



STATEMENT FOR HEALTH EQUITY

Updated: January 2024

The leaders of the Geriatric Emergency Department Accreditation (GEDA) and the Geriatric Emergency Department Collaborative (GEDC) believe that health equity is the foundation of healthcare for all populations, including older populations. We are committed to ensuring that older patients receive unbiased, non-discriminatory, well-coordinated, quality emergency care at the appropriate level at every emergency department (ED) encounter. We will foster a culture where the dignity and diversity of all people are valued and respected.

GEDA and GEDC recognize that accessible and equitable care is a right for all persons, regardless of their identity (race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality), ability, geography, social status, or ability to pay. We strive to create and sustain an inclusive and welcoming ED where all individuals, including patients, family members, employees, and community members feel valued, respected, and empowered.

GEDA and GEDC seek to increase the ED workforce trained in geriatric emergency care in number and diversity and to increase the capacity of rural hospital centers. Doing so will address the unmet needs of a diverse older population.

GEDA and GEDC seek to understand and address the unique healthcare needs and challenges that diverse populations face to ensure that our services are culturally responsive, accessible, and equitable. Through our educational and implementation programs as well as the accreditation process, we will provide ongoing education and training to eliminate health disparities in underserved and historically marginalized communities.

GEDA and GEDC are committed to developing a framework in the future to evaluate data collection processes from accredited EDs. This will enhance our understanding of the diverse needs of older populations and ensure that the care provided is equitable.