

**Adam Oplinger BS, RN, CEN, TCRN****Geriatric Trauma**

Adam started his career as a volunteer EMT in Hammondsport in 1989, he then went on to become a Paramedic where he worked Rural Metro Medical Services Southern Tier as Education Coordinator, worked at Finger Lakes as a Director of Training, at Mercy Flight Central as a flight Paramedic / Nurse and other Ambulances services through out New York. Adam went on to become a register nurse and worked at University of Rochester Medical Center in the Pediatric Cardiac Care and Pediatric Transport. He is now the Trauma Injury Prevention and Outreach Coordinator for Kessler Trauma Center.

Geriatric Trauma

The silver tsunami is bearing down on us all, in fact, it has already begun to crash down on many of our emergency departments. Will you be prepared for the inevitable increase in traumatic injuries that will accompany the “graying of America”? This discussion will touch on how our population is changing, why traumatic injuries that seem relatively minor to a younger individual can be devastating to an older adult and some strategies you can employ when the injured older individual arrives at your center. We will also discuss opportunities for community outreach that can help to raise awareness of the danger of traumatic injuries, particularly falls with the older adult population in your area as well as identifying resources for injury reduction.

Learning outcomes:

1. Participants will be able to discuss the dangers of under-triage in injured older adults.
2. Participants will be able to describe some of the physiologic changes of aging that make care of the injured older adult more challenging.
3. Participants will be able to identify injury prevention resources that can assist in fall prevention for injured older adults.

References:

- ACS Trauma Programs. (2023). *Best practices guidelines: Geriatric trauma management, November, 2023*. American College of Surgeons.
<https://www.facs.org/media/ubvj2ubl/best-practices-guidelines-geriatric-trauma.pdf>
- American College of Surgeons. (2015) *Rural Trauma Team Development Course* (4th ed.). American College of Surgeons.
- American College of Surgeons. (2018). *Advanced trauma life support student course manual* (10th ed.). American College of Surgeons.