

**LONG TERM CARE:
CONSIDERATIONS FOR TODAY & TOMORROW**

1. THE VA MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM – A MODEL APPROACH

- a. Utilizing individual members expertise
 - M.D.
 - Nursing
 - Nutritional Services
 - Pharmacy

2. INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE – RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Proposed legislation “Patient Safety Improvement Act”

3. ADVERSE EVENTS – A LOOK AT THE RECENT LITERATURE

- a. Medication-related problems:
 - Overuse
 - Under use
 - Errors
- b. Nutrition:
 - Hydration
 - Failure to thrive

4. QUALITY OF CARE -- A PLAN IS NECESSARY!

- a. Identification of a problem – non-punitive
- b. Plan of action for change
- c. Integration of the plan utilizing a team approach
- d. Evaluation

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OBJECTIVES

AT THE END OF THIS PRESENTATION THE PARTICIPANTS WILL:

- 1. Become familiar with the interdisciplinary team at the West Palm Beach VA Extended Care Service.**
- 2. Understand the possible implications of the “Patient Safety Improvement Act” recently approved by The House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health.**
- 3. Be able to explain what an A.D.E. (Adverse Drug Event) is and the possible legal implications of these events.**
- 4. Identify the step by step process, which is an ongoing necessity in long term facilities, for identification of patient related problems and/or errors.**
- 5. Be able to implement a quality assurance program, even with limited staffing, to improve quality for the long term care patient.**