Care of the Aging Medical Patient in the Emergency Room (CampER) Curriculum
Audience Response Questions

These questions are included in the slide presentations as pre-lecture items to assess pre-lecture knowledge. You may use them as audience response questions or as test items. They are included as a separate module document for your ease of review.

Lecture Topic: Infections in the Elderly

1. An 82 year old male presents from home with his wife. The patient is complaining of shaking chills and fever of 101 prior to arrival in the ED. The patient just finished a 10 day course of penicillin yesterday for a salivary gland infection. In the ED, his only complaint is left flank pain. Which of the following does NOT place the patient at increased risk for infection?

   a) History of sarcoid and taking prednisone
   b) History of urostomy bag for 11 years
   c) Daily exercise
   d) Decreased cough reflex
   e) Malnutrition

   Answer: C

2. A 91 year old female presents from a nursing home with change in mental status. Vital signs are temperature 101.8, BP 77/40, HR 85, RR 16, and pulse ox 92% room air. Per patient’s niece, the patient has not been eating well, has a nonproductive cough, and has a Foley catheter in place for 2 months secondary to history of urinary retention. Which of the following organisms is the LEAST likely cause of infection in this patient?

   a) Enterococcus UTI
   b) Enterovirus
   c) S. aureus pneumonia
   d) S. pneumonia meningitis
   e) MRSA cellulitis

   Answer: B

3. A 71 year old male presents with confusion for the past 2 hours. Per the patient’s wife, he was complaining of chest pain at home and she called 911. Vital signs in the ED are BP 220/110, HR 120, Temperature 99.6, RR 16, and pulse ox 93% room air. Of the following lab tests, which is associated with a greater mortality rate during hospitalization?

   a) WBC 15,000 mcL
   b) Serum creatinine 1.5 mg/dL
   c) BUN 45 mg/dL
   d) Lipase 150 Units/L
   e) Lactate level 3.6 mmol/L
Answer: E