

There is no charge for students to participate in the GAIT program.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Fall 2020 GAIT experiences will be delivered as virtual events through Blackboard (Bb) and Zoom meetings. Participants are required to engage in both independent activities through the GAIT Bb site and the scheduled group activities on the required date/time. All participants will receive an email with information to access the Bb site related to experience(s) for which they register.

GERIATRIC ASSESSMENT INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM (GAIT) PROGRAM

An opportunity to:

- Interact with students and professionals from a variety of disciplines
- Participate in team-building exercises that focus on the value of an interdisciplinary approach to improve quality of care for older adults
- Understand services provided to older adults
- Learn about the needs of underserved older adult communities within our state

FALL 2020 REQUIRED ACTIVITIES

Asynchronous (independent) Activities: Must Be Completed on the Bb site Prior to Group Activity

- Watch age-simulation video & video interview with a spousal care provider
- Read article on completing a comprehensive geriatric assessment (CGA)
- Respond to discussion prompts related to the videos and article

Interprofessional Group Activities: Required Participation on Date/Time Listed for GAIT Registered

- Inter-professional group meeting with assigned group members to review materials and discuss with health/social service provider(s) moderating the case
- Prepare case presentation (assessment/intervention plan) following the CGA guideline
- Large group Zoom presentation in which each group presents case assessment/intervention plan to all participating students, health & social service providers, and AHEC personnel

FALL 2020 GAIT TOPICS & DATES (may select more than one)

Topic: Providing Care & Service to Isolated Older Adults

***Vignette Discussant:** Julia Biernot, MD

Dates: Bb site opens November 1 for Independent Work; Required Group Activity: November 6; 2:00-5:00pm

Registration Link: [AHEC WEST](#)

Information: Joy Taylor jtaylor@ahecwest.org

Topic: Advancing Care Excellence: Special Considerations for Recovery & Rehabilitation of Older Veterans

***Simulation:** Advancing Care Excellence for Veterans (ACE.V)

Date: Bb site opens November 5 for Independent Work; Required Group Activity: November 10; 12:00-3:00pm

Registration Link: [Eastern Shore AHEC](#)

Information: Sara Smith ssmith@esahec.org

Topic: Judgement & Insight of Medical Diagnosis Related to Dementia

***Vignette Discussant:** Julia Biernot, MD

Date: Bb site opens November 14 for Independent Work; Required Group Activity: November 19; 12:00-3:00pm

Registration Link: [Central Maryland AHEC](#)

Information: Meredith Hochman meredithhochman@centralmarylandahec.org

*see p. 2 for discussant/simulation information

ABOUT DISCUSSANT/SIMULATION

Julia Biernot, MD

Dr. Biernot received her undergraduate degree in Human Biology from the University of Toronto, followed by a medical degree from Poznan University of Medical Sciences. She completed her Neurology residency training at the University of Connecticut, and subsequently finished a Neuromuscular Medicine fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic. She then completed a fellowship in Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia at Baylor University before joining the faculty at the University of Illinois College of Medicine, Peoria. She was in practice for 7 years, specializing in memory, cognitive and behavioral disorders. She also has extensive experience in telemedicine, having established a tele-dementia clinic in 2017. She joined the faculty at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 2020. Her clinical focus is cognitive and behavioral disorders. Her clinical interests include cognitive impairment and dementia and disorders ranging from Alzheimer's disease, Dementia with Lewy bodies and other cognitive disorders related to Parkinsonism, Frontotemporal dementia to Autism spectrum disorder in adults.

Advancing Care Excellence for Veterans

With generous support provided by Laerdal Medical, the comprehensive unfolding cases and teaching strategies to focus on veterans and family members suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and a host of related physical, mental health, and social ills associated with combat were developed by the National League for Nursing (NLN).

ABOUT GAIT

The Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team projects are funded by the University System of Maryland (USM) Redeployment Grant System. The Geriatrics and Gerontology Education and Research (GGEAR) program at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (<https://www.umaryland.edu/gerontology/>) provides oversight for the state-wide program that is hosted by the area health education centers (AHECs): [Central Maryland AHEC](#), [Eastern Shore AHEC](#), and [AHEC West](#). For general information about the GAIT program, contact Diane Martin, PhD, GGEAR director at diane.martin@umaryland.edu.

The GAIT program introduces students from USM degree programs to the comprehensive geriatric assessment and the fundamentals of interprofessional collaboration through both didactic and clinical sessions. Students currently enrolled in a health or social science program at the following institutions attend at no cost:

- **Bowie State University**
- **Coppin State University**
- **Frostburg State University**
- **Morgan State University**
- **Salisbury University**
- **Towson University**
- **University of Maryland, Baltimore**
- **University of Maryland, Baltimore County**
- **University of Maryland, College Park**
- **University of Maryland, Eastern Shore**
- **University of Maryland, Global Campus**
- **University of Maryland, Shady Grove**