Montana Geriatric Education Center
Online Geriatric Education Program

Description of Modules 2016-2017

CORE CURRICULUM

Biology of Aging, by Betty Mullette, MSN, RN, Center for Clinical Translational Research, Billings Clinic and updated by Steven Glow, RN, Associate Clinical Professor, Montana State University College of Nursing

(2 contact hours)

This module will present demographic information of the aging population, health status concerns, theories of aging, and biology of aging for the different health systems

End of Life Care in Older Adults, by Jeannine M. Brant, PhD, APRN, AOCN, Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist and Nurse Specialist, Assistant Affiliate Professor, Montana State University College of Nursing

(2 contact hours)

This module will present an overview of end of life care in older adult population. The module includes components of holistic care that encompasses the body, the mind, and the spirit. Palliative care and hospice are discussed along with common causes of death in older adults, common symptoms at the end of life, strategies to manage deleterious symptoms at the end of life, and psychosocial, spiritual, and quality of life issues.

Health Promotion and Wellness for Older Adults, by Ann Williams, PhD, PT, Montana Geriatric Education Center, University of Montana

(2 contact hours)

This module will discuss common definitions of health and wellness; healthy aging; primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention and methods to promote behavioral change. Common health screens for older persons will be identified. Rural and cultural issues associated with health promotion along with weight control and exercise as health promotion activities will be explored. An overview of prevention strategies for common health problems of older persons with emphasis on cardiovascular disease and hypertension, osteoporosis, diabetes, osteoarthritis, multiple medications, smoking, sleep disorders, injuries, and mental health will be reviewed.

Nutritional Concerns of Older Persons, by Sarah J. Miller, Pharm D, BCNSP, Skaggs School of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmacy Practice, University of Montana

(2 contact hours)

This module will address nutrition concerns of older persons. Age-related changes and conditions common in the elderly that affect nutritional status or requirements will be explored. Chronic diseases and other problems seen commonly in the elderly for whom nutrition issues may play an etiological role will be discussed. Nutritional assessment of the elderly, including screening and assessment tools, will be covered. Finally, the module will examine special concerns regarding use of enteral and parenteral nutrition in the elderly.
Patients as Partners, Lee Stadtlander, PhD, Psychology Faculty, Walden University

(2 contact hours)

This module describes a six step approach to a collaborative model of the provider-patient relationship. Various methods for effective communication and special issues associated with older persons and persons of different ethnic backgrounds are included. Case studies with specific suggestions for providers are also provided.

Psychosocial Issues of Aging, Monica Trimble, MSW, LCSW, Home and Community Based Services, Community Medical Center, Missoula, MT

(2 contact hours)

This module will present the psychological, social, and spiritual aspect and issues of aging with a focus on the interaction between individuals and social systems.

GERIATRIC HEALTH SCREENING CURRICULUM

Assessment of Caregiver Strain, Allison Duffy, RN, MN, Assistant Professor, Montana Tech Nursing, University of Montana

(2 contact hours)

This module will present screening techniques to identify caregiver strain in older adults and provide counseling and/or follow-up resources. The Modified Caregiver Strain Index (MCSI) is discussed as a tool which can screen caregivers over time and across the health care continuum. The tool can be administered and interpreted by health care providers from multiple disciplines so that appropriate referrals for follow up and support can be included in the plan of care.

Fall Prevention in Community-Dwelling Older Adults, Ashley J. Green, DPT, Tia R. Pester, DPT, Megan Sproull, DPT, Mindy Oxman Renfro, PT, PhD, DPT, GCS, CPH, Research Assistant Professor, School of Physical Therapy, University of Montana

(2 contact hours)

This module will present an overview of the incidence and prevalence of falls, review the risk factors of falls, discuss the use of STEADI (STopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths, & Injuries) and screening tests to identify fall risk and provide a summary of fall prevention strategies based upon individualized risk factors for community-dwelling older adults.

Overview of Geriatric Health Screening, Kim Madson, Pharm D, Clinical Pharmacist, St. Patrick Hospital & Health Sciences Center, Missoula, MT

(2 contact hours)

The module will discuss the basic issues that surround health screening in the geriatric population including the current status of healthcare pertaining to the aging population, governmental (national and state) initiatives to address the health concerns of older adults, patient-related barriers to performing geriatric health screening and frequently encountered terms in health screening.

Updated: 02/2017
Screening for Cognitive Impairment, Diana Reetz-Stacey, MSW (In consultation with Jane C. Wells, MD, MHS)

(2.5 contact hours)

This module will present an overview of the incidence and prevalence of cognitive decline in the older adult population; review of signs and symptoms of cognitive decline in older persons; discuss screening tests used to identify cognitive decline; and provide a summary of treatment and follow-up options, including appropriate referral sources for older adults with cognitive decline.

Screening for Depression in Older Adults, Diana Reetz-Stacey, MSW (In consultation with Jane C. Wells, MD, MHS)

(2 contact hours)

This module will present an overview of the incidence and prevalence of depression in the older adult population; review of signs and symptoms of depression in older persons; discuss screening tests used to identify depression; and provide a summary of treatment and follow-up, including appropriate referral sources for older adults with depression.

Screening for Diabetes in Older Adults, Kim Madson, PharmD, Skaggs School of Pharmacy, University of Montana and updated by Rose Macklin, PharmD, BCPS, Partners in Home Care, Missoula, MT

(2 contact hours)

This module will discuss the basic issues that surround screening for diabetes in the geriatric population.

Screening for Lipid Disorders in Older Adults, by Kim Madson, PharmD, Skaggs School of Pharmacy, University of Montana and updated by Katherine Hale, PharmD, BCPS, Skaggs School of Pharmacy, University of Montana

(2 contact hours)

This module will discuss the basic issues which surround screening for lipid abnormalities in the geriatric population.

Screening for Osteoporosis in Older Adults, Kim Madson, PharmD, Skaggs School of Pharmacy, University of Montana and updated by Kerry Haney, PharmD, BCPS, Skaggs School of Pharmacy, University of Montana

(2.3 contact hours)

This module will discuss the impact of osteoporosis in the elderly population, discuss screening technology available for osteoporosis, and provide non-pharmacological interventions for osteoporosis.
Viral Hepatitis Update, Michael Rivey, M.S. Pharm, BCPS, FASHP, and Jessi Cahoon, PharmD, Skaggs School of Pharmacy, University of Montana

(3.0 contact hours)

This module has been designed to provide the reader with a general overview of the three major forms of viral hepatitis that have major health care ramifications in the United States. Attention is given to risk factors, clinical presentations, laboratory testing, preventative strategies, updated guidelines for the screening of hepatitis C in older adults, and treatments for hepatitis A, B, and C. Secondly, the process for screening with the OraQuick® HCV Rapid Antibody Test is delineated with the goal of providing a training document for health care professionals and health professions students, including those involved with the ImProving Health Among Rural Montanans (IPHARM) program.

HEALTH ISSUES

Cancer in Older Adults, Jeannine M. Brant, PhD, MS, AOCN, Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist and Nurse Specialist, Assistant Affiliate Professor, Montana State University College of Nursing

(4 contact hours)

This module will present an overview of end of life care in the older adult population. The module includes components of holistic care that encompasses the body, the mind, and the spirit. Palliative care and hospice are discussed along with common causes of death in older persons, common symptoms at the end of life, strategies to manage deleterious symptoms at the end of life, and psychosocial, spiritual, and quality of life issues.

Cardiovascular Disorders and Aging, Larry A. Dent, PharmD, BCPS, Skaggs School of Pharmacy, University of Montana, Missoula, MT

(4 contact hours)

This module presents an overview of the epidemiology, associated risk factors, and strategies for prevention of cardiovascular disease. The pathophysiology, clinical presentation, and treatment of hypertension, dyslipidemia, and ischemic heart disease are discussed.

Cognitive Decline and Dementia in Older Adults, by Paul Bach, PhD, Einstein Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA and revised by Robert Velin, PhD, Community Physician Group, Missoula, MT

(2 contact hours)

This module describes the characteristics of the stages of the continuum of mild cognitive impairment to dementia, differentiates the various types of dementia and reviews management strategies for cognitive impairment to dementia.
Endocrine Disorders and Aging, Betty J. Mullette, MSN, RN, Clinical Outcomes Research Nurse, Center for Clinical Translational Research, Billings Clinic and updated by Rose Macklin, PharmD, BCPS, Partners in Home Care, Missoula, MT

(4 contact hours)

This module will present common definitions of endocrine disorders, specifically pertaining to diabetes and thyroid disorders. Common health screens for these disorders, ethnic and cultural influences pertinent to the disorders, screening and/or assessment tools, and an overview of prevention strategies will be included.

Late Life Depression, by Julie Pullen MS, LPC, MSN, FNP, GNP-NP-C, Clinical Associate Professor, Montana State University College of Nursing, Billings, MT and updated by Patricia Holkup, PhD, RN, Professor Emerita, Montana State University College of Nursing, Missoula, MT

(2 contact hours)

This module reviews the background of geriatric depression as a mental health crisis, barriers to assessment and treatment of depression among older persons, some unique clinical presentations of the depressed elder, and an overview of treatment modalities including pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic interventions.

Musculoskeletal Disorders and Aging, by Celeste Peterson, MD and updated by Ann Williams, PhD, PT, Montana Geriatric Education Center, University of Montana

(4 contact hours)

This module will aid the student in understanding normal changes in physical function with aging as well as the most common musculoskeletal issues facing the geriatric population. These are: Physical Functioning and Aging, Osteoarthritis and Falls.

Respiratory Disorders and Aging, Douglas R. Allington, PharmD, BCPS, and Kendra Keeley Proccaci, Pharm.D., BCPS, AE-C, Skaggs School of Pharmacy, University of Montana Missoula, MT

(4 contact hours)

This module will present information regarding the normal changes in lung function due to aging, as well as describing the pathological changes, appropriate screening tests, diagnosis and treatment of four major respiratory disorders common in adult and geriatric populations: pneumonia, asthma, chronic bronchitis and emphysema.

Skin, Wounds and Aging, Karen Zulkowski, DNS, RN, CWS, Associate Professor, Montana State University-Bozeman, College of Nursing

(4 contact hours)

This module will present an overview on the structure and function of aging skin. Discussion of problems associated with aging skin includes: classification and identification of wounds, assessment, and current treatment and therapies.
Urogenital Disorders and Aging, Rachel Rockafellow, MSN, RN, CCCN, Bozeman Deaconess Urological Associates

(4 contact hours)

This module will present age-related changes of the urogenital system and pathologies common in the aging urogenital system along with related gastrointestinal components. Male and female differences in the aging urogenital system will be discussed. It will explore prevention and treatment strategies for older adults for common urogenital and related gastrointestinal problems including lifestyle changes, nutrition, and exercise.

EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Collaborative Practices for the Clinical Environment, Dave Levison, PT, MHS, Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education, School of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitative Sciences, University of Montana

(2 contact hours)

The focus of this module is to assist the participant in developing an understanding of the concepts of Interprofessional Collaboration that can allow for improved patient satisfaction, clinical outcomes and team member participation no matter what the setting, patient population, or disciplines involved.

Principles of Adult Learning, Jeanne R. Conner, MN, APRN, FNP-C, MSU-Bozeman College of Nursing, Billings Campus

(2 contact hours)

Provides an overview of research studies relevant to how adults learn. Included in the module are a discussion of related assessment strategies and the practical application of adult learning principles to the design of health care focused educational activities for adult learners.

Small Group Facilitation, Robert Deaton, EdD, Professor Emeritus, School of Social Work, University of Montana

(2 contact hours)

Understanding small group dynamics—theory, practice and practical applications with older persons—encompasses the scope of the module. The six-stage model for group development by Sue Henry is the approach used to develop and analyze group process.

Teaching and Assessment, Jean Carter, PharmD, PhD, Associate Professor, Skaggs School of Pharmacy, University of Montana

(2 contact hours)

The purpose of this module is to introduce concepts and methods for teaching and assessing students in classroom and clinical teaching sites. The module consists of four main sections, which should be completed in the order they are presented.
Web-Based Teaching, Danielle Wozniack, MSW, ACSW, PhD, Associate Professor, BSW Program Director, School of Social Work, University of Montana

*(4 contact hours)*

This module will walk you through information you need to have in order to create a positive, engaging and well-designed web based teaching and learning experience.