Improving Care of Hospitalized Elders through NICHE Program
Valerie Yeo, RN, MSN
Anila Ladak, RN, MSN
5NW Geriatrics
UCLA, Santa Monica
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Disclosure
Valerie Yeo & Anila Ladak
“No Relevant Financial Relationships with Commercial Interests”

Background/Purpose/Hypothesis
• Comprising 37% of hospital discharges and 43% of hospital days, elders are prone to geriatric syndromes such as falls, confusion, pressure ulcers, adverse medication events, urinary incontinence, pain management and challenging psychosocial needs.

• NICHE is a program of the Hartford Institute at the New York University (NYU) College of Nursing. It is the leading nurse driven program designed to help hospitals improve the care of inpatient elders.

• In order to provide exemplary care to elders, the 5NW Geriatric unit adopted the NICHE (Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders) program in October 2012.
Methods

1. GIAP: Geriatric Institutional Assessment Profile
2. NICHE Care Delivery Models:
   i) GRN
   ii) ACE unit
3. Alignment of nursing practices with evidence-based NICHE practices:
   i) Dining Companions
   ii) Geriatric Simulation Training
   iii) Activity Cart
   iv) U MOVE (Mobilizing Older Adult Vigilantly Everyday)
   v) UCLA companion care program

Results

• UCLA, Santa Monica achieved the "Senior Friendly Status" in 2013 & 2014.

• The GIAP re-survey of SNW staff in December 2014 showed an increase in geriatric knowledge from 4.7 to 6.7 and attitude from 6.9 to 7.3

Conclusions

It is our goal to continue to improve the quality of care for the geriatric population by increasing staff's knowledge of geriatric issues, increasing competence in geriatric care, and developing as well as implementing hospital geriatric protocols.