# **GERIATRICS**

Geriatrics is the branch of internal medicine that deals with health care of aged. It aims to promote health and to prevent and treat diseases and disabilities in older adults.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

- Gerontology: The study of the physical and psychological changes which are incident to old age.
- Clinical Gerontology/Geriatrics: The care of the aged.
- Social Gerontology: It deals with the humanitarian and social attitudes as well as roblems set by the increasing number of old ple.

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## **GERIATRICS**

(SAYINGS ABOUT OLD AGE)

- In the words of Seneca; old age is an incurable disease.
- Sir James Sterling Ross commented: You don't heal old age. You protect it; you promote it; you extend it.

#### AGEING AND HEALTH

#### KEY FACTS

- Between 2015 and 2050, the proportion of the world's population over 60 years will nearly double from 12% to 22%.
- By 2020, the number of people aged 60 years and older will outnumber children younger than 5 years.
- In 2050, 80% of older people will be living in low- and middle-income countries.
- The pace of population ageing is much faster than in the past.
- All countries face major challenges to ensure that their health and social systems are ready to make the most of this demographic shift.

- · Pharmacology
- Psychology
- Polypharmacy
- Orthogenatrics
- Cardio-geriatrics
- Psychogenialnics

# GERIATRICS IMPORTANT SUBJECTS INVOLVED

- Pharmacology
- Psychology
- Polypharmacy
- Orthogeriatrics
- Cardio-geriatrics
- Psychogeriatrics

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## <u>GERIATRICS</u> <u>HEALTH PROBLEMS OF THE AGED</u>

Due to ageing process
 Senile cataract
 Glaucoma
 Bony changes affecting mobility
 Nerve deafness
 Emphysema
 Failure of special senses
 Changes in mental out look

# GERIATRICS HEALTH PROBLEMS OF THE AGED

- Problems associated with long term illness
- Degenerative diseases of heart and blood vessels
- Cancer
- Accidents
- Diabetes
- Diseases of locomotor system
- Respiratory illnesses
- Diseases of genitourinary system

## ELDER ABUSE KEY FACTS

- Around 1 in 6 people 60 years and older experienced some form of abuse in community settings during the past year.
- Rates of elder abuse are high in institutions such as nursing homes and long-term care facilities, with 2 in 3 staff reporting that they have committed abuse in the past year.
- Elder abuse can lead to serious physical injuries and long-term psychological consequences.
- Elder abuse is predicted to increase as many countries are experiencing rapidly ageing populations.
- The global population of people aged 60 years and older will more than double, from 900 million in 2015 to about 2 billion in 2050.

	Elder abuse in community settings	Elder abuse in institutional settings		
Type of abuse	Reported by older adults	Reported by older adults and their proxies	Reported by staff	
Overall Prevalence	15.7%	Not enough data	64.2% or 2 in 3 staff	
Psychological abuse:	11.6%	33.4%	32.5%	
Physical abuse:	2.6%	14.1%	9.3%	
Financial abuse:	6.8%	13.8%	Not enough data	
A Simulated	4.2%	11.6%	12.0%	
Neglect: Sexual abuse:	0.9%	1.9%	0.7%	

## PRIMARY PREVENTION

- Health habitats
- Smoking
- Alcohol abuse
- Obesity
- Nutrition
- Sleep
- Coronary heart disease
- Immunization
- Influenza
- Pneumovax
- Tetanus
- Injury prevention
- Osteoporosis prevention

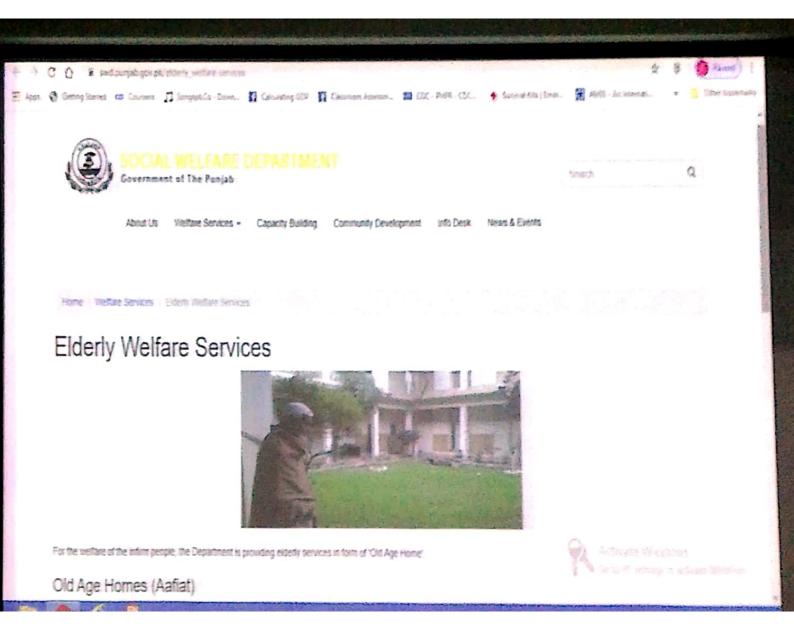


## SECONDARY PREVENTION

- (A) Searching for
- Hypertension
- Diabetes
- Dental diseases
- Colorectal cancer
- Breast cancer
- Prostatic cancer
- Anemia
- Depression
- Incontinence
- Fall risk
- · TB
- Syphilis
- · (B) Stroke prevention
- · (c) Myocardial infarction

### TERTIARY PREVENTION

- Rehabilitation
- Physical deficits
- Cognitive defects
- Functional defects
- Care taker support



For the welfare of the infirm people, the Department is providing elderly services in form of 'Old Age Home'.

Old Age Homes (Aafiat)

Social Welfare Department first old age home was established in 1975 under the name of "Aafiat" in Lahore. Later, 5 more Old Age Homes were established in the districts of Multan, Rawalpindi, Narowal, Sahiwal and Toba Tak Singh. These homes are providing quality services including shelter, food, health care and recreational facilities to old and infirm persons of the society. All such Institutions have the capacity to accommodate total 300 old and infirm persons (50 residents per institution) at a time.

#### Eligibility Criteria

The eligibility criteria for the admission is as follows:

•Senior citizens (both male and female) who are above 60 years of age are eligible for admission

•These individuals should be in good health and should not contain any serious or contagious disease. Extremely sick, insane and disable infirm people are not admitted

 Priority is given to those who are extremely vulnerable and don't have any family or children or those who have no means of income

#### Admission Procedure

- Admission procedure includes:
- The family of senior citizen forward a simple application to the Incharge of old age home carrying a solid reason for admission in 'Aafiat'
- Any NGO/CSO or individual can recommend certain individual's admission and forward an application to the In-charge
- The aging persons belonging to a family who due to some rift want to leave their homes or their children don't want to stay with them.
- Although these old age homes provide all the facilities free of cost yet those individuals who belong to well off families can pay a meager amount of Rs. 2000-3000 per month for their stay in the old age homes
- At the time of admission, the individuals are medically examined so that his/ her physical health would be recorded



#### **Facilities**

- · Following facilities are provided to the senior citizens:
- Separate residential portions are made for male and temale
- These homes look after all the basic needs of residents including tood cloth, shelter, medicines, recreation etc.
- \* The old and infirm persons of three categories unclaimed, poor and issueless can stay in these home for life time.
- The applicant is allowed to stay for a period of 6 months to one year and further extendable in special cases. In the meanwhite, efforts are made for reconciliation with their families



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