

Disability-Competence Curriculum Care Online Course

To help reduce health disparities for individuals with disabilities by educating the providers that serve them

Healthcare providers can earn up to seven American Academy of Family Physicians prescribed CME credits – one credit for each module completed. The course will help healthcare providers assess their practice's disability competent care and will teach:

- The importance of disability competent care in a healthcare setting.
- Processes to enhance communication.
- How to improve physical access for patients.
- How to advocate for patients with disabilities within the system of care; and
- How to safely complete transfers to deliver services to all patients.

“ Twenty-six percent of the adult population in the U.S. has a disability, yet clinicians generally get no training on caring for people with disabilities. This curriculum will start to change that.”

- Barry Martin, M.D., a primary care provider with CU Medicine, Denver Health & Chanda Center for Health



About the Chanda Center for Health

The [Chanda Center for Health](#) delivers and advocates for integrative therapy, primary care and other complementary services to improve health outcomes and reduce healthcare costs for people with long-term physical disabilities, such as spinal cord injuries, brain injuries, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis and spina bifida.

About the Disability Competent Care Online Course

The Center recently developed and launched a seven-module online course to help reduce health disparities for individuals with disabilities by educating the healthcare providers and professionals that serve them.

The course – called “[Disability-Competence Curriculum for Healthcare Providers](#)” – is accredited by the Colorado Academy of Family Physicians.

Equitable Healthcare for all. Why is this Important?

- People with disabilities are considered a health disparity group and are subject to avoidable inequities in access and in the quality of health services.
- The knowledge gap amongst physicians in serving individuals with disabilities is the primary contributor to this inequity.
- In 2009, a report by the National Council on Disability noted that the absence of professional training on disability competency issues for health practitioners is one of the most significant barriers to preventing people with disabilities from receiving appropriate and effective healthcare.
- Disability competency is not a core curriculum requirement for academia or continued education for practicing healthcare professionals.
- Healthcare professionals are serving people's medical needs every day with little to no understanding of the structural or cultural needs of persons with disabilities.
- Disability competency is now required by law.
- Many of the largest healthcare organizations, providers and facilities are “breaking the law” by not offering true disability competent care.

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