

### AGE-FRIENDLY CARE, PA: A COLLABORATIVE FOR AGE- AND DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY CARE

Erica Husser,<sup>1</sup> Donna Fick,<sup>2</sup> Judith Hupcey,<sup>3</sup> and Jenny Knecht Fredo, PA,<sup>3</sup> 1. *Penn State, Spring Mills, Pennsylvania, United States*, 2. *Penn State, University Park, Pennsylvania, United States*, 3. *Penn State College of Nursing, University Park, Pennsylvania, United States*

The Penn State College of Nursing (including the Center for Geriatric Nursing Excellence [CGNE] and Center for Nursing Research [CNR]) has partnered with the Primary Health Network (PHN) to work collaboratively toward implementing the 4Ms framework of an Age-Friendly Health System at PHN's primary care sites in Pennsylvania. PHN is the largest FQHC in the state and spans 16 counties in PA and 2 in Ohio. Twenty of PHN's PA primary care sites are in rural counties, and both rural and urban sites serve older adult populations with major health disparities. Connecting primary care practices with local community resources and programs is an important step in serving rural populations, and we have used the ECHO model to help facilitate connections. This session will focus on how we are using the ECHO model to engage our partners in a collaborative learning environment.

## SESSION 6315 (SYMPOSIUM)

### UNDERSTANDING DRIVING AS AN EVERYDAY ACTIVITY: INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

Chair: Anne Dickerson

Co-Chair: Isabelle Gelinás

Discussant: Moon Choi

This international symposium brings together leading occupational therapy researchers from around the world with a shared focus is on evaluating and improving the driving performance of older adults to decrease their crash risk and facilitate their community participation. In this session, five groups of international scholars will share their collective and individual research outcomes for driving as a means of community mobility. The first presentation will outline their collective international, cross-sectional study of 247 older adults from seven countries where the impact of driving on out-of-home mobility was compared. Each presentation that follows will then present results from innovative studies of ways in which to assess and address fitness to drive in older adulthood. Our discussant will summarize the potential expansion of the current work and engage the audience through interactive questions. Transportation and Aging Interest Group Sponsored Symposium.

### INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON OF OLDER DRIVERS AND NON-DRIVERS FOR ACTIVITY ACCESS AND QUALITY OF LIFE

Cilla Harries,<sup>1</sup> Carolyn Unsworth,<sup>2</sup> Brenda Vrkljan,<sup>3</sup> and Anne Dickerson,<sup>4</sup> 1. *Kingston University and St George's Joint Faculty, London, England, United Kingdom*, 2. *Central Queensland University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia*, 3. *McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada*, 4. *East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina, United States*

Driving is crucial for many people to age in place, as it is the most convenient option, and sometimes the only option for

personal transport. This international, cross-sectional, cohort study of older adults (n=246) compared drivers' and non-drivers' quality of life and levels of community participation. Following ethical approval, data were collected across seven countries. The EQ-5D-5L was used to measure health related quality of life and a modified version of the Participation in Activities and Places Outside the Home (ACT-OUT) was used to measure community participation (T-ACT-OUT). Drivers accessed more out-of-home activities than non-drivers, suggesting higher community participation among this group. Health related quality of life was generally high among all participants, but slightly higher for drivers (U=3186, z=-2.78, p=.005, r=0.18). These findings resonate with recent evidence, which suggests supporting older drivers to continue to drive for as long as possible provides critical access to their communities (O'Neill et al., 2019). Part of a symposium sponsored by Transportation and Aging Interest Group.

### IMPROVING THE DRIVING OF COMMUNITY-DWELLING OLDER CANADIANS: A RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL

Brenda Vrkljan,<sup>1</sup> Ruheena Sangrar,<sup>1</sup> Lauren Griffith,<sup>1</sup> Lori Letts,<sup>1</sup> and Michelle Porter,<sup>2</sup> 1. *McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada*, 2. *University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada*

Older Canadians, similar to aging drivers in many other countries, want to drive, need to drive, and live in communities where driving is both valued and necessary for out-of-home participation. Many community-dwelling seniors are medically fit-to-drive, yet their collision risk remains higher than most other age groups, which some have attributed to their propensity to drive shorter distances in high-traffic areas (Antin et al., 2017). In this randomized controlled trial, the effect of a customized video-based older driver training program on behind-the-wheel performance was captured using the latest technology for an on-road evaluation. Results indicated the mean reduction in number of driving errors [mean (95% CI)=-12.0(-16.5, -7.6), p<0.001] favoured the intervention group where their change between baseline and 4-week follow-up was statistically significant [mean(95% CI)=-10.3(-13.8, -6.8), p<0.001], but not for the control group [mean (95% CI)=1.7(-0.08, 4.2), p>0.05]. Our novel, video-based approach that provided individualized feedback improved driving performance for older drivers. Part of a symposium sponsored by Transportation and Aging Interest Group.

### USE OF A DRIVING SIMULATOR TO FACILITATE OLDER PEOPLE TO RETURN TO DRIVING

Carolyn Unsworth,<sup>1</sup> Megan White,<sup>2</sup> and Natasha Lannin,<sup>3</sup> 1. *Central Queensland University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia*, 2. *Alfred Health - Caulfield Hospital, Caulfield, Victoria, Australia*, 3. *Monash University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia*

Driving simulators are a relatively underutilized therapy tool that provide an opportunity for older drivers with a range of health-related problems to participate in simulated driving scenarios in a low cost and safe environment. The aim of this paper is to (i) describe the use of a Forum 8 driving simulator prior to a driver assessment, (ii) detail the story-boarding technique used to develop and grade driving