



Coalition of Pharmacists  
Caring for Aging Canadians

CPCAC

## CPCAC 2018 Inaugural Scientific Meeting

October 27, 2018

Holiday Inn Yorkdale

### *Abstract Poster Presentation*

**Title: The GAIN Pharmacist: A novel role for Pharmacists**

**Objective:** To describe the role of the GAIN Pharmacist in the context of being an expanded, new role for Pharmacists.

The Geriatric Assessment and Intervention Network (GAIN) is a multidisciplinary team where the pharmacist takes on the role of both Clinical Pharmacist and Geriatric Assessor. The focus of the GAIN program is to provide comprehensive geriatric assessments, create care plans that optimize function and independence and keep older people living at home. GAIN teams are situated in different settings in the Central East LHIN, such as in hospitals and community health centres. Patients are able to be seen either in the clinic or in their homes. As the medication expert on the team, the GAIN Pharmacist acts as a resource and makes recommendations to optimize medication management to minimize side-effects and improve patient outcomes in a demographic/population with often complex medical concerns. At the same time, the GAIN Pharmacist also acts as a geriatric assessor and conducts Comprehensive Geriatric Assessments, which include: cognitive testing, functional status and mobility assessments, creating a Best Possible Medical History (BPMH), and collecting supporting collateral information. The GAIN Pharmacist provides both pharmacological and non-pharmacological counseling to patients, families and caregivers regarding medical conditions, behaviours, coping, cognitive decline, frailty, risk of falls, long-term care and supportive environments, end-of-life care and other geriatric-related concerns. With a rapidly aging population, the role of the GAIN Pharmacist is an important and natural evolution of the pharmacist role and this practice can provide new learning for pharmacists in all roles, especially those connected with a senior population.

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