Nurses Improving Care for Healthysystem Elders (NICHE)
Long-Term Care (LTC)

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Associate Director
NICHE-LTC: Developing Nursing Staff to Ensure Age-Friendly Care in Nursing Homes

Evidence-based nursing care:

• Promotes patient safety
• Improves quality outcomes
• Centers around the resident/patient and their family/caregiver
• Incorporates:
  • The best available evidence
  • Clinical expertise
  • The resident’s/patient’s values and goals
NICHE-LTC Program

• A nursing education and consultation program designed to improve geriatric care in healthcare organizations through education and mentorship

• Provides resources for nursing and interdisciplinary teams to achieve organizational goals for the care of older adults

• Promotes the use of evidence-based clinical interventions

• Establishes nurses as leaders to bring about changes in the quality of care delivered to older adults
Leadership Training Program (LTP)

An online, blended course during which nurse managers and clinical leaders learn the principles of our proven practice model and create an organizational action plan.

Participants complete a mentored, year-long clinical change quality improvement project.
The Hallmarks of NICHE

Geriatric Resource Nurse (GRN)

Geriatric Certified Nursing Assistant (GCNA)
Nurse Specialization in the Care of Older Adults

- Recognizes that all nursing staff strive to deliver high-quality care and serve as leaders within their scope of practice
- Continuing education courses on geriatric nursing for registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and certified nursing assistants
  - All courses provide American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC) accredited continuing education contact hours
  - CNAs receive certificates of completion
- Evidence-based nursing practice models, clinical guidelines and quality improvement resources
Achieve CMS Five-Star Quality Rating System Requirements with NICHE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Measure</th>
<th>Evidence-Based Practice Resources</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moderate to severe pain</td>
<td>Age-related changes in health, comfort needs, frailty, pain management, function, palliative care, person-centered care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Re-hospitalizations, emergency department visits</td>
<td>Decision making, delirium, function, medicines, pain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Falls with major injury</td>
<td>Delirium, falls, frailty, function</td>
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<tr>
<td>Antipsychotic medications</td>
<td>Comfort needs, delirium, dementia, medication management and reconciliation, person-centered care</td>
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*Note: This list is not exhaustive*
Program Resources and Member Benefits

- 24/7 access to online courses and materials to support specialty practice and professional certification
- Need to Knows resident and family education materials
- Clinical practice guidelines and assessment tools
- Member-led webinars featuring successful quality improvement projects and lessons
- Program implementation support to advance age-friendly care
- Clinical nursing consultations with NYU Meyers faculty
- National network of members dedicated to improving care for older adults
- Subscription to *Geriatric Nursing* journal
Member Recognition Program

**Track**
progress with achieving clinical improvement goals

**Complete**
the Staff Training Assessment (STA) to establish baseline data on clinical practice strengths and opportunities for improvement

**Submit**
program-level data at the end of the first program year and at varying intervals over time to gauge program implementation

**Receive**
a benchmarking report with individual nursing home and cohort level data

**Promote**
membership in the NICHE program to key stakeholders with a digital marketing kit and member recognition certificate
NICHE Benefits: Quality Outcomes on NICHE Units

Decreased:
• Physical restraint use
• Length of hospital stays
• Pain
• Hospital readmissions
• Urinary incontinence
• Falls
• Delirium

Increased:
• Mobility
• Function
NICHE Benefits: Organizational Outcomes

NICHE sites have demonstrated improved organizational outcomes with GRNs in the following areas:

• Decreased length of stay by up to one day
• Reduced costs of care
• Improved staff job satisfaction
• Enhanced designation initiatives, such as Magnet Recognition® or ANCC Pathway to Excellence in Long Term Care®
NICHE Outcomes: Nurses’ Role Satisfaction

Studies reported improvements in nurses’ knowledge, confidence, attitudes, and satisfaction with care following implementation of the GRN model

- “The GRN model has changed the way I nurse”
- “I use SPICES as a guide to assess my older patients”
- “I’m more persistent and don’t back down because I have the knowledge”
- “It’s nice when coworkers come up to you and say, ‘I have a patient that is difficult, what do you think?’”
- “I feel more like a leader.”

Questions and Contact Information

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