Kaiser Permanente is among the nation’s largest and most highly regarded health care delivery organizations. One in four insured Californians belongs to the Kaiser Permanente Health Plan. As a member of our Fellowship program, you will learn to practice compassionate, evidence-based, and cost-effective medical care—an approach indispensable to providing health care in all future settings.

The Program
The Los Angeles Medical Center campus functions both as a community health center and as a tertiary care facility for Kaiser Permanente of Southern California. The campus also serves as one of the clinical teaching sites for the Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine. The Geriatric Medicine Los Angeles program aims to train competent, well-rounded Geriatricians with a strong palliative skill-set. Our program is unique in that it is situated in an amazingly diverse and culturally rich metropolitan area with an elderly population representing the full gamut of geriatric syndromes, chronic medical illnesses, education, ethnic, and socioeconomic strata. As a fellow, you will have an unparalleled degree of patient continuity that is rarely found in other medical systems.

You will enjoy a robust clinical practice and a research division devoted entirely to resident projects. In addition, the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center offers over 20 other residency and fellowship programs that provide opportunities for synergistic collaboration and education amongst fellow trainees.

Goals and Objectives
Our one-year geriatric medicine fellowship is organized to provide a superior educational experience in a managed care setting. As a fellow, you will gain the competency and confidence to manage geriatric patients and serve as a consultant to other medical providers. Fellows are provided with the knowledge and skills necessary to sit for the Geriatric Medicine Certification Exam. All of our previous geriatric fellows have passed their board examinations on the first attempt. Our graduating fellows are highly sought after and obtain their desired employment in all settings of care.
The training program also imparts fellows with the communication skills critical to educating, discussing, and delivering individualized information to patients and their families regarding quality of life, chronic disease progression, palliative and end-of-life care.

Teaching Program
Geriatric fellows care for a large and ethnically diverse patient population with a variety of medical problems across a wide range of inpatient, outpatient, and community settings. Our fellows function within a physician-directed inter-disciplinary team where complex geriatric patients are discussed and managed in a collaborative fashion. By considering an individual’s functional, cognitive, emotional, socioeconomic, and spiritual domains, our fellows develop the insight to manage the nuanced needs of the multi-faceted elderly population.

The longitudinal education settings comprise system-based population management, skilled (postacute), subacute, rehabilitative, custodial, and home-based care (acute, palliative, and hospice). These robust experiences provide a strong foundation for developing interdisciplinary leadership, telephonic management proficiency, transitional care expertise, and skillful approaches to conducting family meetings that discuss progression of chronic disease states and end-of-life situations.

To enhance their teaching skills, our fellows mentor Family Medicine and Internal Medicine residents in addition to affiliate medical students from major universities on principles of geriatric care. Fellows also collaborate with faculty physicians, nurses, social workers, and allied health professionals to expand the quality of care for older patients.

Fellows also have the opportunity to:
- Give educational talks on various subjects relating to healthy aging at Community Health Centers
- Participate in a two-week long Health Policy elective
- Participate in academic endeavors including journal clubs, quality improvement projects, and the development of lectures to resident and attending physicians
- Join in institutional committees such as the hospital residency house staff committee, graduate medical education committee, drug utilization action team, and bioethics

Research Opportunities
Keeping abreast with the geriatrics literature and participating in scholarly activities is a vital component of the geriatrics fellowship. Our fellows are given regularly scheduled protected time to focus on their annual project. Seminars are scheduled into the core curriculum to assist in research design and methodology. Fellows are encouraged to present at local and national venues such as the UCLA Family Medicine Multi-Campus Research Forum and the Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society.

Visit residency-scal-kaiserpermanente.org to learn more about our faculty & fellows, program curriculum, salary & benefits, and how to apply.

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