

# Geriatrics

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This Learning Pathway contains training and tools to improve quality of life for older adults living with serious illness, including having difficult discussions about prognosis and goals of care, supporting patients and caregivers through decision-making, and reducing the risks of poor outcomes by practicing age-friendly care.

## **Discussing Serious News**

Learn best practices for having patient-centered conversations about a serious illness diagnosis.

## **Discussing Prognosis With Patients and Caregivers**

Learn how to effectively discuss prognosis with patients and their caregivers.

## **Clarifying Patient Goals of Care**

Learn best practices for building trust, eliciting patient values, and having patient-centered conversations about goals of care.

## **Leading a Patient and Caregiver Meeting**

Learn to effectively lead meetings that help patients and caregivers become aligned around the patient's goals.

## **Care Planning**

Learn techniques to help patients and their caregivers plan for the future, both during the early stages of a serious illness and as a disease progresses.

## **Billing and Coding for Advance Care Planning (ACP) Services**

Requirements, best practices, documentation requirements, and time thresholds for Advance Care Planning (ACP) services.

## **Course 1: Pain and its Impact on Our Patients**

Learn to define and characterize pain, recognize the prevalence of pain, understand disparities in pain management based on race, ethnicity, and gender.

## **Course 2: How to Perform a Comprehensive Pain Assessment**

Learn the components of a comprehensive pain assessment and its importance in safe and effective pain management.

## **Course 3: Matching Treatment to Pain Type**

Gain an overview of pharmacologic and nonpharmacologic pain treatments, including risks and benefits, and learn how to match the analgesic to pain type.

## **Course 4: Prescribing an Opioid**

Learn how to decide on an appropriate opioid, route of delivery, and dose, and understand how to prescribe for incident and breakthrough pain.

## **Course 5: Practice Prescribing an Opioid**

Practice prescribing initial opioid doses for different pain types and characteristics. Learn to adjust dosing as needed to manage pain effectively.

## **Course 6: Creating a Pain Treatment Plan and Monitoring Effectiveness**

Learn to develop a pain treatment plan with realistic goals and proper documentation, and implement universal precautions to help with the risk of opioid use disorder.

## **Course 7: Advanced Opioid Prescribing: Converting to Long-Acting Opioids**

Learn how to convert from short-acting to long-acting opioids, and calculate rescue doses for breakthrough pain using updated equianalgesic tools.

## **Course 8: Problems with Opioid Prescribing: Is it an Opioid Use Disorder?**

Learn how to identify and diagnose opioid use disorder (OUD) and practice communicating with patients about OUD and pain management.

## **Course 9: Using Buprenorphine for Chronic Pain and Opioid Use Disorder**

Determine which patients may benefit from buprenorphine as a treatment for pain and opioid use disorder (OUD), and learn how to transition patients to buprenorphine.

## **Course 10: Managing IV Opioids**

Learn how to convert patients back and forth from oral to IV opioid formulations, how to prescribe patient-controlled analgesia (PCA), and how to treat acute pain crises.

## **Safe and Age-Friendly Care for Older Adults**

This course provides context and best practices for identifying older adults at risk for poor outcomes, including falls, delirium, and caregiving challenges.

## **Coordinating Care and Planning Ahead**

Guidance for all clinicians on improving communication and ensuring smooth transitions of care for patients living with serious illness.

## **Supporting the Caregivers of People with Serious Illness**

This course offers tools and guidance for assessing and addressing the needs of caregivers of people with serious illness.

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