



Hello,

Baycrest in partnership with North East Specialized Geriatric Centre, is excited to announce the next cycle of “**Project ECHO® Care of the Elderly (ECHO COE)**”, a telehealth program that aims to help primary care providers build capacity in the care of older adults through weekly 90-minute 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 a ‘Hub’ and ‘Spoke’ model of knowledge dissemination and capacity building, which aims to exchange knowledge between academic health science centres (the “Hubs”) and the frontline of community care partners (the “Spokes”). It relies on the flow 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 physicians, nurses and other 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 older adults, followed by cases **presented by the learning partners (spokes)**. Feedback and recommendations are provided by the Hub team as well as the other learning partners.

Who can be a Learning Partner?

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

When will ECHO COE run?

ECHO COE Cycle 4 will run for 15 sessions, weekly, from April 10 – July 17, 2019 on Wednesdays from 3:00 – 4:30 PM. Learning partners are asked to participate in a minimum of 80% of the 15 ECHO COE sessions and be willing to present a case during the cycle.



Do I need special equipment?

No special equipment is required to participate. You need an internet connection and a computer, tablet or smartphone. You will be given access to the free internet-based videoconference system through a link.

Is this being evaluated?

Your 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 enable primary care providers' 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 training and experience via questionnaires and qualitative interviews/focus groups at various times throughout the program.

Does it cost anything to participate?

This project is fully funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and does not require any payment from participants. Furthermore, the project is fully accredited for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) through the College of Family Physicians of Ontario so participants receive CPD credits at no cost.

How can I sign up?

You can register today directly at this link: <https://redcap.baycrest.org/redcap/surveys/?s=A3AELKX8M8>

Or through our website <https://baycrest.echoontario.ca/apply-for-an-echo/>

Can you tell me more about the program?

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

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

For more information on ECHO programs in Ontario, visit: <https://www.echoontario.ca/>.