

Learning Activity:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	EXPANDED CONTENT OUTLINE
Appraise the challenges in the assessment and screening of older adults with AUD in the primary care setting.	Discussion of the challenges in the identification of AUD in older adults. On the provider side, there are time constraints in primary care settings, emphasis on physical comorbidities, discomfort in addressing if problem exists, and lack of knowledge about the prevalence of the problem and available and appropriate screening instruments. On the client side, there can be significant denial, stigma and shame. Review of specific screening instruments recommended for use in older adults, such as the CAGE and MAST-G (including advantages and disadvantages).
Integrate emerging research evidence regarding AUD in older adults and targeted interventions that optimize successful treatment.	Discussion of the concept of alcohol screening and brief interventions (ASBIs) as they relate to AUD treatment. Commonly-used strategies include mutual help groups, cognitive behavioral therapy, motivational interviewing and the FRAMES model. Recent literature highlights the need for tailored/targeted interventions for this age group, such as AA meetings comprised primarily of older adults where similar life experiences can be shared.
Delineate ways in which nurses can impact the identification and treatment of older adults with AUD, including referral, teaching and advocacy in community-based settings.	Discuss the opportunities for nurses to assess, screen, advocate and make appropriate referrals for older adults with AUD.