

NICHE Annual Conference

Overview

The annual NICHE Conference is a three-day event highlighting evidence-based innovations, research, and networking opportunities. The goal is to provide support to hospitals and other health care organizations in meeting the most critical challenge of our times - quality care of older adults. The conferences include keynotes, panel presentations and poster presentations from geriatrics experts and at-the-forefront NICHE programs addressing a wide range of topics.

Features & Benefits

Feature: Renowned keynote speakers.

Benefit: Presentations by recognized experts and thought-leaders provide attendees with insightful perspectives on national geriatric initiatives, policy analysis and leading-edge models of care.

Feature: Interactive panels.

Benefit: Equip attendees with a wealth of information and insights from members of highly successful NICHE programs and other health care professionals to better care for older adult patients.

Feature: Poster presentations.

Benefit: Wide range of posters based on specific conference foci give attendees reviews of innovative NICHE and Non-NICHE Hospital initiatives that they can use at their own sites to improve quality of care for older adult patients.

Feature: Research updates.

Benefit: National leaders in the field of older adult patient acute care provide the most recent research findings on various geriatric-related topics.

Feature: Networking.

Benefit: Provides attendees with opportunities to learn more about NICHE and make connections with colleagues.

Application

The annual NICHE Conferences open up new paths for attendees to innovative solutions and higher quality care trends that meet the special and diverse needs of the older adult. Clinicians, administrators, and researchers present evidence-based approaches to promote positive outcomes and experiences for the hospitalized older adult.

NICHE PORTFOLIO



Support Resources

- NICHE Leadership Training Program
- NICHE Planning & Implementation Guide
- NICHE Organizational Strategy: Nurse Certification Tool Kit.
- Clinical Improvement Models
- NICHE Education Briefs
- Geriatric Resource Nurse (2nd Edition, 2012) Curriculum
- Introduction to Gerontology (2nd Edition, 2012) Curriculum
- Geriatric Patient Care Associate (2nd Edition, 2012) Curriculum
- NICHE “*Evidence-Based Geriatric Nursing Protocols for Best Practice*” (4th Edition, 2012). New York: Springer Publishing
- NICHE Online Connect Webinars
- NICHE Solutions Series
- Need to Know by NICHE Series
- Joint Commission Crosswalk

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NICHE Hospital Innovation

Dilemma of Delirium in the Geriatric Hip Fracture Patient

2012 Conference Poster Session Winner in the Care for the Critically Ill Older Adult category.

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Delirium occurs in 14% to 56% of hospitalized older patients and represents the most frequent complication for this group. The incidence of delirium among hip-surgery patients is 43-60%. In patients with delirium, the length of stay for a patient with acute delirium can be expected to increase by an average of 8 days. Mortality rates of hospitalized patients with delirium are 22%, and the one-year mortality rate is 35% to 40%. In spite of the delirium occurrence rate, the complication frequently goes unrecognized and untreated in up to 70% of patients.

In view of the potential for 50% of geriatric hip fracture patients developing delirium while hospitalized, the hospital launched an initiative to develop ways to protect this very specialized patient population using education, screening and assessment tools, and an interdisciplinary approach to the creation of a delirium algorithm. The algorithm provided a pathway to better screening, recognition and diagnosis of delirium in the geriatric hip fracture patient population. Also, understanding nursing staff are critical to the proper recognition and treatment of patients with delirium, the interdisciplinary team provided multiple opportunities for formal and informal education to all dedicated geriatric hip fracture nursing staff.

The initiative included:

- Nurse education on delirium and the CAM (Confusion Assessment Method) tool
- Delirium screening tool for geriatric hip fracture patient population
- CAM tool use
- Predictive model for delirium and CAM tool use/trends tracking
- Delirium prevention discussion during rounds
- Patient family delirium education brochure
- Patient family involvement in the care of the patient
- Hospitalist notification whenever CAM tool indicated delirium

By way of results, the interdisciplinary team tracked the implementation of the delirium predictive model and the daily use of the CAM tool with an emphasis on trends, compliance and performance improvement. Results showed use of the CAM tool with the at-risk population increased over 70% during a five-month period.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

1. Inouye SK, et al. *Ann Intern Med*. 1990;113:941-8.
2. Confusion Assessment Method (CAM) and CAM-ICU in: Inouye SK. Delirium in hospitalized older patients. *Clin Geriatr Med* 1998; 14:745-764.
3. Slor CJ, et al Anesthesia and Postoperative Delirium in Older Adults Undergoing Hip Surgery. *J Am Geriatr Soc*. 2011 59(7):1313-9.
4. Deschodt M, et al. Preventing delirium in older adults with recent hip fracture through multidisciplinary geriatric consultation. *J Am Geriatr Soc* 2012 Soc 60:4(733-9).

NICHE-RELATED RESOURCES

1. Milisen, K., Braes, T., & Foreman, M.D. Chapter 8 Assessing Cognitive Function (pp. 122-134). In Boltz, M., Capezuti, E., Fulmer, T., & Zwicker, D. (eds.) (2012). *Evidence-Based Geriatric Nursing Protocols for Best Practice* (4th ed.). New York: Springer.
2. Tullmann, D.F., Fletcher, K., & Foreman, M.D. Chapter 11 Delirium: Prevention, Early Recognition, and Treatment (pp. 186-199). In Boltz, M., Capezuti, E., Fulmer, T., & Zwicker, D. (eds.) (2012). *Evidence-Based Geriatric Nursing Protocols for Best Practice* (4th ed.). New York: Springer.
3. Depression, Delirium, and Dementia. NICHE Geriatric Resource Nurse Training Program. (Available at <http://www.nicheprogram.org/courses/114>)
4. Delirium in Critical Illness. Module 6 in Critical Care. Boltz, M. & Davey, J. (2010). Based on: Delirium in Critical Illness. In Foreman, M.D., Milisen, K., & Fulmer, T.T. (Eds.). *Critical Care Nursing of Older Adults Best Practices* (3rd ed.) (pp. 577-597). New York: Springer Publishing Co. (Available at <http://elearningcenter.nicheprogram.org/course/view.php?id=93&page=710>)
5. Is Your Patient Confused? Module 6 of Geriatric Patient Care Associate Training Program. (Available at <http://elearningcenter.nicheprogram.org/course/view.php?id=28>)

View the current NICHE Conference website. The conferences are open through paid registration to all interested health care professionals.