Fall Prevention: Translating Knowledge Into Action

2009 ASA/NCOA Joint Conference Workshop
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Teaching Fall Prevention in California Colleges

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Workforce Preparation for the Aging Population

- IoM “Retooling for an Aging America”

- U.S. HRSA/Bureau of Health Professions
  - Geriatric Training Initiative

- CA data demonstrating service providers have had poor exposure to “aging” content
The California Geriatric Education Center (CGEC)

- Evidence-based Health Promotion Programs based on AoA Model programs
- Research → Community → Academic Training
- Linked content to GGA professional competencies

The Fall Prevention Center of Excellence is supported by the Archstone Foundation
Geriatrics & Gerontology
Professional Competencies

• Assn for Gerontology in Higher Education
• Am Assoc of Colleges of Nursing
• Council on Social Work Education
• Am Assoc of Medical Colleges
• Am Society for Consulting Pharmacists
• None for Dentistry
• None for Public Health
### Fall Prevention Competencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEDICINE</th>
<th>SOCIAL WORK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Ask ...about falls in the last year, watch the patient rise from a chair and walk (or transfer), then record and interpret the findings</td>
<td>1. Respect and promote older adult clients’ right to dignity and self-determination</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. In a patient who has fallen, construct a differential diagnosis and evaluation plan...</td>
<td>2. Respect diversity among older adult clients, families, and professionals...</td>
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<td>3. Identify and assess safety risks in the home environment...</td>
<td>3. Evaluate the effectiveness of practice and programs in achieving intended outcomes for older adults.</td>
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## Fall Prevention Competencies

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<th>GERONTOLOGY</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Assist older adults, families, and caregivers to understand and balance “everyday” autonomy and safety decisions</td>
<td>1. Understand common threats to loss of independence</td>
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<td>2. Assess older adults’ living environment…</td>
<td>2. Use technology to enhance older adults’ function, independence, and safety</td>
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<td>3. Apply evidence-based standards to reduce risk…promote healthy activities…</td>
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<td>4. Recognize and manage geriatric syndromes common to older adults</td>
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The CGEC EBHP Faculty Development Program

• 64 GGA faculty attended from 32 colleges

• 48 Action Plans to incorporate EBHP content into training programs

• 23 APs focused on Falls Prevention
  – Develop a new course module, a new fieldwork or clinical experience

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EBHP Curricula Tools
The Importance of EBHP Curricula in GGA* Education

• Demonstrated positive outcomes
• Positive learning experience
• Prepare students for new job opportunities
• Interdisciplinary
• Relate to professional competencies

*GGA = Gerontology, Geriatrics and Aging
For More Information

California Geriatric Education Center

Website:  Geronet.ucla.edu/centers
Phone:  310.312.0531