



Baycrest Health Sciences and Canadian Coalition for Seniors' Mental Health (CCSMH) are excited to announce the “**National ECHO: Geriatric Mental Health**”, a telehealth program that builds primary care providers' capacity in the care of older adults through weekly videoconference sessions.

What is Project ECHO?

Project ECHO, which stands for Extension of Community Health Outcomes, was created by Dr. Sanjeev Arora at the University of New Mexico. Project ECHO follows an “all teach, all learn” model of knowledge dissemination and capacity building, exchanging knowledge between academic health science centres and frontline community care partners. It facilitates the sharing of knowledge in multiple directions: from experts to primary care providers; between primary care providers; and from primary care providers to experts. This model is appropriate for all healthcare providers and has been successfully replicated throughout the United States, Canada and globally.

Each ECHO COE session will include a short presentation by specialists on specific topics of interest relevant to care of the older adults, followed by cases **presented by the learning partners**. Feedback and recommendations are provided by the health resource team as well as other learning partners.

Who can be a Learning Partner?

Any primary care providers who want to expand their skills and build capacity in the care of older adults can become a learning partner, either individually or as a team. All health care professionals are welcome to join, including physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, social workers, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dietitians, and others.

When will ECHO COE run?

The series will run for 10 sessions, from February 27th – May 8th 2023 (with the exception of April 10th for Easter Monday) on Mondays from 3:00 – 4:30 PM Eastern time. **Learning partners should plan to join at least 50% of the 10 ECHO COE sessions and to present a case from their own practice during the series.**

Do I Need Special Equipment?

No special equipment is required to participate, just an internet connection and a computer, tablet or smartphone. You will be provided with a Zoom link to join each session.

Is this Being Evaluated?

Feedback is important to us. In order to improve the program, the ECHO COE team is evaluating the feasibility and efficacy of the ECHO Care of the Elderly program to build skills and capacity in the care of older adults. In addition to attending ECHO COE session, learning partners will be asked to provide feedback on their experience via questionnaires at various time points during the program.

Does it Cost Anything to Participate?

This project is fully funded by the Canadian Coalition for Seniors Mental Health through a grant from the Public Health Agency of Canada and is provided at no cost to participants. The ECHO COE program is accredited for continuing medical education credits by The College of Family Physicians of Canada.

Next Steps?

Click [here](#) to apply for ECHO Care of the Elderly: Geriatric Mental Health

For more information, please see the attached brochure, or contact Farah Tahsin at ftahsin@baycrest.org with questions.

For more ECHO Care of the Elderly programs, visit: www.baycrest.echoontario.ca

For more information on Project ECHO New Mexico, visit: <https://echo.unm.edu>.