UNTHSC Reynolds Geriatric Education and Training in Texas Program

Helping Physicians Effectively Treat An Aging Population.
The Demographics of the World are Changing

One of the largest areas of population growth worldwide is among those age sixty-five and above. Provision of health care to this age group is rapidly becoming a large proportion of clinical practice. Nationally there is a shortage of geriatricians and projections do not indicate relief in sight.
The UNT HSC Reynolds Geriatric Education and Training in Texas Program

Was Developed:

To help meet the growing need to train physicians in the care of the geriatric population
The UNTHSC Reynolds Geriatric Education and Training in Texas Program

A four year program with four broad objectives targeting

Medical Students, Residents, Faculty, and Practicing Physicians

Funded by a four year grant from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation
And UNTHSC matching funds
Donald W. Reynolds Foundation

- Foundation Established in 1954.
- Aging and Quality of Life Program Initiated in 1996

Purpose: “Improving the quality of life of America’s growing elderly population through better training of physicians in geriatrics”

- Over $120 million in funding for Geriatrics Programs

Donald W. Reynolds 1906-1993
Media Entrepreneur
• 42 Universities Have Been Awarded Grants

• Two Departments of Geriatrics Established

• 2008 Two Schools of Osteopathic Medicine Were Selected to Join Cohort 4.

• 2008 Cohort 4

• Medical University of South Carolina
• University of Alabama
• University of California, Irvine
• University of Massachusetts
• University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine
• University of North Texas Health Science Center
• University of Pennsylvania
• University of Texas, Houston
• University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center
• Wake Forest University
The University of North Texas Health Science Center

- Located in Fort Worth, Texas, the University of North Texas Health Science Center is one of the nation's distinguished graduate academic health science centers, dedicated to education, research, patient care and service.

- It comprises the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM), the Department of Physician Assistant Studies, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, the School of Public Health and the School of Health Professions. UNT Health is the TCOM faculty practice program providing direct patient care.
Program Goal

To Develop and Implement an Innovative and Sustainable Program to Strengthen Physicians’ Training in Geriatrics
GET-IT Program Objectives

1. Implement an Integrated geriatrics Curriculum in all four years of Undergraduate Medical Education.

2. Implement an Integrated Geriatrics Curriculum during Osteopathic Residency Training.

3. Establish a Geriatrics Faculty Development Program for Osteopathic Residency Training.

4. Develop Geriatrics Continuing Medical Education Programs for Practicing Physicians.
# Faculty Involvement Year One

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internal Medicine/Geriatrics Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychiatry</td>
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<td>Family Medicine</td>
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<td>OMM</td>
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<td>Evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addition of Statistical Consultant</td>
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**Objective One: Undergraduate Medical Education**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unique Strategies</th>
<th>Geriatrics Content is being integrated into the 3(^{rd}) and 4(^{th}) year TCOM Core Clerkships</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Integration of Geriatrics Content into the TCOM Medical School Curriculum</td>
<td>Development of a Geriatrics Track and Honors Certificate Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geriatrics Content in the TCOM Curriculum is Tracked by Course and Geriatrics Competencies</td>
<td>Geriatrics Student Grand Rounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Use of Volunteer Geriatric Patients with 1(^{st}) and 2(^{nd}) Year Medical Students</td>
<td>A Unique Senior Mentoring Program (SAGE)</td>
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<td>A (PDCA) Plan, Do, Check, Act Evaluation Process</td>
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Year One Progress:

- Geriatrics content is being integrated into the TCOM medical school curriculum with each new semester beginning with the orientation and Fall semester for the Class of 2013.

- The TCOM class of 2013 will be the first to experience a truly geriatric infused curriculum:
  
  - Geriatric Content has been identified and is being taught in semester one systems courses.
  
  - Geriatric lectures by geriatricians parallel all Clinical Medicine systems lectures in year one.
### Hours of Geriatrics Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cellular Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Musculoskeletal Skin system 1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nervous system 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardio-Pulmonary System 1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Medicine 1</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Resources 1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Ethics 1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Informatics 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Geriatric Cases</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total: 39 of 100 Geriatrics Competencies Addressed!**
Minimum Geriatrics Competencies for Medical Students

- Guide the Geriatric Content Integration
- Utilizing the Minimum Geriatrics Competencies as established by 3 Groups:
  - AGS Education Committee
  - AAMC 2007 Geriatrics Consensus Conference
  - Gugliucci and Giovanic “Geriatrics Curricula for Undergraduate Medical Education in Osteopathic Medicine
• Geriatric Content integrated into the TCOM Curriculum is tracked by both:

**Course**

and

**Geriatric Competencies Covered**
Volunteer Geriatric Patients Are Utilized With Year 1 and 2 Medical Students

Year One Semester One Medical Students Examining a Senior Standardized Patient in Clinical Medicine 1
“Before attending medical school one of the fields of medicine that I knew I WOULD NOT be interested in when attending medical school would be geriatrics.”

“I could not envision myself working with older adults!”
After exposure to seniors in Clinical Medicine for two half day training sessions that included the skin/thorax/HEENT/CV and abdomen

“I WOULD NOW consider working with older adults.”

“I was amazed at how interesting and fun they were to work with.”

Why the initial response to working with older adults?

“ I not sure...maybe it is societal where older adults are not respected or thought about highly.”
Geriatrics Student Grand Rounds

- A part of the Semester 1 and 2 Medical Informatics Course, students are divided into groups of about 15.

- Each group is assigned a complex case from the New England Journal of Medicine.

- Geriatrics Topic Cases are assigned to about 50% of the groups.

- Students must research the case and present it to their medical school class in an hour presentation.

- Students are graded on their medical knowledge, ability to present, utilization of library resources, ability to obtain the latest research on topics, and their overall presentation skills.

- A GET-IT Program Geriatrician assists the group
A unique senior mentoring program that pairs two 1st year medical students with a senior adult client of Meals on wheels Inc. of Tarrant County for two years.

Medical students complete assignments with their Senior Clients through in home visits to aid in the students’ attitudes, knowledge, and skill related to aging.

185 Medical Students and 113 Senior Clients Impacted
"Our visit with our senior client went really well. Our senior seemed to be lonely and enjoyed having company and someone to talk to."
SAGE Seniors Assisting in Geriatric Education

- A unique learning opportunity typically unavailable for 1st year medical students.

- Mandatory for all 1st and 2nd year TCOM medical students

- Students make 9 visits with their Senior Client over a 2 year period.

- Activities during the first semester of the program are meant to establish a relationship between the senior mentor and the students.

- Provides the opportunity for students to practice basic clinical skills, history taking, client interviewing, and physical exam skills.
SAGE Seniors Assisting in Geriatric Education

• SAGE Sessions/Visits
  • 1. Introduction to Senior client and Life Reminiscence
  • 2. Medical history & Physiology of Aging
  • 3. Home Environmental/Safety Assessment
  • 4. Medication/Pharmacology
  • 5. Limited Physical Examination

• 6. Community Resources
• 7. Nutritional assessment
• 8. Community Resources Follow-up and Functional Assessment
• 9. Advance Care Planning
Research On Medical Students’ Perceptions About Aging

- Administration of survey “Aging and Health Care: Medical Students’ Perceptions” (Lynne Tomasa et. al. University of Arizona)
  - To help identify medical students perceptions about aging and medical treatment of older adults
  - Has been administered to the Class of 2013
    » Will be administered in Medical School Years 1, 2, and 4
    » Will collect Longitudinal Data on the Class of 2013
  - A collaborative research project is underway between the UNTHSC GET-IT Program and Reynolds Programs at the University of Arizona, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, and The University of Alabama, Birmingham.
Development of a Geriatrics Track and Honors Certificate Program

• 2nd Year Medical Students will be able to select elective Geriatrics Track and Honors Courses.

• The Top 50% of the Class will be allowed to participate in these courses.

• Eye For Detail

An innovative experience which allows small groups of medical students to attend the Amon Carter Art Museum to practice their clinical observational skills by learning to notice visual clues of patient’s appearance and environment through the use of selected art work.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialty</th>
<th>Geriatrics Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatry</td>
<td>Additional Geriatrics Content on Neurocognitive Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgery</td>
<td>Additional Geriatrics Content and Cases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
<td>Additional Geriatrics Content: Transitions of Care, Hospice, Dementia, Delirium, Hospital acquired Infections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Medicine</td>
<td>Additional Geriatrics Content on Advanced Directives, and EOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core Geriatrics</td>
<td>Mandatory 1 Month Clerkship for all 4th Year TCOM Medical Students, Utilization of Blackboard Learning System.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional Geriatrics Content to be integrated into the OB/GYN and OMM Clerkships in 2010.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Program Evaluation

Refinement Activities:
Data Analysis
Outcomes Measured
Modifications Identified

Planning Activities:
Advisory Board
Curriculum Committee
Management Teams
Planning Groups

Data Collection:
Focus Groups
Surveys
CME Evaluations
Curriculum Tracking

Program Implementation:
4 Year Program
Schedule
Program Timelines
Coordination With
Program Partners
GET-IT Program Evaluation

• A Continuous Improvement Process

• With Ongoing Refinement
2009 Outcomes

- 64 Additional Hours of Geriatric Content (Impacting 503 TCOM Medical Students)

- 39 of 100 Geriatrics Competencies Addressed in the Fall 2009 Year 1 Semester 1 Curriculum

- 185 Medical Students Participating in SAGE

- 1st Semester Medical Students Have the Opportunity to Examine Volunteer Geriatric Patients

- Additional Focus on Geriatric Cases in the TCOM Application Oriented Curriculum

- Ongoing Program Refinement through the PDCA Evaluation Process
Success Through Collaboration

Year one progress can be attributed to the strong collaborative relationships that have developed between the:

Division of Geriatrics
Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine
UNTHSC
Fort Worth Community

With a common goal of producing the best trained physicians in the world.