

## Interprofessional Education to Benefit Aging Adults

The University of Texas Southwestern  
School of Health Professions

### Interdisciplinary Development, Education, and Active Learning (IDEAL)

All First-year Students Enrolled

- Clinical Nutrition
- Medical Laboratory Science
- Physician Assistant
- Physical Therapy
- Prosthetics-Orthotics
- Radiation Therapy
- Rehabilitation Counseling

## Learning Objectives for IDEAL

Communicate one's roles and responsibilities clearly to patients, families and other professionals



## Learning Objectives for IDEAL

Describe roles and responsibilities of interprofessional health care team in management of an older adult with chronic disease and mobility limitations



## Learning Objectives for IDEAL

Explain how an interprofessional team collaborates to formulate a recommendation for residential placement of an older adult

## Topics in IDEAL Course

- Behavioral Styles
- Communication Skills
- Healthcare Team Dynamics & Dysfunctions
- Behavioral Modification
- Cultural Competency
- Ethics and Professionalism

## Course Organization

- Case-based format – model pt. and family
- Grand rounds type presentations on health issues
- Small groups, representing all professions and a facilitator
- Patient-centered, interdisciplinary decision-making with students assuming team roles
- Science of Aging Day with multiple events

The Cooper Family



## Course Outcomes

- Improved understanding and awareness of communication and teamwork skills

## Conclusion

Training entry-level health professions students in interdisciplinary teams:

- Enhances use of skills of all team members
- Reflects a response to the needs of older adults with complex, chronic health issues.