IU GERIATRICS e-news for JUNE 2006

IU Geriatrics and the IU Center for Aging Research thank you for reading the e-news and look forward to bringing you news about our academic and professional accomplishments in the 2006-2007 academic year.

Counsell Editor on Premier Geriatrics Reference
The fully revised, sixth edition of the American Geriatrics Society's Geriatrics Review Syllabus: A Core Curriculum in Geriatric Medicine (GRS6) made its debut in March of 2006. As a syllabus editor, Steve Counsell, MD, is pleased to have this authoritative reference available to his peers.

The GRS6 is a self-assessment continuing education tool for geriatrics healthcare providers and a key teaching resource covering the latest developments in the field. More than 100 leading geriatrics experts collaborated on the revisions. The GRS6 is available as a 3-volume print set or in CD-ROM format. Check out the GRS6 Web site to learn about new features, CD-ROM extras, and Continuing Medical Education credits.

Callahan Leads PREVENT Publication in JAMA
The PREVENT research team aimed for the most widely circulated medical journal in the world when they sought a publisher for their study results. The outcome was the May 10, 2006 publication of "Effectiveness of Collaborative Care for Older Adults With Alzheimer Disease in Primary Care" in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA). Joining lead author Chris Callahan, MD, were nine co-authors with ties to the Center for Aging Research (see PUBLICATIONS).

The study results gained additional publicity on June 21 when Dr. Callahan was a featured speaker for Author in the Room, an interactive teleconference that aims to close the gap between knowledge—what is published in JAMA—and action—helping readers consider the implications of the study results for improving their practice. The event was a collaboration between JAMA and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. A free audio recording is available via the IHI Web site.

Council of Elders Enhance GENI Training
The goal of the Geriatrics Education Network of Indiana (GENI) is to prepare our physician workforce to care for the state’s aging population by strengthening the geriatrics training of medical students, residents and practicing physicians throughout Indiana.

GENI Principal Investigator, Glenda Westmoreland, MD, MPH, and GENI Educator Youcef Sennour, MD, report that first year medical students on seven IU campuses have learned a great deal from GENI sessions with our “Council of Elders.” The students began by writing about a memorable experience with an older adult followed by an open forum discussion with the Council. The Council is composed of three to nine well older adults. In a friendly, interactive atmosphere, the Council shared information about their experiences with and expectations of physicians. The students ended the session by writing about how the interaction influenced their ideas about older adults. Some students noted gaining insight into how older adults stay fit and learning what older adults really want from their health care providers, including someone to hold their hand.

Visit the IU Geriatrics Web site to learn more about how GENI strengthens geriatrics training.

PUBLICATIONS


Hendrie HC, Lane KA, Ogunniyi A, Baiyewu O, Gureje O, Evans R, Smith-Gamble V, Pettaway M, Unverzagt FW, Gao S, Hall KS. The development of a semi-structured home interview (CHIF) to directly assess function in cognitively impaired elderly people in two cultures. Int Psychogeriatr. 2006 Apr 26;14.


PRESENTATIONS


Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH, was an invited speaker and presented “Dementia and Agitation” at the Alzheimer’s Association’s Professional Networking Breakfast on June 20, 2006 in South Bend, Indiana.

Michael Weiner, MD, MPH and Wanzhu Tu, PhD, were co-authors on invited presentations:

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

The “aging brain” is a research focus of the IU Center for Aging Research. On May 1, IU-CAR hosted an Aging Brain Strategic Planning session with local attendees including Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH, Chris Callahan, MD, Teresa Damush, PhD, Susan Pressler, DNS, RN, Becky Sloan, PhD, RN, Frederick Unverzagt, PhD, Matt Bair, MD, MS, and Thomas Inui, ScM, MD.

Adding an international perspective to the session was Carol Brayne, MSc, MD, Professor of Public Health Medicine at Cambridge University in the UK, and a member of the Cambridge Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Ageing. Also joining the session from the UK were Dr. Boustani’s research co-investigators Chris Fox, MBBS, MRC psych, Consultant Old Age Psychiatrist at the Folkestone Health Centre in Kent and Ian Maidment, BPharm, MRPharmS, Chief Pharmacist for East Kent NHS Social Care Partnership Trust.

Steve Counsell, MD attended “The National Medicaid Congress: Strategies for Navigating the New Medicaid” held in Washington, DC, June 3-6, 2006. In his new role with Indiana Medicaid, he was especially interested in the special session on “Medicare and Medicaid Integration Models.” See link for agenda and speaker handouts/presentations: [http://www.medicaidcongress.com/agenda/index.html](http://www.medicaidcongress.com/agenda/index.html).