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Houston Geriatric Education Center

Laura Niles, MPH, Research Coordinator

H-GEC Seeks to Demystify Dementia for Oral Health Practitioners

Demystifying Dementia: Fundamentals for the Dental Professional is a new course offered as part of the Houston Geriatric Education Center's (H-GEC) ongoing supplemental funding programs on dementia. The course, to be held Friday, August 23, 2013, targets dentists and dental hygienists to provide an overview of dementia and capacity determination, as well as considerations in dental management and dental therapies.

The patient with dementia presents many challenges for the oral health practitioner. Early intervention and treatment of the patient in the early stages of dementia are imperative to ensuring prolonged oral health in the patient with dementia. As dementia advances, it becomes more difficult to treat the patient. Proper interprofessional training, building trusting relationships with family and caregivers, practical patient management techniques, and knowing signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect to help refer patients in need are necessary to protect the long-term oral and overall health of dementia patients.

This course is the second offering from the H-GEC this year covering dementia-related topics for health care professionals. Other courses offered include improving diagnostic accuracy of dementia; practice issues for professionals treating patients with dementia; and, communicating with dementia patients and their family members.

Meharry Consortium Geriatric Education Center (MCGEC) – Nashville, TN

Grace Smith, LMSW, Project Manager

The Meharry Consortium Geriatric Education Center (Meharry Medical College [MMC], Tennessee State University and Vanderbilt University) has two upcoming Alzheimer's trainings for health practitioners.

An Alzheimer's symposium is scheduled for Sunday, July 28 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the National Medical Association's (NMA) annual meeting in Toronto, Canada. Dr. Charles Mouton, Dean of Meharry's School of Medicine and MCGEC PI, will host and moderate the symposium entitled "New Directions in Alzheimer's Disease, 2013." Dean Mouton chairs the Family Medicine section of the NMA.

Speakers and topics include:

- "Are we Part of the Alzheimer's Story: An Update on Detection and Treatment of AD in African Americans" – Patrick Griffith, MD, FAAN, Morehouse School of Medicine
- "Genetics and Risk Factors for Alzheimer's Disease in African Americans and Caribbean Hispanics – Relevance to Prevention" – Thomas Obisesan, MD, MPH, Howard Univ. College of Medicine

- “Prevention Strategies and Clinical Trials in Alzheimer’s Disease” – Consuelo Wilkins, MD, MSCI, Exec. Dir., Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance

This will be the second year MCGEC has partnered with NMA to offer an Alzheimer’s symposium at the annual meeting.

On July 29, we will begin online registration for the 2013 Geriatric Update, our annual all-day workshop for health profession students, faculty and practitioners. This year’s event will take place Saturday, Sept. 28, and will have a major focus on Alzheimer’s and related dementias, providing attendees with updates on diagnosing and treating Alzheimer’s/dementia, challenges and strategies for early detection, and resources for helping patients and families. Our keynote speaker is Steven DeKosky, MD, Dean of the Univ. of Virginia School of Medicine and Chair of the Advisory Council for ISTAART (Alzheimer’s Association International Society to Advance Alzheimer’s Research and Treatment). Other inter-professional sessions will provide updates on evidence-based practice for transitions of care, personalized medicine for geriatric care, cardiovascular health and memory, diabetes care, and nutrition/dietary interventions. Trainees will earn 6.5 hours of CE credit. MCGEC is pleased to partner with the following organizations to offer the 2013 Geriatric Update: Vanderbilt University Medical Center Nursing Education and Professional Development, Vanderbilt’s Center for Quality Aging, Vanderbilt-Reynolds Geriatric Education Center, the VA-Tennessee Valley Healthcare System GRECC, Vanderbilt’s Memory & Alzheimer’s Center, Mental Health America, the Alzheimer’s Association, Tennessee Geriatrics Society and the Tennessee Association for Long Term Care Physicians. For more information, please visit <http://www.mmc.edu/education/som/centers/academic-centers/geriatric/geriatricupdatehome.html> or call Grace Smith or Mary Ann Ruley at (615) 327-6947.

Montana Geriatric Education Center

Gayle Hudgins, Pharm. D., Director, MTGEC

Terry Egan, M.S., Associate Director, MTGEC

Behavioral Activation in Depression Evidence Based Practice

Montana Geriatric Education Center is one of six GECs in the Depression Evidence Based Practice (EBP) group. In Montana, we are working with three long term care facilities owned by The Goodman Group. In our first two years, we built relationships, assessed the staff’s knowledge of late life depression, provided training and conducted pre- and post-chart audits assessing their recognition and monitoring of depression in their residents. Findings included an improvement in the completion of the Resident Mood Assessment (PHQ-9) and an increase in the charting of depressive symptoms by various members of the health care team.

In year three, the depression group chose to use Behavioral Activation as the intervention strategy. In Montana, forty-one staff members were trained in the three facilities. Staff members learned the basics of behavioral activation and how to incorporate the process into their interactions with residents. A discussion of the process was reinforced with a Behavioral Actions Steps card that staff could refer to in order to remind them of the steps and documentation process. The Behavioral Activation steps card included these four steps: identify activities with the resident, plan activities, do activities and document activities in the EMR.

Ninety-three percent of attendees agreed or strongly agreed that the information was valuable in increasing their knowledge of late life depression and behavior activation. Staff responded positively with ninety-eight percent either agreeing or strongly agreeing that they intend to make changes and apply what was learned to their practice.

A pre-training chart audit was conducted to review the type and frequency of interventions currently occurring with residents who have a diagnosis of depression. The post-training chart audit will take place in July, which allows more time to implement behavioral activation techniques. The results will be analyzed and shared with the depression group and in our report to HRSA.

**Stanford Geriatric Education Center
Stanford University School of Medicine**

Nancy Hikoyeda, DrPH, MPH, Associate Director

160-Hour Faculty Development Program in Ethnogeriatrics

A second cohort of seven trainees has completed the SGEC’s 160-Hour Faculty Development Program in Ethnogeriatrics (FDPE). The rigorous program begins with a four-day intensive training at Stanford Medical School followed by monthly group meetings and individualized mentoring sessions (via teleconferencing), as well as completion of a capstone project. Trainees were awarded a Certificate of Completion in Ethnogeriatrics. The interprofessional trainees and their projects were:

Name	Discipline	Primary Project
Christina Bell, MD, MS (Hawaii)	Geriatric Medicine	Research on dual feeding protocol for NH residents admitted with PEG tube feeding
Christopher Flores, MD (California)	Geriatric Medicine	Pilot survey for family practice physicians on attitudes/beliefs in evaluation/treatment of dementia among ethnically diverse elders
Sonya Hardin, PhD, RN (No. Carolina)	Nursing	Focus groups in Hmong/Filipino communities on use of robotic assistive device (cane) and cohort analysis of Hmong community
Nidhi Mahendra, PhD (California)	Speech/Language Pathology	Development of multilingual resources about stroke/aphasia and quantifying their utilization
Soonhee Roh, PhD (South Dakota)	Social Work	Infused ethnogeriatrics into course on Social Work with Aging Populations; wrote proposal for Am. Indian women/cancer care
Rose Utley, PhD (Missouri)	Nursing	Incorporated emergency preparedness with diverse older populations into emergency care nursing course
Yan Zhang, PhD (Texas)	Health Services Research	Communication trainings for providers about CAM use by older patients

The SGEC looks forward to welcoming a new FDPE cohort who will begin their intensive training July 9-12, 2013. The eight trainees represent the fields of geriatric medicine, nursing, biomedical/health informatics, clinical psychology, and health services. They will arrive from Texas, Washington, California, Illinois, and Massachusetts.

15th Annual Updates on Dementia: Translating Research into Practice

The SGEC was a cosponsor for the local Alzheimer’s Association’s annual conference on May 22, 2013, in Foster City, CA. This year’s theme was Translating Research into Practice. A distinguished panel of researchers and practitioners presented the following topics: Changes in the Diagnosis of Dementia; Legal Aspects of Antipsychotic Medication; and Neurocognitive Disorders – Enhancing the Quality of Life. Dr. Dolores Gallagher-Thompson, Director of the SGEC, spoke on Using Stress Management and Behavioral Activation. The interactive skill-building session was favorably received by the 300+ attendees.

Upcoming Calendar of Events:

<i>DATE</i>	<i>EVENT</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>CONTACT</i>
Every Regular Thursday @ 12:15 p.m.	G&G + Pal Med Grand Rounds & Journal Clubs	San Antonio, TX	Marc Johnson, MPA JohnsonM4@uthscsa.edu 210-562-6557 – www.stgec.net
September 8-11, 2013	Wisconsin Board Review Course & Update in Geriatric Medicine	Lake Geneva, WI	Carol Hermann (608) 280-7000 x 11682 www.geriatricsboardreview.com
September 18-21, 2013	30 th Annual UCLA Intensive Course in Geriatric Medicine and Pharmacy and Board Review	Marina Del Rey Marriott – Marina Del Rey, CA	Kami Chin, MSG (310) 312-0531 Kinfo@ucla.edu
September 24, 2013	The 2013 Conference on Long-Term Care: Powerful Practical Partnerships	Hale Koa Hotel, Honolulu, HI	Aida Wen, MD aidawen@hawaiiantel.net
October 10, 2013	Annual Medico-Legal Summit	San Antonio, TX	Jose Zapata, MS ZapataJ@uthscsa.edu (210) 562-6562 – www.stgec.net
October 9, 2013 – October 11, 2013	Donald W. Reynolds FD~AGE Mini-Fellowship Program, Fall	University of California, Los Angeles	Christy Lau, MSSW ChristyLau@mednet.ucla.edu 310-312-0531
October 11, 2013	Annual Aging Summit	San Antonio, TX	Marc Johnson, MPA JohnsonM4@uthscsa.edu (210) 562-6557 – www.stgec.net
October 15, 2013	Pain Management	Billings, MT & videoconferencing sites	Terry Egan Terry.egan@umontan.edu 406-243-2480 http://www.health.umt.edu/mtgec/home
October 16, 2013	Alzheimer's Disease Update 2013	Billings, MT & videoconferencing sites	Terry Egan Terry.egan@umontan.edu 406-243-2480 http://www.health.umt.edu/mtgec/home

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