA Oncology fellowship program.

The inaugural fellows will help establish a distinctive learning experience centered on oncology medical affairs, scientific leadership, evidence generation, and meaningful collaboration across AstraZeneca, the University of Maryland, and its affiliates.

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FELLOWSHIP PARTNERSHIP

The partnership combines AstraZeneca's USMA Oncology expertise with the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy's strengths in pharmacy education, applied research, experiential learning, and mentorship. AstraZeneca will provide industry-based medical

affairs experiences, scientific and strategic projects, and access to cross-functional oncology teams. The University and its affiliates will provide academic guidance, teaching and mentoring opportunities, and exposure to diverse clinical, research, and practice perspectives. Together, the partners create a coordinated pathway from doctoral training to oncology medical affairs leadership.

Rebeca Mora Matus, MD
Fellowship Director
Medical Lead - USMA
Oncology - AstraZeneca

Why partner with the University of Maryland and its affiliates?

The University of Maryland School of Pharmacy offers an established educational infrastructure, experienced faculty and preceptors, and access to varied clinical, research, and practice environments through its affiliate network. Combined with AstraZeneca's oncology medical affairs capabilities, the partnership gives fellows a well-rounded experience that links academic rigor, real-world health care perspectives, and industry application. The collaboration also strengthens mentorship, expands opportunities for scholarly and professional development, and creates a sustainable pathway for developing talent equipped to lead in a complex and evolving oncology landscape.

Audra Stinchcomb, RPh, PhD
Fellowship Program Director
Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences
University of Maryland School of Pharmacy

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INAUGURAL PROGRAM VISION

Designed for lasting impact

The inaugural cohort will establish a differentiated USMA Oncology fellowship grounded in scientific expertise, strategic thinking, evidence generation, and external engagement. Fellows will work alongside experienced medical affairs professionals and academic mentors, while insights from the first cohort will inform continuous improvement and help shape a sustainable pipeline of oncology medical affairs talent.



REQUIREMENTS - PharmD Background

1. Applicant is currently in 4th year of pharmacy school or has graduated from School of Pharmacy by spring 2027 (fellowship starts on the first week of July 2027). Applicants other than University of Maryland students may apply.
2. Applicants must be eligible to work in the USA and be willing to relocate/be on-site in Gaithersburg, MD office. No visa sponsorship is available.
3. Applicant has demonstrated strong interest in clinical research and has conducted research in relevant scientific fields such as oncology (preferred), biology/chemistry, toxicology, or pharmacokinetics/pharmacodynamics.
4. Applicant demonstrates leadership skills as well as sufficient communication (written and oral) skills as per prior curriculum requirements or presentation of prior research.



REQUIREMENTS - PhD Fellowship

1. Applicants must complete their doctoral or post-doctoral training in a relevant scientific field by spring 2027. The fellowship begins in the first week of July 2027. Post-doctoral experience is preferred but not required, and applicants from institutions other than the University of Maryland are welcome to apply.
2. Applicants must be eligible to work in the USA and be willing to relocate/be on-site in the Gaithersburg, MD office. No visa sponsorship is available.
3. Applicant has demonstrated strong interest in clinical research and has conducted research in relevant scientific fields such as oncology (preferred), biology/chemistry, toxicology, or pharmacokinetics/pharmacodynamics.
4. Applicant demonstrates leadership skills as well as sufficient communication (written and oral) skills as per prior curriculum requirements or presentation of prior research.



APPLICATION PROCESS

Frequently asked questions

Who may apply? Eligible PharmD, PhD, and qualified post-doctoral candidates from any institution may apply, subject to the pathway-specific requirements.

Where is the fellowship based? The primary location is AstraZeneca's Gaithersburg, Maryland office, with on-site participation expected.

How many positions are available? Two positions are planned for the 2027–2029 cohort.

Is visa sponsorship available? No visa sponsorship is available.

When does the fellowship begin? The program begins in the first week of July 2027.

Applicants will be evaluated by the AstraZeneca Fellowship Selection Committee and are required to submit the following materials:

1

The Fellowship Application Form including a one-page statement explaining career goals, research experiences, and interest in clinical research.

2

A curriculum vitae that highlights clinical, research, and work experience.

3

Submit two professional letters of recommendation as instructed on the Fellowship Application Form. Letters may be provided by a prior employer or faculty member; PhD applicants must include a letter from their doctoral advisor or post-doctoral principal investigator.

4

A presentation is expected of candidates during the interview process.

5

Click here or go to <https://www.az-uom-postdoc.com/apply> to apply.



TIMELINES

Applicant checklist

Before applying, confirm that you have reviewed the eligibility requirements, prepared your curriculum vitae and one-page statement, identified two professional recommenders, and are available for the interview process and fellowship start date. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, and early submission is encouraged.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Candidates are encouraged to submit by October 31, 2026, and to arrange for letters of recommendation to be received by November 23, 2026.

Milestone	Date	Details
Application portal opens	Monday, September 14, 2026	The portal opens one to two weeks earlier than other programs.
Application deadline	October 31, 2026	Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis; candidates are encouraged to apply by this date.
Letters of recommendation due	November 23, 2026	All required recommendation letters should be received by this date.
Decision date	December 11, 2026	Final fellowship decisions are anticipated by this date.

For additional information on the program, please contact • Audra Stinchcomb, PhD
(astinchc@rx.umaryland.edu) • Rebeca Mora Matus, MD (rebeca.mora@astrazeneca.com)



in conjunction with

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Help shape the inaugural cohort

If you are motivated by oncology science, medical strategy, evidence generation, and collaboration across academia and industry, we invite you to apply and contribute to the foundation of the University of Maryland–AstraZeneca USMA Oncology Fellowship.

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