
ASSIST YOUR PATIENTS WITH VISUAL PROBLEMS TO NAVIGATE SAFELY

Practical training session

Content: Sensitization training for common mobility problems experienced by patients with visual problems (2 hours), Learn self-protective techniques (1 hour), Learn human guiding techniques (4 hours). Total: 7 hours

Participants: Nurse aides, Rehabilitation professionals (physical therapists, occupational therapists, etc.), Nurses, and Hospital Volunteers

Description: Many patients experience visual problems due to medical emergencies, such as strokes, traumatic brain injuries, cancer, and heart conditions. In Canada, nearly 6 percent of the population lives with a visual impairment and more than 15 percent of the population 75 years and older. Patients with visual problems have difficulties navigating the hospital, which poses significant safety risks during their stay. Visually-impaired persons in Canada have a two-fold higher risk of falling, three-fold higher risk of hip fractures, and are four times as likely to present depressive symptoms. Patients with visual problems have longer hospital stays, higher readmission rates, and present higher costs to the hospital than those without visual impairments. Individuals with low vision can travel safely within the hospital with the aide of a specialist trained in the proper techniques adapted to their visual condition. In addition, the promotion of mobility in patients with visual disorders reduces the risks associated with immobilization during their stay (risks of deconditioning, bedsores, urinary tract infections, etc.).

Number of participants: Minimum 6, maximum 10

Cost: \$220.00/person; \$950.00/group

Location: Medical establishment. Sensitization training will be given in a designated room. Protection and guide techniques will be practiced in various locations throughout the medical establishment.

Objectives: At the end of training, each participant will be able to:

- Identify the mobility issues experienced by individuals with visual problems
- Analyze the risks associated with mobility restrictions for visually-impaired individuals
- Select the appropriate methods to assist patients to navigate safely during their hospital stay
- Teach self-protection techniques to patients with visual problems and their loved ones
- Guide visually-impaired patients safely throughout the hospital
- Facilitate the navigation of patients with low vision to their clinical appointments
- Refer visually-impaired persons to the appropriate services at the end of their hospital stay

Certificate:

A certificate of achievement will be provided to the participant once training is completed and approved by the presenter.

Presenter:

Joe Nemargut, COMS, PhD

As a certified orientation and mobility (O&M) specialist, I aim to improve the quality of life and social participation of clients by assuring that they travel safely in their chosen environment. Since graduating as an O&M at the University of Montreal in 2015, and thanks to my doctoral and postdoctoral studies in retinal physiology, I have been able to apply my knowledge to train future O&M professionals at the University of Montreal. Over the years, I have developed and integrated novel approaches to train individuals with low vision. I have experience working with clients of all age groups, as well as those with multiple physical and sensory handicaps.



Registration:

To sign up or for more information, send an email to formation@povsolutions.ca

When paying by cheque, pay to the order of: Joe Nemargut

*Coffee and pastries will be provided free of charge