



ECHO® GEMH provides primary care providers with knowledge, decision support and multidisciplinary geriatric mental health consultation services through UR Medicine. We expand the delivery of evidence-based best practices in geriatric mental health and dementia care.

ECHO® GEMH utilizes simple, widely available and inexpensive web-based videoconferencing technologies to remove geographic barriers and reduce disparities in health care delivery.



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Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes in Geriatric Mental Health:

Project ECHO® GEMH





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Why ECHO®GEMH?

As the older adult population of New York State grows, so does the number of seniors with mental illness and dementia. These disorders represent significant public health challenges including impaired quality of life, increased health care utilization, cost, morbidity and mortality. Specialty care for late-life psychiatric and memory disorders is associated with better outcomes and lower costs.

In rural areas, most late-life mental health care is provided by primary care providers who may not have access to geriatric mental health or memory care specialists. There is an urgent need to support primary care in providing quality mental health care for New York State's elders.

How it Works

TeleECHO® clinics are case-based educational experiences in which community clinicians develop “knowledge networks.” Best practices are shared through a combination of short didactic presentations and case-based discussions with content experts. The clinics are held bi-weekly for 90-minute sessions. Continuing Medical Education (CME/CE) credits will be provided for each hour of participation.

Who is eligible to participate?

Primary care providers at all levels (including physicians, physician assistants, nurses, psychologists, pharmacists, social workers, mental health specialists, etc.) with an interest in geriatric mental health are welcome to join.

What is required to participate?

- Broadband internet connection
- A webcam supported device (including computer, tablet, smartphone, etc.)
- Time availability of 90 minutes bi-weekly to participate in TeleECHO® clinics
- Completion of periodic surveys evaluating practice style, knowledge and self-efficacy

To enroll in our biweekly TeleECHO® clinics, please email Erin Tiernan, ECHO® GEMH Project Coordinator, at erin_tiernan@urmc.rochester.edu, or call (585)760-6564.

For more information, please visit urmc.rochester.edu/project-ECHO.

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