



# Post-Doctoral PharmD Fellowship Early Oncology Clinical Development

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**Pascal Soriot**  
Chief Executive Officer

## OUR PURPOSE AND VALUES



### We Follow the Science

- I am curious and push the boundaries of science
- I am creative in how I work with partners and collaborators



### We Put Patients First

- I am proud to serve patients and consider them in every decision I take
- I strive to understand patients' needs and act accordingly



### We Play To Win

- I am determined to make the right choices to win
- I build high performing teams that collaborate across the enterprise



### We Do The Right Thing

- I am accountable for my actions and the success of AZ
- I speak up to ensure that all we do is aligned to our values



### We Are Entrepreneurial

- I am brave, resilient and take smart risks
- I act with urgency and simplify the way work gets done



# ABOUT ASTRAZENECA

**AstraZeneca** is a global, science-led biopharmaceutical company that focuses on the discovery, development, and commercialization of life-changing medicines that contribute value to patients and society. AstraZeneca's innovative science and leadership are concentrated in three main therapy areas: oncology; respiratory; cardiovascular, renal, and metabolic disease (CVRM).

AstraZeneca North America research operations are headquartered in **Gaithersburg, Maryland** (25 miles from Washington, DC) one of AstraZeneca's three global R&D centers, with additional sites in **Cambridge, United Kingdom**, and **Gothenburg, Sweden**. With a drive to follow the science, AstraZeneca employs some of the best scientific minds in the industry who continually push the boundaries of science to deliver life-changing medicines.

AstraZeneca currently has 178 projects in development with 14 new molecular entities in late-stage trials, and 2 new molecular entities under review - one of the most robust pipelines in the industry. The Gaithersburg site includes ~5,000 employees in a state-of-the-art building that supports drug development from discovery to clinical development.

Gaithersburg, Maryland



Cambridge, United Kingdom



Gothenburg, Sweden



# EARLY ONCOLOGY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT - EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP



**Susan Galbraith**  
**MB., BChir., Ph.D**  
Executive Vice President  
Oncology R&D



**Matthew Ellis**  
**MB., BChir., Ph.D.**  
Sr. Vice President  
Early Oncology



**Matt Hellmann,**  
**MD**  
Vice President  
Head of Clinical Group  
Early Oncology

# EARLY ONCOLOGY CLINICAL SCIENCE – LEADERSHIP TEAM



**Matthew Farmer,**  
**BSc PhD**

Executive Director  
Head of Oncology  
Clinical Science  
Early Oncology Clinical



**Shelby Gainer,**  
**BS**

Sr. Group Director  
Early Oncology  
Clinical Science



**Oday Hamid,**  
**PharmD**

Sr. Group Director  
Early Oncology  
Clinical Science



**Maureen Hattersely,**  
**PhD**

Sr. Group Director  
Early Oncology  
Clinical Science



**Simon Watkins,**  
**PhD**

Sr. Group Director  
Early Oncology  
Clinical Science



# FELLOWSHIP STEERING COMMITTEE



**Matthew Farmer,  
BSc PhD**

Executive Director  
Head of Oncology  
Clinical Science  
Early Clinical Oncology



**Oday Hamid,  
PharmD**

Fellowship Program Director  
Sr. Group Director  
Early Oncology  
Clinical Science



**Gray Kirby,  
PharmD**

Director  
Early Oncology  
Clinical Science



**Benjamin Ridgway,  
PharmD, MS**

Associate Director  
Early Oncology  
Clinical Science

# CURRENT FELLOWS

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Year



### **Anyen Fon**

PharmD, MSc  
Early Oncology Clinical Science  
University of Maryland  
School of Pharmacy

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Year



### **Elie Pommier**

PharmD  
Early Oncology Clinical Science  
University of Maryland  
School of Pharmacy

## 1<sup>st</sup> Year



### **Negar Hamidi**

PharmD, MS  
Early Oncology Clinical Science  
University of Maryland  
School of Pharmacy



## Gray Kirby, PharmD

Fellowship Preceptor 2024 Class  
Director  
Early Oncology Clinical Science  
AstraZeneca

The University of Maryland –AstraZeneca fellowship program provides intensive, specialized training to understand the drug development process and study management experience with emphasis on the development of the post-doctoral individual to succeed in the pharmaceutical industry. The intent is to prepare the fellow with an exceptional learning and mentorship experience as they enter their longer-term career in drug development.



## Paul Shapiro, PhD

Fellowship Program Director  
Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences  
University of Maryland School of Pharmacy

The University of Maryland School of Pharmacy’s partnership with AstraZeneca makes available a unique clinical development fellowship to new graduates who are interested in pursuing careers in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. This fellowship not only provides a wonderful training opportunity for outstanding graduates but also creates a pipeline for the development of highly qualified scientists who will be at the forefront of creating new medicines for the treatment of a variety of diseases. This innovative educational and research opportunity allows fellows to experience firsthand the work environment and challenges of the pharmaceutical industry. Furthermore, the fellowship allows students to leverage their PharmD education and apply it to real-world applications. As evidenced by the success of former fellows, AstraZeneca Clinical Development Fellows are uniquely positioned to compete in the highly competitive pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry. Thus, this opportunity provides an exciting springboard for a highly successful career at AstraZeneca and beyond.





## OVERVIEW and OBJECTIVES

The AstraZeneca-University of Maryland Clinical Development Fellowship is an exclusive 2-year program geared toward University of Maryland School of Pharmacy graduates with a penchant for clinical research in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. **Established in 2009**, the fellowship has paved the career path for numerous University of Maryland School of Pharmacy graduates.

Two fellowship positions will be recruited for in the 2024-2026 cycle.

Fellows in the program will be involved in the early clinical development of oncology therapeutics. These pharmaceutical products may include biologics and small molecules, as well as exciting new modalities (including ADCs and Immunotherapies). The key learning objectives of the fellowship program are to understand:

- Scientific research process (including hypothesis generation and development)
- Clinical Development role and part of a Study Team
- Protocol development and study design
- Clinical development plans
- Understanding of oncology efficacy and safety assessments
- Data analysis, interpretation, and presentation
- Preparation and review of safety narratives
- Presentations to internal and external stakeholders
- Professional communication including verbal and written
- Preceptor for 4<sup>th</sup> year PharmD students from University of Maryland



**Benjamin Ridgway**  
**PharmD, MS**

Associate Director  
Early Oncology Clinical Science  
AstraZeneca  
Former Fellow

The AstraZeneca-University of Maryland post-doctoral fellowship provides recent graduates with an avenue to learn the fundamentals of drug development, answering some of the most relevant and engaging clinical questions while working alongside experienced professionals who are invested in student success. This means the chance to join a team of industry veterans tackling the unique challenges that arise from running innovative trials of novel drugs, from monitoring for safety signals to establishing a dose to take to later stage trials, all with the aim of improving the lives of patients.



**Natasha Angra, PharmD**

Senior Director Lead  
Clinical Development Oncology  
Beigene  
Former Fellow

Through the clinical drug development post-doctoral program at AstraZeneca, I was able to learn invaluable skills such as understanding clinical trial design, protocol development, the scientific research process, and much more. Through this opportunity, I was also able to apply the clinical science I had learned in school to help assess patient profiles for safety as well as the efficacy of the investigational drugs we work on here at AstraZeneca.



**Stephanie Udoye, PharmD**

Medical Scientist, Late Oncology  
AstraZeneca  
Former Fellow

This fellowship is a unique opportunity to immerse oneself in the dynamic role a clinical scientist plays in the drug development process. It arms fellows with the skills needed to act as contributing members to the clinical development team, working towards curating novel therapies and combination treatments for populations with high unmet needs. A spirit of innovation and collaboration thrives at AstraZeneca, fostering an open environment for ample learning and creativity. The fellowship opens the door to training opportunities that adequately prepare its fellows for a career in industry.



**Alula Yohannes**  
**PharmD, MS**

Associate Director  
Early Oncology Clinical Science  
AstraZeneca  
Former Fellow

The fellowship afforded me the opportunity to learn about the drug development process and was structured to optimize my exposure to different stages of clinical development. I was constantly learning and applying new concepts and engaging in real time clinical study management while working with a team of experienced and dedicated clinical professionals who fostered an environment of collaboration and cooperation that accelerated my learning process and made AstraZeneca a great place to work. The program was challenging yet rewarding while preparing me for my professional career journey in oncology clinical development.



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## REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicant is currently in 4th year of pharmacy school or has graduated from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in 2023 or 2024.
2. Applicant has demonstrated strong interest in research or has conducted research in relevant scientific fields such as biology/chemistry, clinical research, toxicology, or pharmacokinetics / pharmacodynamics.
3. Applicant demonstrates sufficient communication (written and oral) skills as per prior curriculum requirements or presentation of prior research
4. Applicant has been conferred a PharmD by the start of the fellowship program (fellowship starts on the first week of July 2024)

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## APPLICATION PROCESS

Students will be evaluated by the Executive Committee composed of AstraZeneca and University of Maryland School of Pharmacy staff and are required to submit the following documents:

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 addressed to Gray Kirby, PharmD (either prior employer and/or faculty) as instructed on the Fellowship Application Form
4. A presentation is expected of candidates during the interview process.

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## APPLICATION DEADLINES

- All materials must be submitted by December 1st, 2023
- Applicants will be interviewed on a rolling basis, so early application is encouraged
- Please send all required documents as instructed on the Fellowship Application Form
- Rolling offers will start after December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## For additional information on the program, please contact

- Paul Shapiro, Ph.D. (pshapiro@rx.umaryland.edu) and/or
- Gray Kirby, PharmD (gray.kirby@astrazeneca.com)


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Early Oncology Clinical Development**

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