

As Chronic Illness Becomes More Common, College Students Need More Help

February 12th Seminar Aims To Teach Higher Ed Administrators, Faculty and Health Care Personnel How to Accommodate and Serve Students With Chronic Conditions.

ALBANY, N.Y., JANUARY 21, 2009 -- There are people in college classrooms today who couldn't be there just a few years ago. That's cause for celebration.

Students with chronic illnesses, such as multiple sclerosis, heart disease, diabetes and cancer, have new academic opportunities. They're able to enroll and attend classes despite conditions that once made a college education virtually unattainable.

This is good news for the academic community, which benefits from their presence, and chronically ill students, who have a greater chance for career success by achieving a college degree. But the good news does not come without challenges. To be successful, these students require policies and services that differ from those offered to students with traditional, acute disabilities, such as blindness, hearing impairment or paraplegia.

How do school administrators create policies that reflect and address the service needs of these students? How do clinicians implement service delivery plans? How do faculty accommodate unique student needs? And how do all of them deal with the fact that many conditions – such as diabetes and asthma – have seen a dramatic escalation of incidence rates in recent years?

Answering these questions is the subject of an online seminar on February 12th from 1 to 2:30 p.m. EST led by nationally known author, clinician and health-care CEO Patricia Fennell, MSW, LCSW-R. Participants in "**Managing Students With Chronic Illness: In and Outside the Classroom**" will learn how to best serve the interests of both students in need *and* their institutions as a whole.

In 90 fast-paced minutes, Ms. Fennell will discuss requirements and options for serving chronically ill students from the clinical, administrative and pedagogical perspectives. Based on her Fennell Four Phase treatment model, she'll explain proper planning and responses for students in four stages of illness: Crisis; Stabilization; Resolution; and Integration.

The seminar is hosted by Student Affairs Leader, a company that helps student affairs and student services leaders make informed decisions and provide effective leadership in enhancing students' well-being and development. The biweekly *Student Affairs Leader* newsletter offers

case studies and advice from professional peers and includes quick-scan news of new research and emerging student behavioral trends.

The cost for the seminar is only \$246 per site (not per person), which allows a group of higher education faculty to sign on from a lecture hall or meeting facility to maximize training budgets while helping build consensus on the best approach for their institution. The price will increase to \$271 for institutions registering after February 5th. More information is available at <http://www.magnapubs.com/calendar/282.html>, by calling 800-433-0499 or by e-mail at custserv@magnapubs.com.

Ms. Fennell, President and CEO of [Albany Health Management Associates, Inc.](http://AlbanyHealthManagementAssociates.com), is the creator of the Fennell Four-Phase Treatment (FFPT™) model, a highly practical, internationally utilized and empirically validated approach to clinical management of chronic illness, trauma and emotional loss. It addresses the complexity of these conditions by matching best clinical practices to four phases – crisis, stabilization, resolution and integration -- and identifies the most appropriate and effective interventions for each phase. The FFPT model provides a narrative framework and cognitive map for all persons affected by a crime, helping them describe, understand and adapt to life following a trauma-producing event or condition. For more information about Ms. Fennell or Albany Health Management Associates, Inc., please call (518) 782-0551 or visit AlbanyHealthManagement.com or PatriciaFennell.com.

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