

Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team (GAIT) Project

FALL 2025

GAIT Project Overview: The GAIT project is a **FREE PROGRAM** available to health and social science undergraduate, graduate, and professional students enrolled in a University System of Maryland (USM) institution. This educational initiative is designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of healthcare and social service students in assessing and managing the care of older adults. GAIT is funded through the University System of Maryland (USM) Redeployment Grant System.

GAIT introduces the comprehensive geriatric assessment and the fundamentals of interprofessional (interdisciplinary) collaboration through both didactic and clinical sessions. The clinical portion involves interprofessional teams of students and trainees from various disciplines, such as medicine, nursing, pharmacy, social work, dentistry, and physical therapy, working together on an assigned case.

During the Fall 2025 semester, **both virtual and in-person GAITs** are available. In-person GAIT projects are full-day, on-site events. Virtual GAITs use the Blackboard platform and Zoom conferencing services. *All GAIT project participants receive a certificate of completion.*

The GAIT project provides an opportunity for students 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; and
- ◆ Learn about the needs of underserved older adult communities within our state

As an interprofessional learning experience, GAIT is designed to help students:

- ◆ Understand the uniqueness of interprofessional teams and its value in providing person-centered care;
- ◆ Recognize barriers to effective communication in health care teams and identify ways to reduce conflict and disagreement;
- ◆ Explain aging processes and the diversity of the older adult population;
- ◆ Evaluate best practices in honoring the autonomy of older persons; and
- ◆ Employ effective interprofessional and intergenerational communication skills

Participants are expected to:

- ◆ Participate fully in the GAIT experience. Information about expectations will be sent after your registration has been processed.

FALL 2025 GAIT TOPICS & DATES

More Information: Dr. Diane Martin, diane.martin@umaryland.edu

1. Virtual: Medication Matters: Interprofessional Strategies for Geriatric Polypharmacy

Facilitator: Nancy Rodriguez-Weller, RPh.,FASCP

Blackboard opens September 20th (~4 hours activities)

Real-Time Zoom Meeting: September 27, 2025; 9:00am – 1:00pm

Registration/Information: https://umaryland.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ebKZFN0Lu0VKpgy

Description: Participants in this GAIT project will explore the complexities of geriatric polypharmacy. Through case-based discussions, collaborative problem-solving, and role-specific perspectives, participants will learn strategies to optimize medication management, enhance patient safety, and improve health outcomes for older adults.

2. In-person: Thursday, October 30, 2025 (8:00am-5:00pm) [Register Here](#)

Title: Transitions of Care

Location: Atlantic General Hospital, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD 21811-1151

Description: Patients with diagnoses identified as being at high-risk for readmission will be followed by the high-risk transition program team and be monitored with the appropriate remote monitoring for their diagnosis. The program also requires a multi-disciplinary approach to promote patient self-care/awareness. The Transition of Care team includes the Transitions of Care Pharmacist, the RN High Risk Transitions Coordinator, as well as team members from nursing, pharmacy, nutrition, case management, respiratory, diabetes educator, and physical therapy.

3. Virtual: Substance Use and Addiction in Older Adults

Facilitator: Bethea “Annie” Kleykamp, PhD, MA

Blackboard opens November 13th (~4 hours activities);

Real-Time Zoom Meeting: Thursday, November 20; 3:00-7:00pm.

Registration/Information: https://umaryland.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ebKZFN0Lu0VKpgy

Description: This workshop will explore substance use and addiction among older adults, highlighting the unique biological, psychological, and social factors that influence risk and recovery. Through case studies, team-based discussions, and role-specific perspectives, participants will develop strategies for assessment, intervention, and collaborative care tailored to older adults.

4. In-person: Monday, November 24, 2025, 8:30am-4:00pm

Title: Optimizing Recovery of the Hospitalized Patient

Location: University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center, 22 S. Greene Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

Registration/Information: https://umaryland.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ebKZFN0Lu0VKpgy

Description: Participants will tour Shock Trauma and meet with interprofessional team members treating older adults recovering in Shock Trauma. Topics to be addressed include physical rehabilitation, medication management, psychosocial support, and environmental modifications to enhance recovery.

University of Maryland, Baltimore is a member of the [Age-Friendly University Global Network](#). We endorse the 10 principles of an age-friendly university and are committed to being more intentional and systematic in our approach to our aging, intergenerational population as we build meaningful and measurable collaborations. Visit our [website](#) to learn about our age-friendly initiatives. For information on becoming an age-friendly specialist, contact Dr. Diane Martin at diane.martin@umaryland.edu or download our [program booklet](#).