



JPC Foundation: 2006 in Review



JPC Foundation President Christopher Moore introduces the speaker panel at the July 16, 2006 Geriatrics Education Program in New York City.

As 2006 comes to a close, JPC Foundation looks back on a year that brought great organizational growth. JPCF achieved a number of goals throughout 2006 and set the stage for even greater growth in the coming year.

Successful Education Programs

JPC Foundation expanded its accreditation services to provide continuing education credits for all healthcare professionals. In 2006, JPC Foundation provided accreditation for 15 programs in cooperation with the organization's educational partners. Attendance for these programs totaled over 3,100 healthcare professionals including pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, nurses, dietitians, respiratory therapists, physician assistants, and radiologic technicians. JPCF also cosponsored and accredited a geriatrics education program on July 16, 2006 entitled

"Geriatrics: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Providing Care for the Elderly." Over 300 participants attended the event and gave the program a great deal of positive feedback regarding the speakers and format.

Positive Recognition

JPC Foundation's website also received Health on the Net (HON) Foundation certification for excellence in providing quality healthcare information on the Internet. The JPC Foundation website met all of the HON principles of compliance, ensuring accurate and up-to-date information for consumers and healthcare professionals, especially in the field of geriatric healthcare.

Looking to the Future

With the success of 2006 propelling us forward, JPC Foundation anticipates an even more productive 2007. Our mission and

focus on geriatric healthcare will be renewed and further emphasized through our programs. Along with our education partners and speakers' bureau, we will expand our accreditation services and the number of programs offered throughout the year. Our website will be an ever-evolving resource as we provide organization news and event information throughout the year. Similar to 2006, the year 2007 promises to be a year full of expansion, opportunity, and success for JPC Foundation.



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About JPC Foundation



JPC Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to providing healthcare education, training, and accreditation for physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and other members of the healthcare community. Headquartered in New York City, the JPC Foundation has been offering successful continuing education programs nationwide for the past 5 years. JPC Foundation uses the latest available resources in the industry including healthcare professionals, legislation, and healthcare agencies to formulate quality educational programs that will stimulate, motivate, and educate participants.

About JPC



Joint Purchasing Corporation (JPC) established the JPC Foundation Inc. as a non-profit organization to provide continuing education to providers and consumers in the healthcare community. JPC Foundation Inc. is an independent, non-profit organization providing education programs, materials and resources.

Expanded Speakers' Bureau

As a provider of continuing education credit and programs, JPC Foundation expanded its offerings for 2006 by enhancing its Speakers' Bureau. The JPC Foundation Speakers' Bureau now features over 80 members who have presented or are willing to present and support JPC Foundation accredited and sponsored programs. These qualified healthcare professionals represent all aspects of the healthcare spectrum, including the multidisciplinary nature of geriatric care.



Dr. Judith L. Beizer, PharmD, CGP, FASCP
speaks on osteoporosis and the elderly.

Enhanced Website Offerings

The JPC Foundation website (<http://jpcfoundation.org>) received upgrades in content, coverage, and organization. A special "Geriatrics Section" was created as a support resource for our growing focus on geriatric healthcare education. This section now offers an overview of geriatrics as a health field, a compilation of resources on the web related to geriatric care, and a literature review that covers current case studies and clinical research by leading geriatric health professionals. "In the News" and "Provider Education" sections were also improved and expanded to provide additional coverage of JPC Foundation events and education provider partners.



New Clinical Resources

The JPC Foundation website also expanded its clinical resources for 2006 through its Literature Review. Reviews and abstracts of top studies and clinical trials in the field of geriatric healthcare published in leading geriatrics journals are provided for professionals and consumers. Topics for this year's reviews included:

- Assessing and Screening Geriatric Mental Health
- Complications from Epilepsy in the Elderly
- COPD and Psychological Issues in the Elderly
- Cost Savings through HEP for Caregivers
- Heart Failure Guidelines: New Therapy, Startling Statistics
- Insomnia and the Elderly
- Medication Falls and the Elderly
- Polypharmacy and Geriatrics ■

President Bush Signs Important Bill for Older Americans into Law

President George W. Bush signed The Older Americans Act Amendments of 2006 into law on October 17, 2006. The Act reauthorizes and amends the Older Americans Act of 1965, which is the major federal law responsible for providing a number of services for elderly Americans. The law authorizes appropriations for the 2007 through 2011 fiscal years and allows for additional support programs for older Americans. The original bill, also referred to as H.R. 6197, was sponsored by Rep. Patrick Tiberi (R-OH) and backed by the bipartisan House Education and the Workforce Committee.

The federal law provides for and enhances a variety of educational and volunteer support services for older Americans. The newly passed Act allows for the creation of additional support and nutrition services as well as expands care services, elder abuse prevention, and job training for the elderly. Many of the pre-existing terms of the old law were enhanced to create a higher level of opportunity and quality of life for the elderly. Wealthier seniors will also be prompted to pay for many of their program benefits, ensuring that taxpayer funds will benefit low-income seniors. The law also corresponds with President Bush's "Choice for Independence" plan with its focus on consumer choice and access to proper, reliable information for educated decision making. One main area of focus for the law is the support and continuation of community-based programs and organizations that provide assistance to the elderly, especially those with low incomes, with Medicare enrollment. The new law will also create Aging and Disabilities Resource

Centers in all 50 states and Puerto Rico in order to provide community access points for seniors to learn about and obtain a wide range of available services for the elderly. Additional programs supported by the Older Americans Act and its Amendments are regulated and administered by the Administration on Aging. These programs include the National Family Caregiver Support Program, Meals on Wheels, the Senior Community Service Employment program, volunteer respite programs including "Family Friends," research and demonstration funding, programs for elderly minorities, programs dedicated to the protection of elder rights. ■

Literature Review

Influenza and Geriatrics

The following is a literature review of the article "Update on Prevention and Treatment of Influenza in the Elderly" by Richard O. Schamp, MD, and William T. Manard, MD. The article originally appeared in *Clinical Geriatrics*, volume 14 issue 10, in October 2006. This information is provided as an educational tool and as a support, not a replacement, for the patient-physician relationship.

Overview

With the flu season upon us once again, geriatric care professionals should pay special attention to the prevention and treatment of influenza in their older patients. Influenza is a lower respiratory tract viral infection of ciliated cells. The elderly are among the most vulnerable to influenza. Older individuals who suffer from chronic illnesses or who live in long-term care (LTC) facilities are at even greater risk for complications of influenza such as pneumonia. Roughly 90% of influenza and pneumonia victims are older than age 64, and the highest death rates from influenza and pneumonia among this age group are found in nursing homes. Influenza can increase risk for elderly patients to experience functional decline and can worsen pre-existing conditions and comorbidities.

Diagnosis

There are many signs that geriatricians can look for when diagnosing influenza in the elderly. Fever and cough are symptoms of influenza; however, the presence of sneezing is not an indicator that an older patient has contracted the virus. Virus cultures can help rule out influenza or help determine what virus type the patient is infected with. Selected laboratory tests for influenza A and B include viral cultures, immunofluorescence, DFA antibody staining, RT-PCR, serology, and enzyme immuno assay (EIA).

Prevention

Three main types of influenza prevention may be exercised: Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary.

Primary prevention encompasses compliance with vaccination programs. Vaccination is most effective against influenza and its complications in LTC environments. Both the elderly and those family or caregivers who have increased contact with the elderly should be vaccinated. Older patients should only be administered inactivated vaccines. The best time for vaccinations is October through mid-November, but patients should be vaccinated as needed throughout the influenza season, which includes most of the cold, or winter, months of the year.

Secondary prevention includes chemoprophylaxis, or the prevention of disease or infection with the use of drugs and/or food supplements. Chemoprophylaxis should not replace vaccination. It serves as further prevention when family, caregivers, or others in close contact with the elderly have been diagnosed with influenza. The medication should be taken daily for the duration of the influenza infection as soon as the virus has been diagnosed in someone at the institution or in close contact with the patient and should last for a minimum of two weeks.

Tertiary prevention is treatment of symptoms once they manifest themselves in the patient. This includes antipyretics, hydration, and proper nutrition. Available drugs for treatment are numerous and should be selected based on the individual patient's comorbidities and cognitive status.

Speakers Showcase – Deborah Rosenbaum, RD, CDN

Deborah Rosenbaum RD, CDN is the Director of Nutrition Services at Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York. Ms. Rosenbaum graduated with honors from New York University with a Bachelors of Science in Food and Nutrition. Ms. Rosenbaum has over eleven years of clinical working experience as a registered dietitian in long-term care facilities with the geriatric population. She is a member of the American Dietetic Association and New York State Dietetic Association and is a certified dietitian/nutritionist for the New York State Education Department, Division of Professional Licensing Services.

Ms. Rosenbaum was one of four featured speakers who participated in JPC Foundation and 1199 SEIU's July 16, 2006 education program, "Geriatrics: A Multidisciplinary



Deborah Rosenbaum, RD, CDN speaks on dietary health for the elderly.

Approach to Providing Care for the Elderly," where she presented her lecture "Nutritional Issues in the Elderly" and participated in a panel discussion. Ms. Rosenbaum was joined as a presenter by Dr. Judith L. Beizer, PharmD, CGP, FASCP; Dr. Antonia Alafiris, PharmD, CGP; and Dr. David Stern, MD.

Ms. Rosenbaum also provides lectures on various nutrition topics to Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center clinical staff and to outside agencies including Columbia University Teachers' College, 1199SEIU Training & Upgrading Fund (TUF) for Continuing Education, and Continuing Care Leadership Coalition Training (CCLC).

The Speakers Showcase highlights those individuals who have joined our speakers' bureau and who are committed to helping JPC Foundation continue to provide quality continuing healthcare education. JPC Foundation has established a speakers' bureau of healthcare professionals who are outstanding speakers and published experts in their field and who have vast clinical experience particularly related to geriatrics as well as other healthcare topics. ■



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FEATURED WEBSITE

American Geriatrics Society (AGS) website (<http://www.americangeriatrics.org/>) is a valuable geriatrics resource and information portal for healthcare professionals. The AGS is dedicated to improving the overall health and quality of life for older Americans through legislation, education, research, and community efforts. Their website provides important information regarding organization programs and education for professionals. They produce several monthly clinical and academic journals dedicated to research and education in geriatrics. The AGS also supports major efforts in public policy and advocacy and oversees the Association of Directors of Geriatric Academic Programs.





At A Glance: ISMP

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to educating healthcare professionals and consumers about safe medication practices. ISMP provides up-to-date information regarding FDA safety alerts and industry news and events. The organization is committed to explaining medication safety to healthcare professionals and ensuring that those professionals are provided with the tools needed to spot and prevent medication errors. ISMP's four electronic medication safety alert newsletters serve as constant updates with the latest industry news for acute care, community/ambulatory care, nursing, and safe medicine and error prevention. Michael R. Cohen, RPh, MS, ScD, serves as President of ISMP and Board Director for JPC Foundation and has provided a multitude of educational lectures and materials for both organizations.

ISMP's CHEERS Awards were recently given out to individuals and organizations that have demonstrated outstanding dedication and success in the prevention of medication errors and other adverse medical events. This year's winners included:

- KatrinaHealth.org
- The Evans Army Community Hospital Soldier Readiness Process Team
- University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Shadyside Campus
- Ilene Corina, President of Persons United Limiting Substandards and Errors in Healthcare
- Hazel Hawkins Memorial Hospital in Hollister, CA
- Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena, CA

Coordinate a Program with JPC Foundation

Does your healthcare facility or organization have a continuing education need? Do you want to provide quality, innovative programs for your faculty and staff that will educate and encourage them in the best practices available? Do you want a customizable program that will be sure to meet your facility or organization's needs? If you answered yes to these questions, consider coordinating a continuing education program with JPC Foundation.

What is JPC Foundation?

JPC Foundation is a 501c(3) non-profit organization with five years of experience in providing innovative continuing education opportunities to healthcare professionals. Our mission is to offer continuing education programs with an emphasis on critical healthcare topics. JPC Foundation strives to improve the health and well being of people through innovative education of healthcare providers and patients. With more knowledge and a better understanding through education, healthcare professionals and consumers will raise the overall quality of healthcare. JPC Foundation provides an environment of empowerment through knowledge.

JPC Foundation's 2006-2007 Focus

In 2006 JPC Foundation began its focus on Geriatric Healthcare Education, and we are currently developing, sponsoring, and accrediting programs in line with this focus. We are looking to produce a series of geriatric programs in individual speaker or panel format presentations and will match them to appropriate funding through non-restricted grants (public, private and foundation). This would ensure no conflict of interest regarding commercialization or promotion and with the appropriate funding level assure successful and long term educational programs for the multiple disciplines of healthcare providers. Along with this focus JPC Foundation will continue to provide accreditation and program planning for other topical healthcare areas. If your facility or organization has a need unrelated to geriatric care, JPC Foundation is ready and able to work with you.

Coordinate a Program!

JPC Foundation can coordinate all aspects of continuing education program planning. We are an accredited provider of continuing education credits and will provide CE credits for all healthcare professionals in attendance. Our Speakers' Bureau serves as our resource for matching program presenters to symposium topics and contains more than seventy professional members. We can also work with your organization to procure speaking venues and coordinate catering. We have a portfolio of customizable programs available for you to choose from and adapt to your facility or organization's needs.

Want to know more?

For more information about how you can coordinate a continuing healthcare education program with JPC Foundation and for a sample of our portfolio offerings, please call 212-946-2687 or email info@jpc.org.

- The Hospital Corporation of America in Nashville, TN
- Joyce Generali, MS, RPh, FASHP, creator of the first complete list of Black Box Warnings
- Therese Staublin, PharmD, an ISMP acute care and nursing volunteer
- University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh Campus
- Gordon Schiff, MD, recipient of the 2006 ISMP Lifetime Achievement Award

More information about ISMP and the winners of this year's CHEERS Awards can be found on their website, <http://ismp.org>. ■

For More Information

Précis, the quarterly newsletter from JPC Foundation, is designed to provide members of the healthcare community with current information about geriatric healthcare, JPC Foundation and its programs. If you are interested in planning an educational program with JPC Foundation or would like more information about the articles in this issue, please contact Jill Cienki, Director of Communications and Media for JPC Foundation, at Jcienki@jpc.org or visit our website at <http://jpcfoundation.org>. For more information about JPC, please call 212-946-2687.