

# Addressing the Rising Mental Health Needs of an Aging Population: Cultivating Interprofessional Teams

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# Juanita



# Evidence Continue to See an Increase in Antipsychotic Use & Decline in Non-drug Team Approaches

## The Epidemic Within the Pandemic: Delirium

Delirium is leaving many older patients more vulnerable. They need caregivers, despite no-visitor rules.

May 10, 2020



Nurses tend to a COVID-19 patient in a Stamford Hospital intensive care unit (ICU) in Stamford, Connecticut. John Moore/Getty Images

Original Investigation | Geriatrics

February 17, 2023

### Antipsychotic Medication Use Among Older Adults Following Infection-Related Hospitalization

Yichi Zhang, MS<sup>1,2</sup>; James M. Wilkins, MD<sup>3</sup>; Lily Gui Besette, MS<sup>2</sup>; et al

» Author Affiliations | Article Information

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#### Key Points

**Question** What are the rates and associated patient characteristics of discontinuation of antipsychotic medications (APMs) among older adults following infection-related hospitalization?

**Findings** In this cohort study of 5835 patients in the US, we observed discontinuation rates of only 11% for new atypical APM users and 52% for new haloperidol users by 30 days after initiation following infection-related hospitalization. Dementia and prolonged hospitalization were inversely associated with haloperidol and atypical APM discontinuation.

**Meaning** These findings suggest that contrary to clinical recommendations, APM discontinuation rates following infection-related hospitalization are low and are lower for atypical APMs than for haloperidol.

ELSEVIER

journal homepage: [www.sjgponline.org](http://www.sjgponline.org)

Editorial

### Knowing the Older Adult With Delirium Superimposed on Dementia

Donna Marie Fick, Ph.D., RN, GCNS-BC, FAAN

Research

JAMA Psychiatry | Original Investigation

### Rates of Antipsychotic Drug Prescribing Among People Living With Dementia During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Hao Luo, PhD; Wallis C. Y. Lau, PhD; Yi Chai, PhD; Carmen Olga Torre, MSc; Robert Howard, MD; Kathy Y. Liu, PhD; Xiaoyu Lin, MSc; Can Yin, MSc; Stephen Fortin, PharmD; David M. Kern, PhD; Dong Yun Lee, MD; Rae Woong Park, PhD; Jae-Won Jang, MD; Celine S. L. Chui, PhD; Jing Li, MSc; Christian Reich, PhD; Kenneth K. C. Man, PhD; Ian C. K. Wong, PhD

**IMPORTANCE** Concerns have been raised that the use of antipsychotic medication for people living with dementia might have increased during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**OBJECTIVE** To examine multinational trends in antipsychotic drug prescribing for people living with dementia before and during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS** This multinational network cohort study used electronic health records and claims data from 8 databases in 6 countries (France, Germany, Italy, South Korea, the UK, and the US) for individuals aged 65 years or older between January 1, 2016, and November 30, 2021. Two databases each were included for South Korea and the US.

**EXPOSURES** The introduction of population-wide COVID-19 restrictions from April 2020 to the latest available date of each database.

**MAIN OUTCOMES AND MEASURES** The main outcomes were yearly and monthly incidence of dementia diagnosis and prevalence of people living with dementia who were prescribed antipsychotic drugs in each database. Interrupted time series analyses were used



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# Pilot Study of a Two-Step Delirium Detection Protocol Administered By Certified Nursing Assistants, Physicians, and Registered Nurses

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JAMDA 20 (2019) 1391–1395



JAMDA

journal homepage: [www.jamda.com](http://www.jamda.com)

## Original Study

### Ultra-brief Screeners for Detecting Delirium Superimposed on Dementia

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## CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

### Comparative Accuracy and Efficiency of Four Delirium Screening Protocols

**Journal of HOSPITAL MEDICINE**

[www.journalofhospitalmedicine.com](http://www.journalofhospitalmedicine.com)

## ORIGINAL RESEARCH

### Preliminary Development of an Ultrabrief Two-Item Bedside Test for Delirium

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## BRIEF REPORT

### Implementing a Rapid, Two-Step Delirium Screening Protocol in Acute Care: Barriers and Facilitators

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## ABSTRACT

**BACKGROUND/OBJECTIVES:** An effective and efficient protocol for delirium identification is needed to improve health outcomes for older adults and reduce healthcare costs. This study describes the barriers and facilitators related to the implementation of the ultra-brief confusion assessment

innovation. Field notes and brief semi-structured interviews (n = 231) with clinicians, explored the utility, acceptability, and feasibility of the protocol, and supplemented the observations. **RESULTS:** The UB-CAM was generally positively received by all three clinician types. Six themes describe barriers and/or facilitators to implementing the UB-CAM: (1) physical setting and milieu; (2) practice environment; (3) integrating into role;

# BACKGROUND: Workforce and Training Concerns

- **Workforce crisis / Threat to IP teams:** disappearing supply of primary care physicians, including geriatricians, geri-psych, nurses, therapists, nurse aides, psych, social services, and frontline staff (HHS, 2017;2023).
- **Michigan nurses' study:** Survey of 9,150 state-licensed nurses in Michigan –82% emotionally exhausted, 39% plan to leave in the year (Medvec et al, 2023 *Medical Care*).
- **Challenge due to staffing, financial disincentives, poor work environment:**
- **Barriers:** drive for efficiency and increased productivity—barrier to comprehensive approach required in team care *and the mental health of our careforce/workforce*.
- **Lack of training:** for professional workforce in care of older adults with complex conditions in health care facilities.
- **Teams:** lack of training for clinicians to work in teams.

IP team care has  
been shown to  
reduce mortality  
in older adults  
and improve  
function, QOL &  
care partner  
burden

TEAMs bring  
diversity,  
innovation,  
support, improved  
staff morale

RESEARCH

Open Access



# Effectiveness of comprehensive geriatric assessment intervention on quality of life, caregiver burden and length of hospital stay: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials

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## Abstract

**Background:** Comprehensive geriatric assessment (CGA) interventions can improve functional ability and reduce mortality in older adults, but the effectiveness of CGA intervention on the quality of life, caregiver burden, and length of hospital stay remains unclear. The study aimed to determine the effectiveness of CGA intervention on the quality of life, length of hospital stay, and caregiver burden in older adults by conducting meta-analyses of randomised controlled trials (RCTs).

**Methods:** A literature search in PubMed, Embase, and Cochrane Library was conducted for papers published before February 29, 2020, based on inclusion criteria. Standardised mean difference (SMD) or mean difference (MD) with 95% confidence intervals (CIs) was calculated using the random-effects model. Subgroup analyses, sensitivity analyses, and publication bias analyses were also conducted.

**Results:** A total of 28 RCTs were included. Overall, the intervention components common in different CGA intervention models were interdisciplinary assessments and team meetings. Meta-analyses showed that CGA interventions improved the quality of life of older people (SMD = 0.12; 95% CI = 0.03 to 0.21;  $P = 0.009$ ) compared to usual care, and subgroup analyses showed that CGA interventions improved the quality of life only in participants' age > 80 years and at follow-up  $\leq 3$  months. The change value of quality of life in the CGA intervention group was better than that in the usual care group on six dimensions of the 36-Item Short-Form Health Survey questionnaire (SF-36). Also, compared to usual care, the CGA intervention reduced the caregiver burden (SMD = -0.56; 95% CI = -0.97 to -0.15,  $P = 0.007$ ), but had no significant effect on the length of hospital stay.



# Challenges to IP Team Care

- **Hierarchies in delivery of care**, pay, incentives, AND trust
- **Reimbursement** of complex care teams
- **Ability to train & hire** from other disciplines in education, practice, research (team science)
- **Sharing of health information (the “promise of EHR”)** among teams & medical and social sciences
- **Listening**, mutual respect, unconscious bias, diversity, & training differences
- Quality measures **needed to support teams**



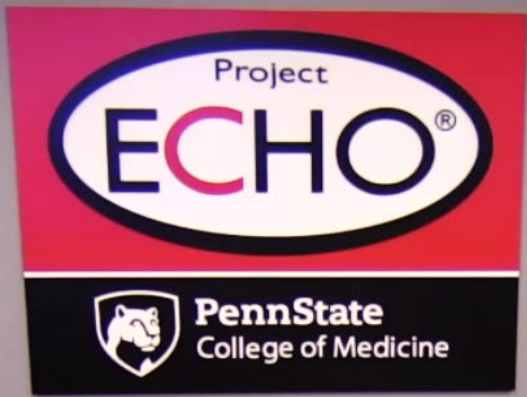
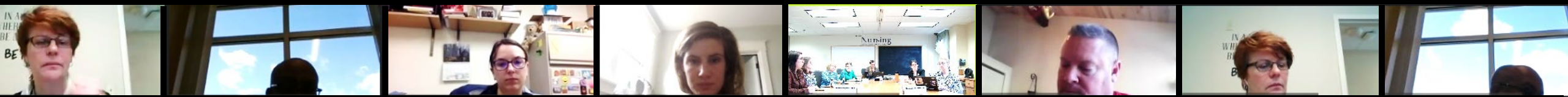




# What Are Possible Solutions?

- **Training teams together**—education, practice, research (Team Science)—CMS, Behavioral health, AFHS, HRSA, RTNH, AHEC, GWEP, ECHO—all teach all learn <https://www.johnahartford.org/grants-strategy/revisiting-the-teaching-nursing-home>
- **Pathways versus pipelines**—equitable pay and incentives/clinical ladders for all team members
- **Cultivating/training in trust and respect**, listening with an open mind, recognition, shared goals, DEI
- **Delivery system changes** embedded into care-clinical ladders, whole team huddles, sharing health and social info
- **NAM Plan on Workforce Well-Being** <https://nam.edu/initiatives/clinician-resilience-and-well-being/national-plan-for-health-workforce-well-being/>





and Dementia Friendly Care







# Workforce and Training Strategies

- **Acknowledge** that a fully integrated interprofessional team is critical to providing high quality primary care to older adults.
- **Address** regulatory barriers for practice by non-MD healthcare professionals and team care, thereby helping to alleviate the physician shortage and encourage team-based care.
- **Mandate** training in geriatrics and mental health competencies and TEAM care for all health professionals treating older adults.
- **Encourage** states and the federal government to create loan forgiveness, scholarship and financial incentives for clinicians and staff entering geriatrics and geriatric psychiatry



# Summary of Reform Strategies

- **Incentivize** providing care for complex mental health and older adult care
- **Train teams together for practice & research**
- **Invest in caring for whole person outcomes** (e.g., care congruent with patient goals) rather than individualized metrics.
- Address team **diversity**, trust, racism, ageism
- **Fully engage the older adult, all team members**-and Caregiver as a team member.
- **Further research** on models, frameworks and best practices (communication/trust) that **cultivate communication & healthy Interprofessional teams**





**Interprofessional TEAM**—gets to know Juanita & CG to build relationship/trust.

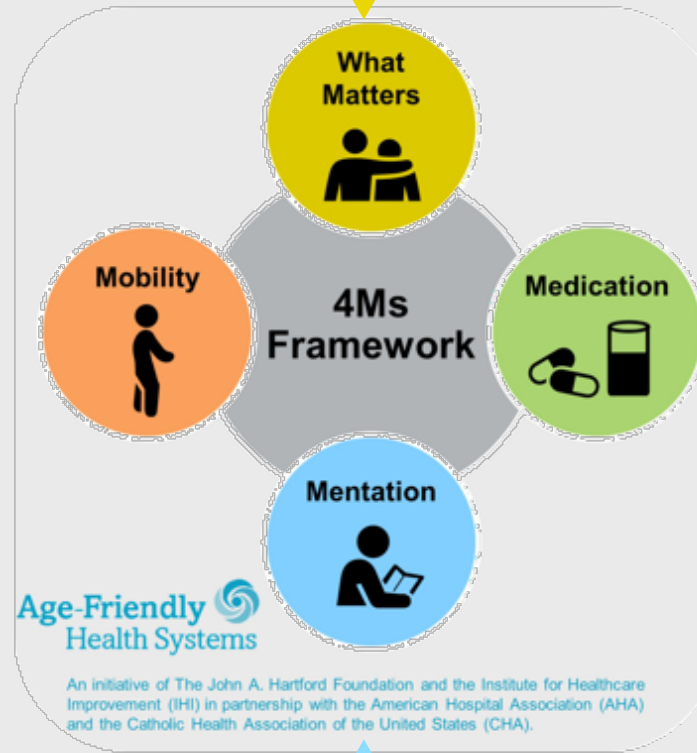
**Know what matters to Juanita to align care to her goals.**

Know behavior is a form of Communication-especially in persons with dementia.

**Connect with community/IP team resources.**

Get family and care partner input.

Encourage physical activity/PT/OT – **daily mobility goals** as part of managing behavior or distress.  
Home assessment



Less meds the better.  
Pharm consult. Use deprescribing best practices.  
**Deprescribe-oxybutynin, prn lorazepam. Avoid start meds that contribute to falls, delirium, and sedation.**

**Assess & Act on for Dementia, Depression & Delirium**

Observe and report for acute and chronic changes in thinking and alertness.

Review meds that worsen or lead to dementia/delirium.

Get involved in activities, connection to others community partners.