Carolinas Medical Center
Family Medicine Residency

Curricular Goals and Objectives
For

GERIATRICS

GOALS:
1. The resident physician will become aware of the importance of his/her own experiences and attitudes towards aging, disability and end of life issues and how these may impact his/her health care delivery to the older adult.
2. The resident physician will understand the variability of presentation of illness and disease processes in the older adult.
3. The resident will learn the unique pharmacologic challenges of the older adult.
4. The resident physician will appreciate the importance of a multidisciplinary team approach in the care of the older adult.

OBJECTIVES:

Patient Care
1. The resident physician will demonstrate the ability to perform a physical, cognitive, and functional assessment of the older adult.
2. The resident physician will demonstrate the ability to assess the older adult’s capacity to consent regarding health care choices.
3. The resident physician will demonstrate the ability to assess the older patient’s medication regime for the following: indication based on diagnosis or condition, appropriate dose, appropriate route of administration, and potential drug interactions.

Medical Knowledge
1. The resident physician will know the appropriate management of common geriatric syndromes; including falls and immobility, incontinence, dementia, delirium, and pressure ulcers.
2. The resident physician will know the potential benefits and risks of medications for older adults based on age-related physiologic changes, comorbid diseases, and life expectancy.
3. The resident physician will know the unusual presentations of common illnesses in the older adult.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills
1. The resident physician will recognize the impact of his/her attitude and experiences of aging during discussions of health care decisions with the patient, family, and other caregivers.
2. The resident physician will be able to facilitate discussions regarding Advance Directives and goals of care with the patient, family, and other caregivers.
Professionalism
1. The resident physician will advocate for the patient during interactions with the health care systems including interacting with consultants so that the patient and family understand the recommendations of these physicians and how to incorporate these recommendations into their management plan.
2. The resident physician will recognize indicators of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation as well as the obligations by law to report these situations to local authorities.

Systems-Based Practice
1. The resident physician will understand the impact of Medicare regulations on the types of services available to the older adult.
2. The resident physician will be able to describe the levels of care available in subacute care, long term care, and community based care and how to recommend the appropriate level of care to patients and their families.
3. The resident physician will learn to identify and utilize community resources to provide care for older adults.

METHODS:

Didactic sessions at Nursing Home and Geriatric Clinic, patient care in Nursing Home and Geriatric Clinic. Home visits, visits with Community resources, including Alzheimer’s Association, Hospice, Home Care Agencies, DSS, and Wound Care Specialists.

EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT:

1) Pre-test
2) Post-test
3) Self-Competency Check List
4) Comments of attending geriatrician, nurse practitioner, and community resource personnel.

MILESTONES ASSESSED

**PC-2:** Cares for patients with chronic illnesses
**PROF-3:** Demonstrates humanism and cultural proficiency
**C-1:** Develops meaningful, therapeutic relationships with patients and families
**RESOURCES/REFERENCES:**

**Medical Care of Older Adults**

**Post-acute and Home Care**

**Managing Medications for Older Adults**

**Incontinence and Gynecology**

**Arthritis and Back Pain**
Infections in Long-Term Care


Falls and Fractures


Elder Abuse and Neglect


Dementia, Delirium, and Depression


Palliative and End-of-Life Care
42) Boockvar KS, Meier DE. Palliative Care for Frail Older Adults. JAMA.
2006;296:2245-2253.