

Care for Elders: An Interprofessional Modular Curriculum for Geriatrics

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Objective

Interprofessional education and interdisciplinary research to promote interprofessional team functioning in care for elders.

Highlights

- Developed by Dr. Martha Donnelly, Department of Family Practice and Psychiatry at UBC and partners.
- Regional Geriatric Program central has been given exclusive rights to promote this curriculum in Ontario.
- Targeted to interdisciplinary health care professionals in both community and residential care.
- Module program is flexible – use all modules or any combination.
- Program is free – only cost is copying of course materials.
- Evaluation must be completed and submitted to program administrators.

Interprofessional Modular Curriculum

Target Learners: undergraduate, postgraduate, continuing professional development

Facilitators: non-expert

Pre-reading: 1 ½ hours, evidence based

Style: case based

Structure: stand alone two hour modules in the context of a possible 12 week course

Mode of delivery: small group face-to-face (with a possible move to internet teaching later)

Objectives:

1. To improve interprofessional team functioning
2. To learn basic geriatric evidence based content
3. To foster self-directed learning
4. To ultimately improve health care for elders

Feedback to Date...

- Most valuable outcome reported by participants is a greater understanding of other disciplines and how they contribute to quality care of older adults.
- Content is best suited for:
 - Hospital and out-patient outreach programs
 - New staff
 - Team building
 - Providers across the continuum of care
- Material is being developed for LTC homes related to nutrition and hydration.

Curriculum Topics

- Successful Aging
- Interprofessional Team Work
- Falls in the Elderly
- Medications and the Older Adult
- Chronic Neurological Disorders
- Depression and Grief in the Older Adult
- Dementia with Behavioral Problems I (early)
- Dementia with Behavioral Problems II (late)
- Delirium
- Persistent Pain
- Palliative Care

Evaluation

Immediate:

- Degree of realism in case
- Degree of complexity in case
- How could case be improved?
- Completeness of pre-readings
- Degree of content learning
- Degree of team functioning learning
- Facilitator functioning
- Write down two or three things newly learned
- Name two to three changes you will make in your practice

At Six Months or One Year:

- What did you learn?
- What have you changed in your care of patients as result of the learning?
- Has the learning experience changed your team interactions and how?

More information

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