

Allied Team Training for Parkinson's

Statement of Need

Jointly Sponsored by



In accordance with current CME educational theory, the most effective CME activities address the individual learner's needs. The proposed instructional design for this CME activity supports this principle of educational efficacy by offering a focused activity to bridge practice gaps for Physicians, Nurses, and other allied health professionals who may manage patients with Parkinson's disease.

There is an insufficient understanding of Parkinson's disease across all care setting and across disciplines. Healthcare professionals need to better understand Parkinson's disease, current treatment and care needs. All attendees at the course will leave with an understanding of the unique challenges faced in living with and treating Parkinson's disease, understand the medications as appropriate to their discipline and aware of treatment priorities.

The National Parkinson Foundation's network of Centers of Excellence and grassroots chapters informally report that medical, nursing and allied health professionals in their regions of the U.S. were uninformed about the signs and symptoms of PD and the latest assessment and treatment approaches. A challenge facing today's clinician is an expectation to work in teams despite not being trained in team-based skills. Parkinson's is a complex chronic illness which can affect every aspect of a person's life and is most effectively treated by an interdisciplinary team. The problem is that the majority of care providers are not aware of how best to work with other team members or even what others may offer on the team. Even if one or two people have the awareness and interest, without a team structure and some intentionality, a team cannot function efficiently and effectively.

This activity has been designed to teach attending teams about team structure, function and effective communication. When they leave the training they will be prepared to work as a team. They will also be prepared to work with their administration and other significant entities to create an environment where working as a team is not only a possibility, but a priority for providing care for persons living with Parkinson's disease and related movement disorders.

Target Audience

This activity has been designed to meet the educational needs of Physicians, Nurses, and other allied health professionals who treat and/or manage Parkinson's disease.