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A geriatric health care expert who has focused on reducing the incidence of falls among the elderly, Deanna Gray-Miceli serves as a professor in the Jefferson College of Nursing and is Director of Implementation Science for Falls Prevention at the Jefferson Center for Injury Research & Prevention.

Dr. Gray-Miceli's research- and practice-based innovations – developed during more than three decades of work – have helped reduce the number falls among older adults in long-term care, where more than 60 percent of America's 1.53 million elderly people reside. She has developed and tested a practice-based process of care measure for use by registered nurses with older patients who fall in nursing homes.

As part of a 2002-2004 Post Doctoral Fellowship funded by the John A Hartford Foundation, Dr. Gray-Miceli was the Principal Investigator who led development and psychometric testing of an innovative a 30-item comprehensive post-fall assessment and clinical decision support tool, called the Post-Fall Index™. The PFI™ has been shown effective in reducing total and recurrent falls among older adults in long-term care.

Dr. Gray-Miceli has also led large scale educational interventions in acute-care hospitals within state government to reduce falls by creating novel nurse-driven educational solutions shown to significantly impact fall outcomes. Her interdisciplinary work is stellar and she translates her work to the long-term care staff so they can implement the strategies and improve documented care—with fall prevention being a prime example.

Dr. Gray-Miceli's interest in aging began as a teenager when she volunteered at a nursing home. Her first-hand experiences led to her professional practice career as a nationally certified master's prepared Gerontological Nurse Practitioner. For more than 14 years, she collaborated with an interdisciplinary geriatric team managing the care of older adults and their family caregivers through an ambulatory Dementia Evaluation Program (DEP) and Falls Assessment Program (FAPP), in addition to work within numerous long term care facilities.

She has created and taught several innovative undergraduate and graduate courses to teach students best practice care of older adults.

Dr. Gray-Miceli is a Fellow of four prestigious associations of health care professionals – the American Academy of Nursing, the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, the National Academies of Practice, the Gerontological Society of America.

She earned her PhD in nursing at Widener University. She also holds a master's degree in nursing from the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor's degree in nursing from Fairleigh Dickinson University.