



Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Centers  
United States Department of Veterans Affairs

GRECC

Honoring Veterans as They Age

VISN 16/Little Rock  
GRECC  
June 2018

## GRECC Education Programs Offer Value to Veterans, Trainees and Providers

...what follows is a small sampling of initiatives from among the many Educational Activities currently underway in VHA's Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Centers (GRECCs).

**Eastern Colorado GRECC: Interprofessional Case Conferences** - Associated health professional trainees such as social work, pharmacy, occupational health, and psychology get together with Geriatric Fellows and participate in a monthly Interprofessional Case Conference. Information from an actual case that is specific to a given discipline, like pharmacy, is provided to the associate health trainees and clinically-relevant information is presented to fellows such as pharmacological aspects are provided to pharmacy residents. Trainees must ask one another questions necessary to elicit other information, which will allow the team to co-create an appropriate care plan. Preceptors observe and provide feedback. This method has been implemented with all of the GRECC trainees. Feedback from trainees has been extremely positive as they feel that this activity enhances their training experience. For more information, contact Kathryn Nearing, PhD at [kathryn.nearing@ucdenver.edu](mailto:kathryn.nearing@ucdenver.edu) or by phone at 720-475-6234.

**Salt Lake City GRECC: Rocky Mountain Geriatric Conference** - The Salt Lake City GRECC hosted the 15th Annual Rocky Mountain Geriatrics Conference held August 28-29, 2017, titled "Getting to the Heart of Aging: An Inter-professional Approach to Cardiovascular Health." The focus of the conference was on patient centered approaches in cardiac care specifically related to older adults. The conference planners utilized technological innovations to promote distance learning modalities (web-streaming) that allowed participants to participate remotely. There were thirty-two participants who attended in person, ninety-seven that participated through Adobe Connect video, and eleven that attended from other VISNs around the country. For more information contact, Jorie Butler at [Jorie.butler@va.gov](mailto:Jorie.butler@va.gov) or 801-582-1565 x. 1964.

**New England GRECC: Home Safety Workbook** - Dr. Lauren Moo led the modification and dissemination of "[A Guide for Families: Keeping the Person with Memory Loss Safer at Home.](#)" a home safety workbook for caregivers of Veterans with dementia. The workbook is extremely popular among clinicians and caregivers. It is a stand-alone, self-paced educational workbook with practical tips for home safety written with literacy considerations. The workbook is 508 compliant for distribution and available on the GEC internet site: [https://www.va.gov/geriatrics/docs/home\\_safety\\_booklet\\_8-1-17.pdf](https://www.va.gov/geriatrics/docs/home_safety_booklet_8-1-17.pdf) For more information, contact Dr. Lauren Moo; [lauren.moo@va.gov](mailto:lauren.moo@va.gov) or 718-687-2596.

GRECCs: VHA's Centers of Excellence focusing on vulnerable Veterans through the advancement and integration of research, education and clinical innovation in geriatrics and gerontology within the VA healthcare system. There are currently twenty GRECCs located nationwide with the common mission of improving the quality of care for older Veterans. For more information please visit us at <http://www.va.gov/grecc>.

### VISN 16/Little Rock GRECC Education

The VISN 16/Little Rock GRECC education team has developed and implemented a monthly interdisciplinary training program for a variety of health



professionals from medicine, pharmacy, social work, nursing, and occupational therapy. This face-to-face training provides trainees with a unique opportunity to learn to care for older Veterans in an inter-professional setting under the guidance of a broad array of training facilitators who are researchers, educators, and clinicians. Each month, a facilitator and trainees gather to discuss a geriatric-focused case study. During each case discussion, the learning and teaching technique called Concept Mapping is used to visually illustrate relationships between concepts and ideas. It is our mission to provide healthcare staff and trainees with the geriatric-related knowledge required to provide high quality, Veteran-centric healthcare to our older Veterans. We accomplish this mission through innovative education activities as directed by quality metrics, needs assessments, and recent research. Each year the trainees form teams to collaborate and develop enduring educational materials. This past year, they developed several geriatric email blasts called "Did You Knows?". These email blasts on geriatric-related topics (suicide, dementia, falls, etc.) are sent out to VISN 16 healthcare clinicians to provide brief asynchronous education with links for additional information.

Please join us for our next webinar on

#### Falls – Geriatric Syndromes

Presented by David Ganz, MD, PhD  
July 12, 2018 at 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST

Registration Link:

[Falls – Geriatric Syndromes](#)

Day of Session Link:

[Geriatric Syndromes Live Webinars](#)

Contact [VISN16 GRECC Education Team](#) for details



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