



00:36:03 Conor Sullivan:

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the Geriatric Emergency Department Collaborative's webinar, May 17th, "The Geriatric ED: Making the Case for Its Financial Impact"

Today's webinar is being recorded and a link the recording and the slides will be on the GEDC website event page by mid-week. Link to the webinar recording and slides:

<https://gedcollaborative.com/events>

Check out essential GED Resources on the GEDC website

<https://gedcollaborative.com/resources>

Many thanks,

GEDC team

00:36:32 Conor Sullivan: Moderated by - Don Melady @geri\_EM

Emergency physician at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto and a faculty member of the GEDC.

<https://geri-em.com>

A website for education for doctors and nurses in the ED – CI and five other GED modules

00:38:55 Conor Sullivan:

If you share our vision, your ED can join us, currently for free. Check out [GEDCOLLABORATIVE.com](https://gedcollaborative.com)

Please follow us on Twitter [@theGEDC](https://twitter.com/theGEDC).

Additionally, please review the GEDC Membership Criteria and Application.

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

00:39:41 Conor Sullivan: The GEDC is generously supported by the John A. Hartford Foundation and the Gary and Mary West Foundation. Thank you!

- The John A. Hartford Foundation  
<https://www.johnahartford.org/>

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- West health Resources Page  
<https://www.westhealth.org/>

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West's specific work around GEDs here: <https://www.westhealth.org/geriatric-emergency-care/>

00:40:14 Conor Sullivan: Reminder: all your questions and comments to be seen, please be sure to have your chat set to "ALL PANELISTS AND ATTENDEES"

00:40:47 Evelyn Henslee: Joy Henslee

00:40:47 Marcela McGeorge: Roper St. Francis Healthcare in Charleston, SC

00:40:48 Ula Hwang: New Haven, ED Attending



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Chat Notes

- 00:40:49 michelle moccia: Livonia, Michigan. Program Director, Level 1 Senior ER
- 00:40:49 Claude Stang: Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, Exec Director ED
- 00:40:49 Cari Jones: Cari Jones, Geriatric Emergency Nurse from UC San Diego.
- 00:40:51 Patrick Archambault: Patrick Archambault, Université Laval, QC, Canada
- 00:40:57 Evelyn Henslee: HI Tifani Kinard
- 00:41:00 Julie Dye: Julie Dye, CNS, Program Mgr - Sharp Grossmont Emergency Department Geriatric ED
- 00:41:01 Kerri Burghardt: Calling from St. Mary's General Hospital in NJ. I am the Lead of Geriatrics, and also do Quality and PI
- 00:41:02 Hannah McClellen: Hannah McClellen, Assistant Nurse Manager, Stanford Health Care
- 00:41:04 Jennifer Raymond: Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center: GED Medical Director, Nurse Program Manager, and Project Manager
- 00:41:05 Mickey Bryant: Mickey Bryant ED Director Northwest Medical Center Bentonville AR
- 00:41:06 Bret Levy: Penn Medicine-Lancaster General Health
- 00:41:06 Pamela martin: Yale New Haven Health , geriatric ED NP
- 00:41:06 Ray Kennedy: Ray Kennedy, VA physician Louisville KY
- 00:41:06 Rebecca Willis: Becky Willis Advocate Aurora Healthcare, Wisconsin. Case Manager
- 00:41:07 Ken Forte: Ken Forte, APRN Bridgeport Hospital - Yale New Haven Health - Emergency Department Business Manager
- 00:41:11 Evelyn Henslee: Rome GA
- 00:41:12 Sandra Piedra: Sandy Piedra Clinical Director Emergency Services Burlingame California
- 00:41:12 Sarah Connelly: Sarah Connelly Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, GEM RN
- 00:41:15 Terri Middlebrooks: Terri Middlebrooks Geriatric Liaison UAB
- 00:41:16 Christopher Carpenter: Chris Carpenter, Washington University in St. Louis and Missouri Baptist Medical Center
- 00:41:16 Jennifer Wong: Jennifer Wong, RN, Kaiser ED San Francisco
- 00:41:18 alan j gianotti: Geriatrics Champion - Mills Peninsula Hospital, Bay Area, California
- 00:41:19 Evelyn Henslee: Floyd Polk Medical Center Cedartown, GA Clinical Nurse Manager
- 00:41:26 Daniel Cheng: Queens medical Honolulu, Assistant Chief
- 00:41:27 Alexandra Piatkowski: Alexandra Piatkowski, Project Manager of the GEM Initiative, University Health Network, Toronto, Ontario Canada
- 00:41:33 Christian Nickel: Christian Nickel, ED physician, Switzerland
- 00:41:34 Emily Simmons: Emily Simmons- Geriatric/NICHE coordinator at UAB Hospital
- 00:41:38 Nikki Webb: Nikki Webb, Geriatrics Program Manager, Duke Regional Hospital, Durham, NC
- 00:41:39 Raphaelle Giguere: Raphaelle Giguere, bioinformatics, Laval university, Qc, Canada

00:41:43 Conor Sullivan: Today's Expert Panelists:

- Ula Hwang, MD, MPH, FACEP (GEDC Co-PI)  
Professor and Vice Chair for Research,  
Department of Emergency Medicine  
Yale School of Medicine
- Kevin Biese, MD, MAT (GEDC Co-PI)  
Associate Professor of Medicine and Internal Medicine  
Vice Chair of Academic Affairs  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- Scott Wilber, MD, MPH  
Chief Medical Officer  
Mount Carmel East Hospital  
Columbus, Ohio

Moderated by:

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

00:41:45 Katie Hester: Katie Hester, ED Social Worker, VA Medical Center, Aurora CO

00:41:50 Scott Rodi: Scott Rodi, Chair EM Dartmouth

00:41:50 Carrie Manke: Carrie Manke, DNP, APRN, AGCNS-BC, CEN  
District Clinical Nurse Specialist, Palomar Health, Escondido CA

00:41:53 Michael Faircloth: Michael Faircloth, Chief of EM, Columbia VA Health Care System

00:41:55 ian rodriguez: Ian Rodriguez -- ED Director, Montclair, CA

00:42:06 Martine Sanon: Martine Sanon- Geriatrics Mount Sina Hospital NYC

00:42:10 Emilie Cote: Emilie Côté, Research Coordinator, Lévis (Qc) Canada

00:42:13 Jeffrey Riedel: Jeff Riedel, MSN, RN, CEN. Manager of Emergency Services,  
MemorialCare Saddleback Medical Center, Laguna Hills, CA

00:42:14 Thomas Dreher-Hummel: Thomas Dreher ANP University Hospital Basel, Switzerland

00:42:15 nicole tidwell: Nicole Tidwell, Geriatric Accreditation Program Manager, ACEP

00:42:19 Raphaelle Giguere: Raphaelle Giguere, bioinformatics, Laval university, Qc, Canada

00:42:29 Kara Desjardins: Kara Desjardins; ED Admin Director Dartmouth-Hitchcock

00:42:46 aaron malsch: Aaron Malsch, Advocate Aurora Geri ED Manager (WI & IL)

00:42:57 Cynthia Hillmon/Lopez: Cynthia Hillmon/Lopez RN, Nurse Manager, ED, Topeka KS



- 00:43:00 Hidetake Yamanaka: NP, The Ottawa Hospital, Canada
- 00:43:10 Tess Hogan: We have a very diverse group including nurses, social workers, case managers and administrators today
- 00:43:13 Suzanne Ryer: Suzie Ryer, Project Coordinator/Physical Therapist, Advocate Aurora Health
- 00:43:40 Michelle Smithson: Michelle Smithson Clinical Nurse Manager, Franklin ED  
Kettering Health- Franklin, OH
- 00:43:50 Tess Hogan: We have attendees from 4 countries
- 00:44:00 jane carmody: hello, from New York City with The John A. Hartford Foundation
- 00:44:00 Annie Toulouse-Fournier: Centre intégré en santé et services sociaux de Chaudière-Appalaches, Université Laval, Québec, Canada
- 00:44:04 Ken Forte: Cost
- 00:44:09 Kerri Burghardt: Staffing seems to be an issue. Education and staffing
- 00:44:11 Katherine Campbell: staffing
- 00:44:11 Ula Hwang: Cost and time
- 00:44:14 Rebecca Willis: staffing
- 00:44:20 Carrie Manke: Cost and resources
- 00:44:21 Sandra Piedra: Cost and staffing
- 00:44:21 Michelle Smithson: Budget
- 00:44:21 aaron malsch: ROI
- 00:44:22 Ioanna Genovezos: Increase LOS
- 00:44:22 ian rodriguez: cost, education, staffing
- 00:44:23 michelle moccia: Hospital leadership does not see the benefit.
- 00:44:23 Jennifer Raymond: cost and staffing
- 00:44:23 Nikki Webb: Competing priorities, staffing
- 00:44:24 Alexandra Piatkowski: Time and resources, dedicated staff
- 00:44:24 Claude Stang: Organization priorities
- 00:44:24 Cari Jones: Staffing
- 00:44:25 Katie Hester: staff worried it creates "more work"
- 00:44:25 Scott Wilber: Competing priorities
- 00:44:25 Pamela martin: staffing
- 00:44:28 Conor Sullivan: And We'd like you to take 30 seconds to answer this question:  
What might your sites' reasons AGAINST geriatric ED change be?
- 00:44:32 Christopher Carpenter: Virtually zero formal cost-effectiveness research published on geri ED interventions



- 00:44:33 Sandra Grgas: resources
- 00:44:34 Patrick Archambault: Duplication with current roles that should be done by physicians and nurses already in the ED
- 00:44:38 Mickey Bryant: Cost and staffing
- 00:44:40 Thomas Dreher-Hummel: Staffing
- 00:45:43 Tess Hogan: Access to More staff rather than staff efficiency is a reason why people are joining the webinar
- 00:46:36 Conor Sullivan:  
Ula Hwang, MD, MPH, FACEP, (GEDC Co-PI)  
Professor and Vice Chair for Research,  
Department of Emergency Medicine  
Yale School of Medicine  
ula.hwang@yale.edu
- 00:47:18 Conor Sullivan: JAMA, Association of a Geriatric Emergency Department Innovation Program With Cost Outcomes Among Medicare Beneficiaries  
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2776803>; March 1, 2021  
Ula Hwang, MD, MPH; Scott M. Dresden, MD, MS; Carmen Vargas-Torres, MA; et al
- 00:49:24 Senam Adedze: In your opinion, what is the main financial benefit of a Geriatric ED?  
21% - Improved reputation and increased market share  
25% - Decreased hospital admissions  
14% - Decreased length of stay and resource used  
31% - Decreased return of visits  
8% Improved staff efficiency by off-loading complex care
- 00:51:13 Tess Hogan: Study weighed patient characteristics to limit bias
- 00:52:34 Tess Hogan: It is likely that one ED intervention has the greatest impact close to the visit itself
- 00:53:25 Tess Hogan: Most of the savings likely came from avoidable hospitalizations
- 00:53:37 Conor Sullivan: Top Ten interventions:  
1. Risk assessment for adverse outcomes from the ED.  
2. Risk assessments for cognitive impairment and delirium.  
3. Risk assessments and interventions to decrease falls and improve mobility, consult or refer to physical therapy when appropriate.  
4. Functional assessments, consult or refer to occupational therapy when appropriate.  
5. Evaluation of polypharmacy and potentially inappropriate medication use, consult ED pharmacist when appropriate.  
6. Coordination for direct admission from ED to skilled nursing facilities or subacute rehabilitation.



7. Transportation coordination to and from ED to home.
8. Coordination of care transitions with outpatient evaluation and initiating referrals with home care agencies to ensure home safety for discharged patients.
9. Goals of care, advanced care planning discussions with palliative care.
10. Follow-up calls for discharged patients.

00:54:17 Conor Sullivan: Dr. Hwang's Top Tips:

- Large study comparing older ED patients who are seen by a Geriatric SW or Nurse compared to those who were not.
- For older ED patients seen by Geriatric SW or Nurse, overall costs to the system were less by up to \$3,000 per patient compared to those not seen.
- These findings could impact the reimbursement for Geri ED patient care to hospitals with Geriatric ED programs.

Resources:

- JAMA. Association of a Geriatric Emergency Department Innovation Program With Cost Outcomes Among Medicare Beneficiaries  
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2776803>. March 1, 2021.  
Ula Hwang, MD, MPH; Scott M. Dresden, MD, MS; Carmen Vargas-Torres, MA; et al

00:54:55 Conor Sullivan:

Kevin Biese, MD, MAT (GEDC Co-PI)  
Associate Professor of Medicine and Internal Medicine  
Vice Chair of Academic Affairs  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

00:55:02 Julie Dye: Yay!!!

00:55:08 Ioanna Genovezos: Agreed !!!!

00:55:14 Sarah Connelly: I agree!!

00:55:57 Don Melady: From Sarah Connelly, my GEM nurse colleague: I agree!!!

00:56:52 Christopher Carpenter: So many questions for panelists! 1) How do we define "high-risk" for delirium (<http://pmid.us/33135274>), falls (<http://pmid.us/25293956>), or adverse outcomes (<http://pmid.us/25565487>) and high risk for what outcomes? Are we assessing the wrong outcomes to demonstrate cost-benefit (<http://pmid.us/28645389>)? Given these challenges and unknowns what is the future of GeriED risk assessment screening (<http://pmid.us/32402103>) and cost-effectiveness research (<http://pmid.us/32335974>)? Without these answers and specifics, this conversation seems very theoretical and vague.

01:02:15 aaron malsch: Many hospitals and systems have at-risk contracts such as ACO, Medicare Advantage, etc. All of which would directly benefit from these efforts

01:03:39 Conor Sullivan:

Scott Wilber, MD, MPH  
Chief Medical Officer  
Mount Carmel East Hospital  
Columbus, Ohio



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- 01:04:14 Don Melady: Aaron, can you explain the term "at risk contract"?
- 01:04:29 Don Melady: As Scott is just doing!
- 01:07:03 Tess Hogan: Scott is there actually money lost on the care of these patients or simply that the charges are not covered?
- 01:08:15 Kevin Biese: Diagnostic Related Grouping (DRG) - how much a hospital gets paid for a certain kind of admission (like a pneumonia)
- 01:10:43 Claude Stang: I think the opportunity cost discussion is really where we will benefit here, especially as many of our hospitals are running over 100% occupancy. If a soft admit,, then we need to find other care opportunities in the community - shift from subacute to home.
- 01:12:40 Tess Hogan: Does the C suite care about making money on non hospital based services?
- 01:13:15 Don Melady: What's an example of non hospital based services?
- 01:14:55 Conor Sullivan: Case Study
- You're the senior director of acute care services (ICU, ED, OR, Internal Medicine) in a 370-bed academic urban hospital with 140,000 visits/year to the ED in a city of 800,000 people. It's the flagship of a system with seven smaller hospitals, mostly rural. The director of the Fundraising Foundation tells you a donor wants to make a time-limited donation of \$0.5 million/year for each of three years to "help old people".
- 01:17:04 Scott Wilber: Yes, the C-suite does care about making money on non-hospital based services.
- 01:22:39 Ula Hwang: What to do with donor funding (should you be so lucky!):
1. Staff: Hire and train geriatric ED nurses / SW / care coordinators to deliver GED care
  2. Data: Track the patients seen by the ED nurses, what they do, and what happens with these patients.
  3. Asking your C-suite what their goals are, and aligning with their leadership strategies
  4. Capital expenditures (structures and building) vs. operating expenditures (labor)
  5. Training up existing staff to do GED Care for purposes of sustainability
  6. Ask for guidance from the GEDC!
- 01:23:18 Tess Hogan: How can a hospital best make money on care of older adults?
- 01:24:16 Tess Hogan: What should we measure to show sustainability of GED programs?
- 01:25:00 Kevin Biese: The new 2021 methodology uses a simple average of measure scores to calculate measure group scores and Z-score standardization to standardize measure group scores for these 5 measure groups:
- Mortality
  - Safety of Care
  - Readmission
  - Patient Experience
  - Timely & Effective Care
- 01:25:36 Ula Hwang: Making the case for improving care for older adults = What are the quality metrics your hospital cares about?
1. CMS Star rating program quality metrics (readmission, hospital acquired infection, patient experience)



2. IBM Watson top 100 hospitals
3. Leapfrog metrics
4. Balance Score Card (mortality, readmission, length of stay, falls in the hospital)

01:25:44 Don Melady: Balanced score card that tracks metrics that are relevant to geriatric ED care – re-visits, mortality, falls, quality of care, patient experience.

01:28:57 Conor Sullivan: In conclusion, we've asked each of our presenters to summarize their main points on one slide.

Dr. Hwang's Top Tips:

- Large study comparing older ED patients who are seen by a Geriatric SW or Nurse compared to those who were not.
- For older ED patients seen by Geriatric SW or Nurse, overall costs to the system were less by up to \$3,000 per patient compared to those not seen.
- These findings could impact the reimbursement for Geri ED patient care to hospitals with Geriatric ED programs.

01:30:07 Conor Sullivan:

Dr. Biese's Top Tips:

- Learn the priorities of your boss.
  - Make sure your proposals match your boss's priorities
- Saving money for the payer does not necessarily mean making money for the hospital.
  - You need to align those two.
- Figure out. If ACO or other "risk-based" patients are coming to your ED.
  - If so, reach out to that risk-based organization to collaborate.

01:31:40 Conor Sullivan:

Dr. Wilber's Top Tips:

- Understand what performance metrics are important to senior leaders at your health system.
  - For example: Balanced scorecard, strategic plan, publicly reported metrics (CMS 5 star, IBM Watson, Leapfrog)
- Understand finances related to the care of the geriatric patient at your institution.
  - For example: who are your payors? Do you have "at-risk contracts"? Identify what you need to make your program successful.
- Identify what you need to make your program successful.
  - For example: capital expenditures (building new things) vs operational expenditure (paying staff); Can you re-purpose staff instead of adding new?

01:32:47 Tess Hogan: The care of older patients will never provide more funding than that of "high reimbursement" insurance. Yet we care for them daily. Can we make the case that GED care provides a way to optimize revenues

01:34:06 Christopher Carpenter: Thank you Scott, Ula, Kevin, and Don! Yes - this paper and presentation are an essential foundation upon which to begin building a business case for improved geriatric emergency care locally!

01:34:11 Conor Sullivan: Our friends at West Health have produced a helpful resource – Making Your Business Case to the C-suite. Please download (under Related Resources) here:

<https://gedcollaborative.com/event/2021-05-17/>





01:34:38 jane carmody: Thank you, great webinar!!

01:34:44 Conor Sullivan:

Resources from today's webinar:

- JAMA. Association of a Geriatric Emergency Department Innovation Program With Cost Outcomes Among Medicare Beneficiaries. <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2776803> March 1, 2021. Ula Hwang, MD, MPH; Scott M. Dresden, MD, MS; Carmen Vargas-Torres, MA; et al
- JAMA. Geriatric Emergency Care Reduces Health Care Costs—What Are the Next Steps? <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2776801> March 1, 2021. Maura Kennedy, MD, MPH; Kei Ouchi, MD, MPH; Kevin Biese, MD, MAT
- Making Your Business Case to the C-suite. Please download (under Related Resources) here: <https://gedcollaborative.com/event/2021-05-17/>

01:34:59 Deborah Simpson: Thanks to all.

01:35:07 Conor Sullivan:

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for participating in the Geriatric Emergency Department Collaborative's webinar on May 17th, "The Geriatric ED: Making the Case for Its Financial Impact"

On the GEDC event page, we have added a link to the webinar recording, chat resources and slides that will be available for download: <https://gedcollaborative.com/events/>

If you share our vision, your ED can join us, currently for free. Please follow us on Twitter [@theGEDC](https://twitter.com/theGEDC).

URL for the Geriatric Emergency Department's website (<https://gedcollaborative.com/>)

Additionally, please review the GEDC Membership Criteria and Application.

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

Join the GEDC: [laura\\_stabler@med.unc.edu](mailto:laura_stabler@med.unc.edu)

Thank you so much! Stay tuned for the GEDC's next webinar, more information coming soon.

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

01:35:08 Claude Stang: This was excellent, great info and well presented.

01:35:09 Nancy Wexler: Thanks very much!

01:35:24 Conor Sullivan: The GEDC is generously supported by the John A. Hartford Foundation and the Gary and Mary West Foundation. Thank you!

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<https://www.johnahartford.org/>

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West's specific work around GEDs here: <https://www.westhealth.org/geriatric-emergency-care/>

01:35:37 Patrick Archambault: Thank you to a great webinar. This was great!

01:35:42 aaron malsch: Thank you Scott and Ula for your presentation and discussion. Great job Don, Kevin, and Tess

01:35:48 Alexandra Piatkowski: Thank you!

01:35:54 Sarah Connelly: Thank you!

01:35:55 Julie Dye: Thank you everyone!!!

01:35:55 Kevin Corcoran: thank you !!!

01:36:00 Sheri Pentz: Thank you!