Caring for the Older Adult in the Emergency Department

Presenter: Victor Scali, DO
Length: 1 hour
Target Audience:
   Emergency Medicine Residents (Primary)
   Internal Medicine Residents
   Emergency Medicine Faculty

Presentation Overview:
This presentation introduces the Emergency Medicine resident to the complexities of diagnosing and treating the elderly patient. It includes a brief overview of demographics; developing a differential diagnosis; identifying seniors at risk, and, broadly, domain management of the geriatric patient. In addition, residents will learn about the importance of proper transitions of care, both for patients coming into the emergency department and leaving it.

Learning Objectives:
At the end of this presentation, residents will be able to:
1. Describe important population trends and the impact in health care delivery to older adults in the Emergency Department.
2. Utilize the Domain Management Model to prioritize patient care issues and improve decision-making in the emergency room setting.
3. Utilize screening questionnaires to identify high risk older patients.
4. Assess a patient’s functional status and recognize its importance in treatment planning.
5. Recognize the role of polypharmacy, drug-drug, and drug-disease interactions in establishing a differential diagnosis in an older patient.
6. Identify components of the care continuum and importance of transitions to ensure quality of care for the elderly.

Instructional Methods:
   Didactic presentation with PowerPoint slides
   Case-based discussion
   Audience response questions

Evaluation Methods:
   Pre-Test Items
   Post-Test Items
   Reaction survey
Resources:
6. Institute of Medicine Reports:
7. National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey 2002: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/ahcd/adata.htm#Emergency
10. YouTube Lecture Presentation: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ndX3PqN3Gb0&feature=plcp

References:
Please also refer to the resources listed above.

