

Mission Statement

Geriatrics Associates, PC is a multi-specialty group of family physicians, internists, physician assistants and nurse practitioners who provide primary care to residents in the long-term care and hospice settings. We strive to provide thorough, timely medical care delivered with love, compassion and respect for each one of our residents. We act as an active advocate for both our patients and their families. We have a reverent respect for each person as a gift from God.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Geriatrics Associates, PC
Long-Term Care and Hospice

Associates

H. Huson Middleton III, MD, CMD
J. Mario Lovato MD, FAAFP, CMD
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Lakshmi Ganga, MD
Däne K. Wicks MD, FAAFP
John A. Bennett, MD
Samuel Goldman, MD
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William S. Lovekin, MD, FACP
Carol L. Merovka, MD
Mary E. McGuiggin, MD
Walter B. Forman, MD, FACP, CMD
Sharyl Magnuson Boyle MD, FAAFP
Pamela M. Snow RN, MSN, PA-C
G. Carman de la Cruz RN, CANP
Timothy D. Krenik MS, PA-C
Melanie A. Mayo RN, MSN, CFNP
William F. Riesterer PA-C, MPAS
Camille R. Johnson RN, MSN, CFNP

Support Staff

Katherine H. Middleton BA, MEd
Karen Davis LPN, CMOM
Rebecca Georgia
Jessica Gallegos, CMOA
Monica E. Sedillo, MA
Dorothy Jo Sanchez RN, MSN, CNM
Maggie Chavez
Laurie Zunner, BSW
Monica Gallegos, CMA

Geriatrics Associates, PC
Long-Term Care and Hospice

Geriatrics Associates, PC is an organization of dedicated and compassionate physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners committed to providing quality care to their residents and patients. We also serve those who have chosen hospice in either their home, nursing home or assisted-living facility.

Our goal is to provide primary care to our residents and patients as either a bridge between their hospitalization and eventual return to their home setting or, if necessary, to provide long-term care for those who cannot return home. The patients receiving therapy and short-term care after a hospitalization are referred to by Medicare as skilled patients; those receiving long-term care are referred to as non-skilled residents.

In addition to providing care for residents in the skilled and non-skilled setting, we also support hospice and palliative care for those residents seeking quality-of-life and comfort over endless procedures and repeated hospitalizations. Relieving pain and suffering at the end of life in either the nursing home, assisted-living facility or home where they live is one of our primary goals. And, there are many available treatment modalities to allow those choosing palliative care and hospice to be comfortable and pain-free.

Knowing that you have a choice of providers, we strive to be available and accessible to you, whether you are in your own home, or in the long-term care facilities that we serve.

Philosophy

Geriatrics Associates, PC occupies a unique position in the healthcare community. We provide a similar service to nursing homes that hospitalists provide to hospitals. Hospitalists are family physicians and internists that care for hospitalized patients. Many primary care and specialty physicians choose to remain in their offices and clinics to be more available to their patients. In years past these primary care physicians saw patients not only in their clinics, but also in the hospitals and long-term care settings. However, as the number of primary care physicians has diminished, they concentrate on their clinic practice and forego the daunting challenge of providing services in all areas.

Our role in the healthcare community is to become the "hospitalists" for the long-term care population. Therefore, we do not work in a clinic or have traditional "office hours" to see our patients. We go to our patients in all 17 of the long-term care facilities in Albuquerque. This allows us to be available during the entire day rather than for an hour or two before and/or after a busy clinic practice. We practice full-time in our long-term care community. This service has been met with extraordinary applause from healthcare leaders as a concept long overdue given the increasing complexity and acuity of patients in the nursing homes and rehabilitation centers in Albuquerque.

THE ASSOCIATES

Dr. Middleton and his wife, Kathy, started Geriatrics Associates, PC in May 2001. **Dr. Middleton** (Baylor and LSU) is a certified medical director and family physician with over 25 years of experience in long-term care medicine. **Dr. Lovato** (UNM and Michigan State) is a family physician and certified medical director, is a native New Mexican with over 12 years experience in long-term care medicine. **Dr. Zamanian** (UNM) is a pharmacist and internist. **Dr. Ganga** (UNM) has multiple specialties including OB-GYN, internal medicine and geriatrics. **Dr. Wicks** (UNM and Missouri) is a family physician with a keen interest in epidemiology. **Dr. Goldman** (Illinois) is an internist and specialist in hospice and palliative care. **Dr. Bennett** (Cornell) is a specialist in OB-GYN and has additional training in internal medicine, hospice and palliative care.

Dr. Farrell (Rice and Duke) is an internist and rheumatologist. **Dr. Lovekin** (Arizona and Columbia) is an internist and cardiologist. **Dr. Merovka** (UNM) has been a family physician for over 25 years in Albuquerque and has most recently worked as a quality officer with the NM Department of Health. **Dr. McGuiggin** (BUSM) came to the Southwest in 2003 to provide primary care on the Navajo Nation. She now joins us in our mission of providing primary care to the elderly. **Dr. Forman** (Wayne State) is an internist and geriatrician. **Dr. Magnuson** (Oregon) is a family physician with a special interest in coagulopathy. **Ms. Snow** is a certified physician assistant. **Ms. de la Cruz** is a geriatric nurse practitioner. **Mr. Krenik** is a certified physician assistant. **Ms. Mayo** is a nurse practitioner with special interests in hospice and palliative care.

Mr. Riesterer is a physician assistant recently in charge of the St. Francis University Physician Assistant program. **Ms. Johnson** is a certified family nurse practitioner.

OFFICE STAFF

Geriatrics Associates, PC is fortunate to have exceptional, experienced office personnel. **Kathy Middleton BA, MEd**, does our Medicare and hospice billing. **Karen Davis LPN, CMOM**, is a former assistant director of nursing and our executive director. **Rebecca Georgia**, our assistant executive director, helps with prior authorizations, billing and accounts receivables. **Jessica Gallegos**, a certified medical office assistant and phlebotomist, is also our receptionist. **Monica Sedillo** is our clinical medical assistant. **Dorothy Jo Sanchez RN, MSN, CNM** is our nurse clinical coordinator and credentialing officer. **Maggie Chavez** is our administrative assistant. **Laurie Zunner, BSW**, is a geriatric social worker and medical records specialist. **Monica Gallegos, CMA**, is our clinical medical assistant.

BILLING PRACTICES

We work in collaboration with the nursing facilities and hospice agencies. It is our goal to provide accurate and timely billing to your primary and secondary insurers. The fees for seeing one of our associates are not included in the fees paid to the nursing facility. **We are required by Medicare law to bill separately to your insurance carriers.** We bill according to the information provided to us and if it is inaccurate please contact our office and we can make corrections and adjustments. We accept all carriers including Medicare, Medicaid, Blue-Cross Blue-Shield, Tricare, Presbyterian, Lovelace, United Healthcare, Amerigroup, Aetna, Cigna and others too numerous to list.

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