

Kathryn Hyer, PhD, MPP

Kathryn Hyer is an Associate Professor in the School of Aging Studies and Director of the University of South Florida's Training Academy on Aging, a program sponsored by the University to promote geriatric and gerontological training for health care providers. She has served as Principal Investigator for the Department of Elder Affairs contract for "Review and approval of Alzheimer's Disease Training Providers and Training Curriculum Programs" since 2001. Dr. Hyer also oversees the online Health Care Risk Management Certification Program and she has been instrumental in a newly developed graduate certificate program in risk management that encompasses the school of Nursing, College of Public Health, and the School of Aging Studies at the University of South Florida.

Dr. Hyer received her masters in public policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard and her PhD in Public Administration from Arizona State University. She was the lead author of the quality care in nursing home sections for the Task Force on Availability and Affordability of Long term Care that resulted in the major legislative reforms enacted in Florida in 2001. Her research and teaching focus on quality improvement, quality and staffing in long-term care settings and on the effectiveness of medical, nursing and interdisciplinary training programs.

Her major areas of interest and research include dementia training, long-term care facility preparation and response to hurricanes, the organization, staffing, training, policies, and financing of long-term care in varied settings along the continuum of long term care and the impact of State and Federal regulations on assisted living and nursing home residents' quality of care and quality of life, especially at the end of life. Her research includes program evaluation with a special emphasis on evaluation of geriatric educational interventions for health professionals and students. She is also serving as co-principal investigator on a study examining the quality of family visits with nursing home residents diagnosed with dementia.

Publications (representative publications selected from over 50 published)

Williams, C., Molinari, V., Bond, J., Smith, M., Hyer, K., & Malphurs, J. (2006). Development of a curriculum for long term care nurses to improve recognition of depression in dementia. *Educational Gerontology, 32*(8), 647-667.

Kane, R. L., Rockwood, T., Hyer, K., Desjardins, K., Brassard, A., Gessert, C., & Kane, R. (2006). Nursing home staff's perceived ability to influence quality of life. *Journal of Nursing Home Quality, 21*(3).

Kane, R. L., Rockwood, T., Hyer, K., Desjardins, K., Brassard, A., Gessert, C., & Kane, R. (2005). Rating the importance of nursing home residents' quality of life. *Journal of American Geriatrics Society, 53*(12), 2076-2082.

- Gessert, C., Hyer, K., Kane, R. L., Kane, R. A., & Rockwood, T. (2005). Cognitive impairment and quality of life: views of nursing home providers. *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders, 19*(2), 85-90.
- Reid, W. M., Ruzycki, S., Haney, M. L., Brown, L. M., Baggerly, J., Mescia, N., & Hyer, K. (2005). Disaster mental health training in Florida and the response to the 2004 hurricanes. *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice, 11*(Suppl.), 57-62.
- Williams, C. L., Hyer, K., Kelly, A., Leger-Krall, S., & Tappen, R. M. (2005). Development of nurse competencies to improve dementia care. *Geriatric Nursing, 26*(2), 1-8.