

NYU BOLD PARTNER SPOTLIGHT:



Please include a brief bio here.

Wynnelena Canlas Canio, MD, AGSF, CMD, is a geriatrician and psychiatrist who serves as the Chief of Geriatric Medicine at Kaiser Permanente (KP) San Rafael and Regional Dementia Care Clinical Lead for KP Northern California. Dr. Canio started her career at KP in 2012, when she joined KP Santa Rosa as Chief of Geriatric Medicine. She developed strategic initiatives to support the care of older adults, including the implementation of geriatric programs and interdisciplinary workforce geriatric training. Dr. Canio's work and advocacy extend beyond KP as she has been involved in shaping public policy, including being a member of the California Governor's Alzheimer's Prevention and Preparedness Task Force and the State Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Advisory Committee, and has been an active board of director member of local community organizations, such as Sonoma Senior Advocacy, Vivalon, and Alzheimer's Association.

Key takeaways:

- KP Northern California's goal is to provide their patients who have a diagnosis of dementia with education, services, resources, support and guidance every step of the way, to help improve the quality of their lives as well as their caregiver.
- KP Northern California one-KP model of care was developed by their memory care services in different departments with different scopes and structures.

Please start by telling everyone a little bit about the work that you're doing.

Kaiser Permanente Northern California is in the process of standardizing the care provided for our members with dementia, from referral processes, entry to memory care services, diagnostic process, and plan of care, which includes management of dementia syndromes, education about diseases, and caregiver education, and support.

What's the story behind why you're doing what you're doing?

KP Northern California has memory care services in different departments with different scopes, structures, and operations. We are sharing the best practices from the various medical centers and developing a one-KP model of care.

Tell us about some parts of your projects that you're working on now that you are really excited about.

I am excited about the progress we have made with the design of the model of care and the gradual implementation of each recommendation, revising the design as needed.

For people who want to know more about your current work and programs, what are 1-2 pieces of information that you think is important for them to know?

Develop a strategic team of stakeholders who care for people with dementia and leverage resources, such as technology and internal/external resources/support to aid in longitudinally managing all the complexity of care needs.

What would you tell someone who wanted to start a similar program like yours in their own setting (e.g., another state, county, or city)?

Check the community organizations in your area and meet with the folks leading these organizations. You will see a lot of organizations are already doing this work. Form a partnership if their services can meet the needs of your patients and their caregivers.

Where else can people look to find out more about all the great work that you're doing?

Please visit our Dementia Care Program's website at <https://thrive.kaiserpermanente.org/care-near-you/northern-california/sanrafael/departments/geriatric-medicine/dementia-care-program/>

What is one thing that you wish people knew more about early detection of dementia?

It is important to include the caregivers from the time of the evaluation to ongoing care plans. Caregivers need a lot more support than what we can provide in the clinic.

Thank you so much for your time and for all the great work that you do!