

James S. Powers, MD

Session: Origins of Hospice Care

James S. Powers, MD is Professor of Medicine, and Adjunct Associate Professor of Nursing at Vanderbilt where he runs the Geriatric Fellowship. He is also the Associate Clinical Director of the Tennessee Valley GRECC. Dr. Powers received a BA cum laude from Wesleyan University (CT) in 1973 and MD with Distinction in Research from the University of Rochester (NY) in 1977 followed by residency in Internal Medicine at Cleveland Clinic and Case Western Reserve University Hospitals 1977-80. He served in the USPHS National Health Service Corps 1980-83 following which he was recruited to Vanderbilt to develop a Geriatric Medicine Teaching Program which has developed into a Geriatric Division.

Beginning with a small teaching nursing home program, he developed a Geriatric Clinic at Vanderbilt as well as a Consult and Senior Care Service at the VA Hospital in 1987 followed by an Inpatient Senior Care Service at Vanderbilt in 1990, using a collaborative interdisciplinary practice model. Now with over twenty sites of care and numerous Geriatric curricula throughout the medical center, the Vanderbilt Geriatric Program now supports numerous faculty colleagues, a Geriatric Medicine Fellowship, the VA Tennessee Valley Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center, the Vanderbilt Reynolds Geriatric Education Center, and the Vanderbilt Center for Quality in Aging. Author of over 100 papers, books, and book chapters he is in great demand as a lecturer and has devoted his academic career to Geriatric Nutrition, Education, and Healthcare Quality and Safety.