Learning Objectives

1. Describe effective communication strategies with older adults.
2. Describe functional status including ADLs and IADLs.
3. Describe key geriatric syndromes including falls, malnutrition, hearing loss, vision impairment, dementia, late life depression, constipation, urinary incontinence, and polypharmacy.
4. Describe key aspects of the physical examination that are particularly important to focus upon in the geriatric population, such as, nutrition, vision, and hearing.
5. Describe aspects of exam to focus on with someone with a history of falls including assessing for orthostatic hypotension.
6. Describe consequences of malnutrition.
7. Describe the basics of screening for dementia.
8. Describe the basics of social assessment for an older adult.

Pre-Session Assignment

Focus on the following sections:
• “Anatomy and Physiology”
• SPECIAL AREAS OF CONCERN WHEN ASSESSING COMMON SYMPTOMS, see box titled, “Activities of Daily Living and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living”
• “Physical Examination of the Older Adult”