Lorraine J. Phillips, PhD, RN, FAAN
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Wednesday, May 10, 2017
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm
STAR Atrium

Research to Promote Function and Minimize Disability in Later Life

In 2014, persons aged 65 years and older numbered 46.2 million and represented 14.5% of the population. By 2040, this proportion is expected to grow even larger, to 21.7%. Yet for nearly 40% of older adults, disability threatens independence and quality of life. My research is driven by a commitment to minimize functional decline and the progression of disability in this population. In this presentation I discuss quality of care research in nursing homes, physical activity research in assisted living communities, and sensor technology advances in senior housing. Innovative research and practice solutions will be critical to help the growing population of older Americans optimize their physical and mental functioning for as long as possible.
About the author...

Lorraine Phillips is Associate Professor and John A. Hartford Foundation Claire M. Fagin Fellow of the Sinclair School of Nursing at the University of Missouri Health (MU). Her research addresses physical activity and fall prevention in older adults and quality of care for nursing home residents. Lorraine Phillips joined the MU Sinclair School of Nursing faculty in 2007. Prior to her appointment at MU, she worked as a nurse practitioner in primary care and long-term care. Dr. Phillips is the Project Director of the Quality Improvement Program for Missouri nursing homes and an Associate Director of the MU Meta-analysis Research Center. She is the Treasurer for the National Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence and recently served on the National Quality Forum’s Home and Community-Based Services Steering Committee. Dr. Phillips holds Editorial Board positions with Research in Gerontological Nursing and Doody Enterprises, Inc.’s Long Term Care and Geriatric Nursing groups. As a central Missouri Area Agency on Aging volunteer, she leads Matter of Balance programs in Missouri.