



Geriatric Education Centers **PIPELINE**

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Michigan State University, 965 Fee Road, A209 East Fee Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824
(p) 517-353-7828 (f) 517-432-8021 (email) gecm@msu.edu (website) www.gecm@msu.edu
(NAGEC website) www.nagec.org; Editor: Joan Ilardo, PhD; Copy Editor: Alexa Kus, BFA*

Carolina Geriatric Education Center

Cristine B. Clarke, EdD, Coordinator

Ellen Roberts, PhD, Co-Principal Investigator

Jan Busby-Whitehead, MD, Principal Investigator

Otago Exercise Program to be part of the PCORI 30 million dollar effort to prevent falls

The Otago Exercise Program, a fall prevention program delivered by physical therapists (PTs), is one of several evidence-based programs being promoted across 18 states as part of three major national funding initiatives through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Administration for Community Living (ACL), and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). PTs can prepare to meet the upcoming demand for practitioners trained in delivering this program by enrolling at:

<http://www.aheconnect.com/cgec/cdetail.asp?courseid=cgec3> This online course is designed to train PTs to integrate the Otago Exercise Program into their practice. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are studying the implementation of the Otago Exercise Program in the United States, and this training is an outgrowth of their work in New York, Oregon and Colorado. Key member of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) adapted the original New Zealand version of the training manual for the course. Over 1,500 health care professionals have enrolled to date. The course offers 3 CEUs and is approved for credit by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy and NC Greensboro AHEC.

For more information contact:

Cristine Clarke, EdD

Carolina Geriatric Education Center

UNC School of Medicine

(919) 843-6675

cristine_clarke@med.unc.edu

<http://www.med.unc.edu/aging/cgec>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Carolina-Geriatric-Education-Center/286200184868574>

Montana Geriatric Education Center

Gayle Hudgins, Pharm. D., Director

Terry Egan, M.S., Associate Director

2014 MTGEC Conference - Mental Health Issues of Older Veterans

Mental Health Issues of Older Veterans was the focus of the 2014 Montana Geriatric Education Center's Annual Conference. Approximately 292 health care professionals participated in 16 Montana cities including Billings, Helena, Kalispell, Missoula and Butte. Medical centers, hospitals, and academic institutions hosted the conference.

Participants improved their ability to recognize and effectively manage common mental health disorders in aging veterans. Topics and speakers included “Common Health Disorders in Aging Veterans”, Byron Bair, M.D., University of Utah; “Substance Abuse Disorders”, David Oslin, M.D., Pennsylvania Veterans Affairs Medical Center; “PTSD + Aging: Considerations for our Older Veterans”, Emily Tritschuh, Ph.D., VA Puget Sound Geriatric Research Education Clinical Center; and “Cognitive Impairment and Dementia”, Mark Kunik, M.D., Houston VAMC.

After the four presentations by national speakers, a panel of veteran service providers in Missoula discussed their programs and ways for veterans to access veteran services across the state. A veteran also participated and shared his experiences with these services.

“Montana has one of the highest per capita veteran populations in the United States. In 2009 there were over 100,000 veterans living in Montana, a state with a population of less than a million people,” said Gayle Hudgins, director of MTGEC. “Mental health and neurological disorders have been the MTGEC’s focus for this grant cycle and it seemed fitting to include this very deserving population.”

The 2014 conference was a collaboration of the Montana Geriatric Education Center (MTGEC), St Vincent Healthcare, Montana Tech, UM Skaggs School of Pharmacy, the Alzheimer’s Association-Montana Chapter and the Montana Gerontology Society. In addition to the usual program evaluation, participants completed an implementation plan that they will work on in coming months. CE/CME credits were awarded to health care professionals in nine different professions.

Two video case study conferences are planned for early 2015 on mental health issues of aging veterans and, more specifically, Alzheimer’s disease in veterans. These sessions will be based on a patient case and focus on putting knowledge into practice through assessment of patients and the development of care plans including accessing veteran services in Montana.

Meharry Consortium Geriatric Education Centers

*Grace Smith, LMSW, MCGEC Program Manager, Meharry Medical College
Anna Lea Cothron, Program Coordinator, Vanderbilt University*

The Meharry Consortium Geriatric Education Center (Meharry Medical College, Tennessee State University and Vanderbilt University) reports the following upcoming training activities:

Nearly one hundred health practitioners are registered for the free, three-part Gerontology Continuing Education series November 14, 21, and December 5 at Meharry. Each Friday session runs from 8:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and features four topics under a common theme: day one - Dementia Care Revisited, day two - Elder Care and Discharge Planning and day three - Transitions of Care. This series was offered in June at the VA hospital in Nashville, and based on positive feedback, is being offered again at Meharry. For more information, please contact Carol Galvez Gutierrez at cgalvez@mmc.edu

Vanderbilt Nursing Education and Professional Development, Vanderbilt Medical Center’s Palliative Care Unit and the Meharry Consortium GEC are offering monthly End of Life Nursing Education Consortium Trainings. The two-hour sessions are held on the third Thursday of each month and target nurses, staff educators, faculty and interprofessional team members interested in end of life care. The November training will focus on “Symptom Management,” identifying common symptoms associated with end-of-life for patients across the life span, and describing interventions that can prevent or diminish symptoms at the end of life. “Communication” is the topic for the December training, focusing on defining the importance of ongoing communication with the interdisciplinary team, patient and family throughout the end-of-life process, identifying three factors that influence communication in the palliative care setting, and describing important factors in communicating bad news. These trainings can be viewed live, online and through archived video. The September and October sessions, “Introduction to Palliative Care and Cultural Considerations” and “Pain Management,” are both archived and available for viewing. Each training offers 2.25 CEU’s. For more information please visit <http://www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/root/vumc.php?site=vanderbilt-nursing&doc=45813>

Pacific Island Geriatric Education Center

Michiko Inaba, M.D., Assistant Professor of Geriatric Medicine and 2014 Conference Chair

Getting to the Heart of Patient Centered Care:
Pacific Islands GEC Annual Long-Term Care Conference

On Tuesday, October 14, 2014, the PI-GEC held its annual Long-Term Care Conference in Waikiki. The conference theme was “Getting to the Heart of Patient-Centered Care”. In the course of seven short years, this conference has established itself as one of the leading events on the

LTC calendar, thanks to its recognized relevance to the issues we face on a daily basis. This year's conference attracted nearly 200 people (the largest attendance to date), including the neighbor island contingent from Maui, Hawaii Island and Kauai. Attendees represented a diverse group that was truly interdisciplinary in nature. Among the conference participants were medical directors, directors and assistant directors of nursing, directors of social services, directors of rehabilitation services, nursing home administrators, nursing home physicians, nurse practitioners and facility staff in attendance to hear the highly qualified and diverse conference faculty. It was gratifying to see many familiar faces, and also to welcome fresh new faces to the conference.

Jonathan Evans, MD, CMD, Corporate Medical Director of Life Care Centers of America, and immediate Past- President of AMDA was the keynote speaker, and his address on Improving Transitions through Person Centered Approach stressed the importance of collaboration with other team members who can together take into account medical, rehabilitation, cognitive, physical, emotional, nutritional, and financial and caregiver support issues. During his dynamic presentation, he asked us to remember why we chose this area of health care, and he certainly succeeded in inspiring and empowering his audience.

It was truly an interdisciplinary team effort, from the planning committee to the conference faculty and staff, and to the poster presenters. All presentations highlighted and celebrated the strengths and contributions of other team members towards the goal of excellence in patient-centered care—making evident to all that the “heart” of patient-centered care came from the collaborative efforts from all disciplines represented in the room working together to care for our older population. One comment summed up what we had all hoped to achieve through the conference, calling it “a very welcoming environment”.

By the end of the day, many of the participants left armed with new knowledge, re-invigorated, re-energized and validated to continue the important work of providing the best in care to our LTC residents.

West Virginia Geriatric Education Center

Nancy Daugherty, Associate Director

The Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias stakeholder/leadership group help a planning meeting to discuss the upcoming initiatives to include establishing a repository of all training events being held throughout the state that will be set up and maintained by the WV GEC. This format will facilitate collaboration among the various entities conducting training, to include but not limited to, the Alzheimer’s Association, WVMI Quality Insights, Blanchette Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute and supplement current initiatives’ planning and delivery.

Todd H. Goldberg, MD, CMD, FACP Associate Professor and Chief of Geriatrics and Medical Director of Edgewood Summit and East Brook Skilled Nursing Facility gave presentations focusing on specific diseases, syndromes and health conditions to be aware of when caring for older adults to Emergency Medicine, Psychology, OB/GYN residents and medical students. Dr. Goldberg also lectures for the Department of Internal Medicine and Family Medicine several times throughout the year. David P. Elliott, Pharm D, WV GEC Director, Professor and Associate Chair for WVU Department of Clinical Pharmacy covered Caring for Older Adults with Multimorbidity for Pharmacy students during grand rounds.

Jane Marks, Certified Dementia Practitioner and consultant, presented a lively session entitled “Acute Care and the Person with Dementia: Chaos or Calm?” that included a new recommendation for the acute care setting about observation and reporting by all staff when any cognitive functional deficiencies are noted. WV GEC co-sponsors the Geriatrics Lunchtime Learning series, typically held the fourth Wednesday of every month, with the Charleston Area Medical Center Health Education and Research Institute. Attended by hospital-based practitioners, WVU health sciences students and faculty, and community members, the series can be viewed in-person or online. Visit <http://www.wvgec.org/pages/Lunchtime-Learning> for more information.

Kristina M. Hash, LICSW, PhD role with the WV GEC was recently expanded to WV GEC Director of Interprofessional Education which will include collaborating with consortium and faculty partners, WVU Health Sciences Office of Interprofessional Education and others to capitalize on opportunities for interprofessional education, research and practice that also meets faculty partners’ teaching and scholarship objectives.

Stanford Geriatric Education Center

Ann Blick Hamer, MA, LCSW, Dementia Education Specialist

Dolores Gallagher Thompson, PhD, Director

Marian Tzuang, MSW, Program Coordinator

Older LGBT adults and their caregivers experience dementia in much the same way as others, with memory loss, problems with language and thinking, challenging behaviors and new ways of communication. In addition, LGBT older adults with dementia face greater isolation, lack of information about dementia and lack of family support. According to the San Francisco Taskforce on Aging Report of 2014, LGBT seniors and

their caregivers (care partners) experience a lack of access to information about dementia, the dual stigma of LGBT and Dementia, history and fear of discrimination, and often, lack of family and informal caregiver support.

To care for a loved one with dementia, all caregivers require emotional support, education about dementia, good communication with their health care providers (including physicians) and access to services such as respite, in-home care, and long term care in assisted living or nursing home facilities. To best meet the needs, these must be LGBT-affirming services. However, at this time, such services are few and far between.

To address some of these needs, the Stanford Geriatric Education Center, in partnership with Family Caregiver Alliance, Openhouse, The Alzheimer's Association of Northern California and Nevada, the Northern California Geriatric Education Center and the Institute on Aging in San Francisco are hosting a one day educational program about dementia care and caregiving for diverse Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual/Transgender adults. Leading experts and community leaders will be speaking on topics ranging from pharmaceutical and behavioral interventions to manage cognitive changes, understanding the cultural context of assessment, and breaking down barriers to setting up and delivering LGBT affirming resources and services. One of the keynote speakers is Dr. Karen Fredricksen-Goldsen, PhD who will speak on Brain Health, Aging and Priority Needs, in Diverse LGBT Communities. We think her presentation will be of particular interest to this very varied community since she is currently the Principle Investigator of the National Health, Aging and Sexuality Study: Caring and Aging with Pride over Time. She is leading the first national longitudinal study on health disparities of LGBT midlife and older adults and their caregivers.

This program is designed for the LGBT community, their families, friends and partner caregivers, as well as health care/social service providers and policy makers. It will take place on February 20, 2015 at The Milton Marks Conference Center, Hiram W Johnson State Office Building in San Francisco, CA.

Registration information and a link for registering directly will follow in the next Pipeline. The conference will be videotaped and archived on SGEC's website: www.sgec.stanford.edu about one month later.

This is only one of the diverse programs we are providing with the supplemental funding from HRSA for dementia funding. Additional programs include dementia education training for CNAs at local home care agencies, for caregivers at Caregiver Support Groups, for nurses at a local Skilled Nursing Facility, students in Health Care and Gerontology classes at a local community college and for physicians at Stanford Hospital.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER			
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
November 5, 2014	Resource Center for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR): Cognitive Health Disparities Research & National Policy Workshop	Washington, DC	Porsche Johnson porschej@ucla.edu 310-794-9494
November 5, 2014 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Tangles: Educational Theatre of a Day in Life of Person with Dementia (at GSA conference – listed in program as “Transitions” An Interactive Play about an Individual with Dementia)	Washington, DC	Shari Sliwa sonsas@gwu.edu 202-994-7969
November 6-7, 2014	Alzheimer's Disease Annual Update	Madison, WI	Suzanne Bottum-Jones bottumjones@wisc.edu 608-829-3302
November 7, 2014	Acute Care for Elders (ACE) Annual Conference	Milwaukee, WI	Trish Maloney patricia.maloney@aurora.org 414-219-7300
November 19 - 21, 2014	Donald W. Reynolds FD~AGE Mini-Fellowship Program	Los Angeles, CA	Christy Lau, MSSW or Debi Ballantine ChristyLau@mednet.ucla.edu Dballantine@mednet.ucla.edu 310-312-0531
DECEMBER			
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
December 2, 2014 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. ET	“Breaking News on the Horizon: How close are we to curing Alzheimer’s?” videoconference with Dr. Greg Jicha of the University of Kentucky’s Sanders-Brown Center on Aging	Lexington, KY and other remote sites	Hardin Stevens ovargec@uky.edu 859-257-1510 <i>Past presentations in this series can be found at www.cecentral.com/dementia</i>
December 12, 2014 8:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.	27 th Annual Geriatric Symposium: Changing Relationships Along the Dementia Journey	East Lansing, MI	Alexa Kus or Jennifer Roy gecm@msu.edu 517-353-7828
2015			
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
January 9, 2015 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Shared Decision Making for Diverse Patients and Families for Dialysis and Other End of Life Considerations: A Skill-Based Learning Conference	Redwood City, CA	Annecy Majoros, Program Assistant, Stanford GEC amajoros@stanford.edu (650)721-1023 Registration details soon to follow. http://sgec.stanford.edu/Shared_Decision_Making_for_Diverse_Patients_and_Families_for_Dialysis_and_Other_EOL_Con siderations.html
January 20, 2015	Case Conference: Mental Health Issues of Older Veterans	Billings, Missoula & teleconference sites in MT	Terry Egan Terry.Egan@umontana.edu 406-243-2480 www.health.umt.edu/mtgec
February 11 - 13, 2015	Donald W. Reynolds FD~AGE Mini-Fellowship Program	Los Angeles, CA	Christy Lau, MSSW or Debi Ballantine ChristyLau@mednet.ucla.edu Dballantine@mednet.ucla.edu 310-312-0531
February 20, 2015 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Preparing for the Changing Horizon: Dementia Awareness and Caregiving for LGBT Older Adults in Diverse Communities	San Francisco, CA	Marian Tzuang, Program Coordinator, Stanford GEC mtzuan@stanford.edu (650)721-1023 Registration details soon to follow.

February 24, 2015	Case Conference: Dementia in Older Veterans	Billings, Missoula & teleconference sites in MT	Terry Egan Terry.Egan@umontana.edu 406-243-2480 www.health.umt.edu/mtgec
March 13 -14, 2015	13 th Annual Leadership & Management in Geriatrics	Long Beach, CA	Christy Lau, MSSW ChristyLau@mednet.ucla.edu 310-312-0531
March 27, 2015 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Geriatrics Lunchtime Learning “Health Literacy: Do Your Patients Understand?” Nancy Daugherty, WVGEC Associate Director Todd H. Goldberg, MD, CMD, FACP	Charleston, WV	Hanna Thurman hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu 304-347-1225 (To access this program via webcast, please visit http://www.camcinstitute.org/education/catalogs/geriatrics.htm
April 3 – 5, 2015	Advanced Geriatrics Skills Training	Bridgeport, WV	Hanna Thurman hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu 304-347-1225 http://www.wvgec.org/pages/AGES
April 16, 2015	National Healthcare Decisions Day	Charleston, WV	Hanna Thurman hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu 304-347-1225
April 23, 2015 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Geriatrics Lunchtime Learning “Etomidate vs. Propofol in the Elderly” Fred H. Meyers Jr, DMPNA Candidate	Charleston, WV	Hanna Thurman hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu 304-347-1225 (To access this program via webcast, please visit http://www.camcinstitute.org/education/catalogs/geriatrics.htm
May 6 - 8, 2015	Donald W. Reynolds FD~AGE Mini-Fellowship Program	Los Angeles, CA	Christy Lau, MSSW or Debi Ballantine ChristyLau@mednet.ucla.edu Dballantine@mednet.ucla.edu 310-312-0531

The Geriatric Education Center of Michigan (GECM) is not responsible for the content of the newsletter, other than GECM articles. GECM edits to enhance readability, appropriateness and format.