

DRUG PRESCRIBING IN GERIATRIC PATIENTS

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Abstract

Background:- *In developed countries, chronological age of 65 years accepted as a geriatric person or elderly but in Africa and developing countries. While this definition is somewhat different and many times related with the retirement age at that age a person begins to receive pension benefits. So the UN definition of older persons is at the age of 60 and above has taken as the elderly. Older, elderly or geriatric are those people whose age is 60 years and over. . Drug prescribing for geriatric patients are the most and the main challenging for prescribers and it is also the main determinant of the outcome of the geriatric patients. Drug prescribing requires deep knowledge of the age-related change in physiology, Pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics status of geriatric patients. Drug utilization research gives insights to different aspects of drug utilization and prescribing patterns of the prescribers. As age increases NCD (non-communicable diseases) are the most prevalent in geriatric. Diabetes and Hypertension are the most common comorbid along with much other comorbidity. There is a high rate of polypharmacy in geriatrics due to multiple comorbidities.*

Objective: - *The aims to evaluate to evaluate tools/Methods used in drug prescribing for Geriatric Patients*

Methods: *We performed an electronic search of the database for articles published on geriatric/elderly drug prescribing patterns / inappropriate prescribing prevalence, Beers criteria, different guidelines / Deprescribing, Screening Tool of Older Persons' potentially inappropriate Prescriptions (STOPP) and Screening Tool to Alert doctors to Right Treatment (START), Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment (CGA) ,Medication Appropriateness Index (MAI), polypharmacy in elderly, adverse drug reaction ,pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics in geriatrics ,Principles of prescribing for geriatric patients and Prevention of inappropriate medication prescription for geriatric have been evaluated.*

Conclusion : *There are problems associated with elderly drug prescribing polypharmacy, adverse drug events, drug-drug interactions, increased cost of treatments, increased risk of hospitalization, further disability, and various medication errors, prescribing pattern seen which must be viewed seriously and actions must be taken by giving on job training to prescribers and guidelines must be regularly revised and used properly to reduce all complications related to drug prescribing for geriatric patients, Drug prescribers require an understanding of these changes and how it affect the treatment of the geriatric patients before drug prescribing*

Keywords: *drug prescribing, Geriatrics, polypharmacy, comorbidity adverse drug Reaction, (ADR).*