Interprofessional Education to Benefit Aging Adults

The University of Texas Southwestern School of Health Professions

Interdisciplinary Development, Education, and Active Learning (IDEAL)

All First-year Students Enrolled
- Clinical Nutrition
- Medical Laboratory Science
- Physician Assistant
- Physical Therapy
- Prosthetics-Orthotics
- Radiation Therapy
- Rehabilitation Counseling
Learning Objectives for IDEAL

Communicate one’s roles and responsibilities clearly to patients, families and other professionals.

Describe roles and responsibilities of interprofessional health care team in management of an older adult with chronic disease and mobility limitations.
Learning Objectives for IDEAL

Explain how an interprofessional team collaborates to formulate a recommendation for residential placement of an older adult

Topics in IDEAL Course

• Behavioral Styles
• Communication Skills
• Healthcare Team Dynamics & Dysfunctions
• Behavioral Modification
• Cultural Competency
• Ethics and Professionalism
Course Organization

• Case-based format – model pt. and family
• Grand rounds type presentations on health issues
• Small groups, representing all professions and a facilitator
• Patient-centered, interdisciplinary decision-making with students assuming team roles
• Science of Aging Day with multiple events

Course Outcomes

• Improved understanding and awareness of communication and teamwork skills
Conclusion

Training entry-level health professions students in interdisciplinary teams:

• Enhances use of skills of all team members

• Reflects a response to the needs of older adults with complex, chronic health issues.