

Moderator Guide | Case Discussion | Role of Physiotherapist in Multidisciplinary Team



Authors

Asha Wettasinghe - University of Colombo, Sri Lanka
KRM Chandrathilaka - University of Colombo, Sri Lanka
Kaveera Senanayake - University of Colombo, Sri Lanka
Sabela Rivas Neira - University of A Coruña, Spain
Jamile Vivas Costa - University of A Coruña, Spain

Consortium CAPAGE

1. University of Applied Sciences FH JOANNEUM, Austria
2. JAMK University of Applied Sciences, Finland
3. Santa Maria Health School, Portugal
4. University of A Coruña, Spain
5. Eastern University, Sri Lanka
6. General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Sri Lanka
7. University of Colombo, Sri Lanka
8. University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka
9. University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
10. University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka



All content is licensed CC-BY-SA-4.0

Purpose:

To facilitate student learning through active engagement in interdisciplinary involvement in geriatric care

Before the session:

- Invite participants from different disciplines (e.g., medicine, nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, social work)
 - Assign roles if needed (case presenter, timekeeper, etc.)
 - Set a time limit for the entire session (e.g., 180 minutes)
 - Introduction – 5 minutes
 - Presentation of cases – 3 minutes per case * 5 cases = 15 minutes
 - Interdisciplinary discussion on perspectives - 20 minutes*5 cases = 100 minutes
 - Interdisciplinary discussion on management – 10 minutes*5 cases = 50 minutes
 - Wrap up – 10 minutes
-

During the session:**Structure of the discussion (60 minutes)**

- A. Opening (5 minutes)
 - Welcome everyone
 - Briefly introduce the purpose:
“Today we are discussing a geriatric case to better understand how we can collaborate across disciplines for patient-centered care.”
 - Set ground rules: respect, equal speaking time, no interruptions
- B. Case Presentation (3 minutes per case)
 - Ask the presenter to describe:
 - Patient background
 - Medical history
 - Current condition
 - Functional issues
 - Physiotherapy involvement

C. Discipline-Specific Perspectives (20 minutes per case)

Ask each discipline to reflect on:

- What are the key concerns from your perspective?
- What assessments/interventions would you suggest?
- What are the expected outcomes?

Example questions for each group:

- Physiotherapist: “What functional goals can be addressed?”
- Doctor: “What are the main medical concerns or risks?”
- Nurse: “What daily care challenges do you see?”
- OT/Social Worker: “What supports are needed for home/community care?”

Encourage interaction and clarification among disciplines.

D. Interdisciplinary Planning (10 minutes per case)

Facilitate a joint plan:

- What are the shared goals?
- Who will do what?
- How will we communicate?

E. Wrap-up and Reflections (10 minutes)

- Summarize key discussion points and care plan.
- Ask participants:
 - “What did you learn?”
 - “What would you do differently in your practice?”
- Thank everyone for their contributions.

Tips for the moderator

- Keep time
 - Encourage quieter members to speak
 - Manage dominant voices politely
 - Refocus the group if off-topic
 - Ensure collaboration, not competition
-