

Melissa O'Connor, PhD

The M. Louise Fitzpatrick Endowed Professor in Community and Home Health Nursing | M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing at Villanova University

Villanova, PA, US

Melissa O'Connor, PhD, MBA, RN, FGSA, FAAN, is an expert in home health care, geriatric nursing and transitions in care.

Biography

Dr. Melissa O'Connor is the The M. Louise Fitzpatrick Endowed Professor in Community and Home Health Nursing and Director of the Gerontology Interest Group (The GiG), a campus-wide collaboration of students, faculty, and staff who engage in research, advocacy and workforce development to support the needs of the aging population. Her work aims to aid geriatric health care providers in clinical decision-making and care management and, in parallel, helps the elderly age in place in the community, thus avoiding hospitalization. She frequently uses large data sets in her studies. She is an excellent source on geriatric nursing and home health care, including the need to create a systemic, evidence-based mechanism to identify patients who are ready for discharge from hospital care and home health services.

Areas of Expertise

Applied Health Informatics, Geriatric Home Health, Geriatric Nursing, Geriatrics and Gerontology, Telehealth, Transitions in Care

Affiliations

Board of Trustees, Visiting Nurse Association of Greater Philadelphia , Eugenie and Joseph Doyle Research Fellow, Center for Home Care Policy & Research, Visiting Nurse Service of New York, Associate Faculty, Center for Business Analytics, Villanova School of Business, Associate Faculty, NewCourtland Center for Transitions and Health, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing

Education

University of Pennsylvania

PhD

Eastern University

MBA

Thomas Jefferson University

BSN

Select Accomplishments

Distinguished Educator in Gerontological Nursing

National Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence (NHCGNE) 2018

Rising Star Research Award

Eastern Nursing Research Society 2017

Excellence in Research Award

Alpha Nu Chapter, Villanova University College of Nursing Sigma Theta Tau International 2016

Geriatric/Gerontological Nursing Award

Springer Publishing Company 2015

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