What you will learn:

- To define the difference between the terms capacity and competence.
- What are the implications for a diagnosis of dementia on assessing capacity.
- The process of capacity assessment and the Appelbaum and Grisso principles in medical decision making.
- The role of a Power of Attorney and risk reduction as strategies to support patient decision-making.

GERI TIPS:

- There is no “gold standard” for determining capacity.
- The key question for a practitioner to ask is not “Is this person ‘competent’ or do they “have decision making capacity” but rather “does this person have decision making capacity for a certain decision in a specific situation”.
- When questioning a patient’s decision making ability, get the family or caregiver(s) involved early to establish plans for a Power of Attorney or other options to support the patient.

Length: 16:22 minutes

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References:


Reviewed by Faculty of the

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