

PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATIONS IN OLDER ADULTS

DATE & TIME:

July 15, 2026

11:30AM – 12:30PM

Sign-in begins 15 minutes prior to the training time. All participants must arrive during the sign-in period. Late arrivals will not be admitted.

PLACE: Web Broadcast – Microsoft Teams

REGISTRATION: [EventsHub Registration Link](#)

DESCRIPTION: According to insurance claims data, in the US, older adults are more likely to be prescribed psychiatric medications, even without a psychiatric diagnosis. Specialty mental health care, where intensive mental health care is provided in multidisciplinary teams, is the gold standard of care for older adults living with mental illness. Non-prescribers are advocates that can empower patients to be truthful with prescribers about medication adherence, document all medications taken including natural products and supplements, and offer alternative psychotherapies that can maximize coping and minimize excessive use of pharmacotherapy. This training is for all mental health care providers that serve geriatric patients with special consideration for those clinicians who are non-prescribers. Several case vignettes will be utilized to demonstrate the key points regarding geriatric mental health and pharmacotherapy.

TARGET AUDIENCE: DMH and contract providers currently serving Older Adult clients

OBJECTIVES: As a result of attending this training, participants should be able to:

1. Identify increased risks associated with psychotropic medication use in older adults, including falls, mortality, and adverse side effects.
2. Describe signs of polypharmacy and its impact on hospitalization, mortality, and adherence to support safer care coordination.
3. Utilize knowledge of symptoms of late-life psychiatric disorders (e.g. bipolar, psychotic, and anxiety disorders) to help advocate and ensure accurate communication with prescribers who are treating older adult clients.

CONDUCTED BY: Dr. Taya Varteresian, DO
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, GENESIS Program

COORDINATED BY: Dustin Jones – Training Coordinator
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DEADLINE: When capacity is reached.

CONTINUING EDUCATION: 1.0 Hours (BBS, BRN, CCAPP and Psychology)

COST: NONE