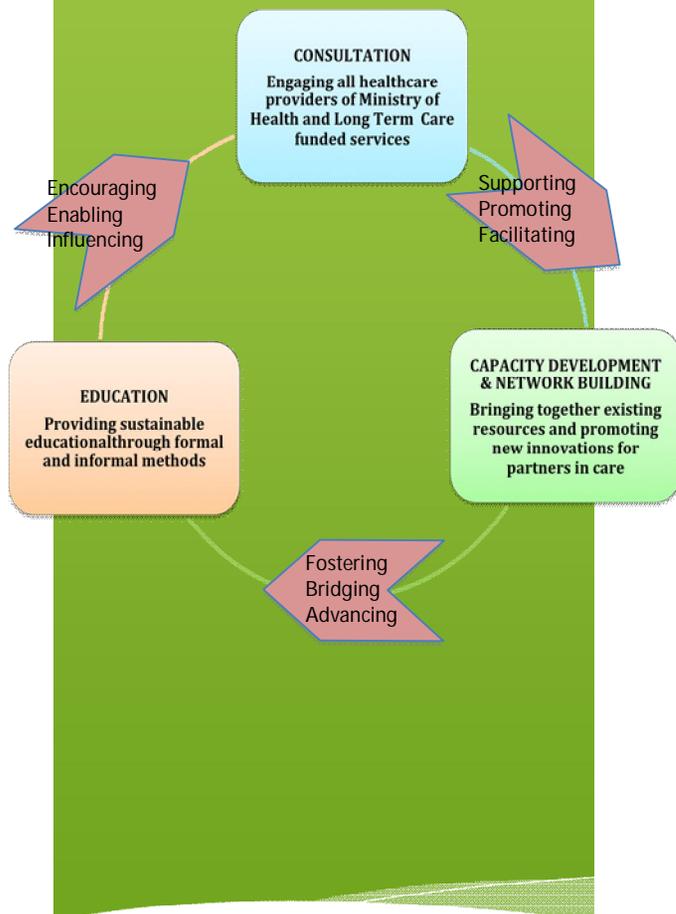


PRCs support those who care for seniors with complex physical, cognitive, and mental health needs that have associated behaviours.



To Contact a Psychogeriatric Resource Consultant, please visit:

www.akeresourcecentre.org/PRCs

Collaborating with other specialists, consultants, community teams and best-practice coordinators to improve the quality of life for seniors and their families.

This Community of Practice is supported by the Alzheimer Knowledge Exchange. For more information, please visit:

www.akeontario.org



PSYCHOGERIATRIC
RESOURCE
CONSULTANTS
(PRCs)

Facilitating and Supporting an Integrated System of Care for Client and Provider

PSYCHOGERIATRIC RESOURCE CONSULTANTS



Education



Consultation



Capacity Building

BACKGROUND

The Alzheimer Strategy (1999-2004) funded a new role that could support Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care services (including long-term care homes, community service agencies, Community Care Access Centres and their contracted service providers) in their ability to respond to seniors with increasingly complex physical, cognitive and mental health needs with associated behaviours.

WHO WE ARE

Psychogeriatric Resource Consultants (PRCs) are an interprofessional team from varied disciplines (e.g., Social Work, Nursing), and include representation from education professionals. There are over 50 PRCs located throughout the province, sponsored by a variety of agencies (e.g., community mental health centres, geriatric facilities, and Alzheimer Society chapters). They have knowledge and experience in best practices related to the support of seniors with mental illness and dementias.

WHAT WE DO

CONSULTATION

PRCs provide consultation for all staff across MoHLTC long-term care funded organizations, by:

- Supporting a client-centered, best-practices approach among interdisciplinary providers on a case-by-case basis
- Advocating for seniors' quality of life & minimizing risk
- Promoting smooth transitions for seniors across the continuum of care
- Developing capacity for the implementation of various evidence-based tools across the continuum of care (e.g., PIECES, MDS-RAI)
- Facilitating the transfer of knowledge-to-practice

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT & NETWORK BUILDING

As change agents, PRCs collaborate to bring together new innovations, required resources & the right people to meet the changing needs of seniors, by:

- Facilitating linkages between agencies who provide healthcare, community and social services for seniors in their communities

- Bridging opportunities for knowledge transfer at the local, regional, provincial and national level
- Fostering connections among providers to support Networks (e.g., Dementia Networks) that work holistically to identify gaps and meet the needs of seniors
- Advancing the integration of new legislation

EDUCATION

PRCs are field-based knowledge brokers who help by:

- Assisting to identify learning needs and develop education plans
- Enabling the uptake of evidence-based approaches to everyday practice through continual formal and informal education and on-the-job coaching (e.g., PIECES, U-First, Me & U-First, Gentle Persuasive Approaches)
- Encouraging staff to develop specialized skills and knowledge to enhance their comfort in caring for people with complex needs
- Influencing best practices through collaboration with post-secondary institutions & training centres
- Empowering teams to engage in problem-solving and solution-finding through knowledge transfer