

Wayne State University and University of Detroit Mercy

School of Medicine, College of Nursing, Eugene Applebaum Occupational Therapy Program,
College of Pharmacy, Physical Therapy and Physician Assistant Program,
Athletic Training Program, School of Social Work and Dental School

Wayne State University: Interprofessional Team Virtual Home Visit Program Fostering a Collaborative Approach to Patient Care

This program introduces Wayne State University and University of Detroit Mercy's medical, nursing, occupational therapy pharmacy, physical therapy, physician assistant social work and dental students to team care for adults 50 years and older. Students assess health and social needs. To participate you will need a phone and/or computer and be able to use zoom or a similar program.

Faculty from the School of Medicine, College of Nursing, Eugene Applebaum Occupational Therapy Program, College of Pharmacy, Physical Therapy and Physician Assistant Program, Athletic Training Program, School of Social Work and U of D Mercy Dental are involved in the planning and implementation of this program. Currently teams of three students from two or three different disciplines conduct a virtual home visit of an older adult in September/October or January/February. The students are year two medical students, year 2 and 3 pharmacy students, bachelors and masters in social work students, physician assistant year 2 students, physical therapy year 1 students, occupational therapy, athletic therapy, nursing and dental (approximately 1000 students).

During this 60 minute virtual home visit, students ask questions about daily activities, nutrition, medications, family health, and/or social supports. If an older adult has a third year pharmacy student as a member of the team, s/he will also receive a follow-up visit during which a medication calendar and medication recommendations will be discussed. This second visit takes about 30 to 60 minutes.

Over 450 adults have been recruited for this program to help us teach our students. On average, 250 of them are assessed in annually. The adults appreciate the time they get to teach students, not only about their own health but what it means to have a health care practitioner who is caring and willing to do virtual home visits for those who may be homebound. Some adults report they also see a benefit for themselves.

Each year we need to recruit additional adults 50+ year old for this program. Participants need to be living independently at home, able to answer survey questions, and willing for students to visit in your home via phone and computers. If you are interested in becoming a teacher of health care students or need more information about the program, please contact:

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