Introduction and Background

- There are more than 46 million older adults in the US. By 2050 that number is expected to be over 90 million, with the most significant increase occurring between 2020 and 2030. There is an increasing need for Gerontological Specialists.
- In 2008, the APRN Consensus model was published. The reorganized population foci removed Geriatrics as a specialty and combined Adult and Gerontological populations. GAPNA saw a clear need to maintain and advance specialization in Geriatrics in order to meet the needs of a growing older adult population and commissioned a study of APRN practices essential to quality care for older adults.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Proficiency</th>
<th>% of Test</th>
<th># of Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Performs comprehensive assessment of the complex older adult.</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Performs appropriate screening, diagnostic testing, treatment and planning of care for the complex older adult.</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Prescribes medications, including consideration of risks and benefits of pharmacotherapy, for the complex older adult.</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>Uses a system-based approach to design and implement educational strategies to optimize health outcomes.</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Coordinates/Manages palliative and end-of-life care congruent with goals and values of the older adult and family/loved ones.</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>Anticipates and manages transition of care between sites and providers.</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>Uses a systems-based approach to anticipate and deploy resources to optimize outcomes for older adult populations.</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>9</td>
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Project Aims

- Grow my leadership skills through leading a GAPNA Initiative.
- Organize a team and develop a process for development of a GS-C study guide.
- Learn the publishing process through work with the GAPNA Leadership team and the National office.
- Create a Gerontological Specialist review book that would benefit and appeal to those preparing the take the GS-C exam, APRNs in clinical practice, students and educators.

Project Process

- Leadership Institute September 2020-September 2021
- Identify and mobilize a team to create a GS-C review book
- Utilize GAPNA experts as authors and seek additional contributors and reviewers from the GAPNA membership

Outcomes

- All content has been written, reviewed, and edited. It is now in the final editing and publishing process.
- Plan is for it to be published in Spring 2022.

Next Steps & Lessons Learned

- The Leadership Institute and project was a great opportunity to move out of my comfort zone and further develop my leadership (and publication) skills.
- Contributing to building the much needed APRN workforce specialized in caring for older adults
- Gaining new knowledge about publishing
- Deepening my understanding of professional organization processes
- Building a network of amazing colleagues

- If you see a need that is not being met within your practice, GAPNA has the resources to develop toolkits, clinical practice guidelines, publications, etc. to enhance your practice. For more information, you can reach out to the National Office at gapna@gapna.org to discuss your ideas.

Special thanks to Debbie Dunn, Katherine Evans, the Leadership Institute mentors, the fellows, Sherry Greenburg, the GAPNA leadership team, the national office, the publishing team, and the amazing group of authors and content reviewers that helped make this project a reality.