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Reframing Aging in the Geriatric ED

Expert Panel Webinar

Monday, May 15, 2023

3:00–4:00PM EST

Moderated by:



Don Melady, MD, MSc(Ed)
Emergency Physician
Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, Canada
GEDC Faculty

How does ageism present itself in your ED?

190 Registrants from 16 countries

Expectation and assumptions of what “old” looks like

Forgetting core clinical teaching: delirium and dementia are not the same!

Perception that caring for older patients is time-consuming and slow

Under-triage; under-recognition of geriatric syndromes

Dismissive language and behaviour

Assumption of frailty and dependence and impairment as a norm

Institutional lack of resources for older people

Not recognizing age-related difference

Potential for quality-of-care inequity

Lack of physical infrastructure: signage, beds,

Language: “social admission”, “community admission”, “failure to cope”

Not addressing “what matters most”

gedcollaborative.com

Mission & Vision

A world where all emergency departments provide the highest quality of care for older patients.

We transform and evaluate interdisciplinary best practice in geriatric emergency medicine, and then build and distribute practical, evidence-based clinical curriculum and quality improvement tools that support sustainable, quality care for older adults.

<https://gedcollaborative.com/membership/>

Membership

GEDC Members work together to transform ED care of older adults; catalyze action at local and national levels to support these care transformations; and evaluate the impact of these new models of care for older people.

- **Make your plan to become a GED**
- **Access to GEDC Community**
- **Participate in consulting services**
- **Access to education tools**
- **Implementation tools and training**
- **Evaluation resources**



**Join
the
GEDC**

Poll

Have you witnessed an ageist practice in your clinical setting?

- **Yes (%)**
- **No (%)**

Meet Your Expert Panel

The Geriatric Emergency
Department Collaborative

**What questions
do you have
for our panelists?**



Marcus Escobedo, MPA
Vice President Communications
& Senior Program Officer
The John A. Hartford Foundation



Nida Degesys, MD
Age Friendly Emergency Department (AFED)
University of California San Francisco



Dyan Hagy, MSW
Emergency Department Social Worker
Cleveland Veterans Administration



Brittany Palladino MSN, CNL, RN
Nurse Care Manager ED and Observation Units
Yale New Haven Hospital
New Haven, CT



In a JUST society, everyone can participate

Take away points: Marcus Escobedo

1. Start with yourself:

- Check your own internalized ageism and use these tools to reframe your own language and behavior.
- Model and influence others' behaviors. In particular, use inclusive language that aging is about all of us.

2. Call out and define ageism when you see it. Use a fairness and justice frame

3. Use www.ReframingAging.org resources

Take away points: Nida Degesys

1. Clinicians, both doctors and nurses, have been trained to believe that “normal” is the same for *all* adults. Think again.
2. Much research about clinical conditions is inherently ageist. The results and their guidance need to be interpreted through an anti-ageist lens.
3. Older adults generally don't present with “classic” symptoms in the way we have been trained to expect.
4. The patient must be the central person in the conversation. Welcome caregivers with the patient -- but do not defer to them.

Take away points: Dyan Hagy

1. Identify your biases and their impact on patient care
2. Make SMALL changes. Regardless of your system's size and mission, find ways to include age-specific questions in your assessments and age-appropriate additions to your care plans.
3. Advocate for change within your system: addition of care processes, transitions of care, addition of education, changing strategic priorities for the ED and hospital.

Take away points: Brittany Palladino

1. Use your resources, whatever they may be, to provide the best care and care plan: with these interdisciplinary and community resources you can collaborate to provide creative, age-appropriate, patient-centered care.
2. Educate yourself! Increase your self-awareness and knowledge of how *you do care* vs. how *you should* care for older patients.
3. Advocate for your patient. Take a moment to *hear* them and what their needs are. Advocate for that care.

Learn More: GEDC Resources



Resources Events Research

Strategies to Combat Ageism in Emergency Medicine

Volume 3 | Issue 2 | Article 2 - Topic Supplement

May 10, 2022

Anita Chary, MD PhD, Lauren Cameron-Comasco, MD, FACEP, Anita Rohra, MD, FACEP, Shan W. Liu, MD ScD

Full Text

Share on



Resources Events Research

Language Matters: The Power of Words in the ED

May 15, 2023

By Mary-Lynn Peters, RN(EC), NP-Adult, MS, Wendy Zeh, RN, Alekhya Johnson, MPH, and Barbara Liu, MD, FRCPC

Share on

<https://gedcollaborative.com/jgem/strategies-to-combat-ageism-in-emergency-medicine/>

<https://gedcollaborative.com/article/language-matters-the-power-of-words-in-the-ed/>

Regional Geriatric Programme of Toronto: A guide to person-centred language in documentation and communication





Q & A

Ask your questions
in the chat!

We will try to get to everyone

Resources

1. National Center of Reframing Aging Initiative: <https://www.reframingaging.org>
2. Reframing Aging Initiative Guide: <https://www.reframingaging.org/Portals/GSA-RA/images/RAI%20Communication%20Best%20Practices%20Guide%20220328.pdf>
3. The Why and How of Reframing Aging Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X6rqcHytmtQ>
4. Frame of Mind: Reframing Aging from Them to Us Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OMUnMAzEUew>
5. Frame of Mind: Starting Strong, Avoiding Traps Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_4bm2kFpr4
6. Age-Friendly Healthcare Quick Guide: <https://changingthenarrativeco.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/CTN-Age-Friendly-Healthcare-Quick-Guide-Final-12062021.pdf>
7. Changing the Narrative Ageism in Healthcare White Paper https://changingthenarrativeco.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/JVAtoCtN_AgeisminHealthcare_WhitePaper_FINAL012821.pdf
8. JGEM Journal Strategies to Combat Ageism in Emergency Medicine: <https://institutionalrepository.aah.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1029&context=jgem>
9. GEDC Blog on non-ageist language: <https://gedcollaborative.com/article/language-matters-the-power-of-words-in-the-ed/>
10. Regional Geriatric Programme of Toronto guide to patient-centred language: <https://rgptoronto.ca/resources-for-organizations/implement-person-centred-language-in-patient-documentation/>



OUR NEXT GEDC
EXPERT PANEL WEBINAR

Geriatric ED Care in Rural and Remote Communities

August 14, 2023
3-4pm EST



Register now:

<https://gedcollaborative.com/event/caring-for-rural-communities-in-the-geriatric-ed/>





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