

Program Details

Participants: all members of a rural CBOC team—physicians, nurse practitioners (NPs), registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs), social workers, pharmacists, occupational therapists, program support assistants, and other professional and paraprofessional staff.

Trainers: co-facilitated by a GRECC affiliated clinician and an educator from the RITT coordinating site.

Workshop learning methods used:

- Icebreaker Exercise
- Case Studies
- Mini-lectures
- Discussion
- Interactive Video
- Brainstorming
- Role Playing
- Action Planning

Topics

Managing Team Dynamics & Team-based Care for Older Veterans

Geriatrics 101: How are older patients different from all other patients and why does it matter?

Challenges of Transitional Care for Older Adults

Resources for Primary Care Providers in Geriatrics

Dementia: Diagnosis and Screening Tools

Evaluation: All training participants complete a team self-assessment prior to the training, an end-of-day evaluation, a 3, 6 & 12 month post-assessment survey, and create an action plan to practice change.



Goals

- ◇ Provides primary care providers education & training in common geriatric conditions
- ◇ Increases geriatrics team-based expertise in rural CBOCs
- ◇ Incorporates team-based geriatrics knowledge and skills into CBOC providers' practice

RITT is a nationwide program. In FY 2013 we are conducting 20 RITT sessions with rural CBOCs in the following states: New York, Florida, Hawaii, Iowa, Georgia, Nevada, Nebraska, Oregon, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Alaska, and Louisiana.

If you are interested in sponsoring a RITT program at your CBOC, contact Jacob.Deering@va.gov to discuss opportunities in FY2014

Why participate in RITT?

- Growing Need: As the number of older adults in the U.S. rapidly increase over the next few decades, it is imperative that healthcare providers are better equipped to meet the needs of rural elderly veterans
- Strong Outcomes: Now in the 2nd year of implementation, past participants cite changes in their practice as a result of the RITT such as:
 - monitoring/assessing for red flags and geriatric syndromes
 - enhancing active listening skills
 - screening for fall risks
 - increasing sensitivity when communicating about culture and learning impairments.
- Advantageous: On-site, 1-day trainings and technical resources at no cost to CBOC site

Coordinating Site

James J. Peters VA Medical Center VISN 3
GRECC
Bronx, NY 10468
Judith L. Howe, PhD, Project Director
Jacob Deering, MPH, Program Manager

Continuing to improve care for older rural Veterans through geriatrics team training

Sponsored by the VA Office of Rural Health
Geriatrics Expansion Program

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For more information about the Rural Interdisciplinary Team Training Program, please contact:
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James J. Peters VA Medical Center

VISN 3 Geriatric Research,
Education & Clinical Center
(GRECC)



Rural Interdisciplinary Team Training

