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HEALTH SCIENCES
Psychiatry & Behavioural
Neurosciences

Research Work

GeriMedRisk is an interdisciplinary geriatric clinical pharmacology and psychiatry consultation and education service that supports clinicians caring for the older adult through a combination of technology and traditional consultative services. Its interdisciplinary team consists of pharmacists and physicians specializing in geriatric medicine, clinical pharmacology, internal medicine and geriatric psychiatry. GeriMedRisk provides real-time assistance to clinicians by assisting in the management of complex pharmacology issues for older patients. This service enables clinicians to optimize their older patients' medications and provides a rich learning environment for medical trainees, particularly at the post-graduate level.

In the context of this clinical service, we perform multiple quality improvement projects to optimize the clinical service and the processes for knowledge translation and capacity building. Examples of ongoing projects include

- the development and testing of focused infographics of drug information that are delivered to family physicians with consults
- a QI project evaluating the need and utility of Best Possible Medication History (BPMH) in electronic consultations
- systematic reviews of focused questions that arise through our clinical work

Engagement Opportunities

Introductory Level

- A trainee can pick 2 or more medications commonly prescribed to seniors. Using a template and established literature search protocol, they have the opportunity to create a concise drug information material (<1/2 page). This brief document addresses pharmacology, relevant drug interactions and pharmacogenomics with a focus on the geriatric population. (10 hrs)
- Should the opportunity arise, trainees will be encouraged to submit this to a peer-reviewed journal (e.g. CMAJ "5 things to know"). (50 hrs)

Intermediate Level

- Assist with ongoing QI project including data entry, writing up a section of a paper. (50 hrs)

Advanced Level

- Complete systematic review and write up

If you are interested in learning more, please leave your contact information with the Research Office and/or contact Sophiya Benjamin (benjas@mcmaster.ca).