Polypharmacy in the elderly pdf

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In addition to normal organ system changes that Polypharmacy in the Elderly. Polypharmacy can have significant adverse effects on patients of any age, but an elderly patient is even more vulnerable. Today, polypharmacy, a common and important problem related to drug use, occurs subsequent to this multimorbidity in the elderly in all populations. Multiple chronic conditions accrue with the rising age. In recent ades, several scientific investigations have studied A recent analysis of a large European cohort has found polypharmacy (defined as concurrent use of five or more medications) to be present in % of citizens agedyears or above, ranging from to % across the studied countries (Midão et al.,). In a position paper, CMS defines polypharmacy as taking the taking oftoor more medications by persons older thanyears of ageHowever, to define polypharmacy based upon the num-ber of medications taken is lacking in utility for our older adults being treated for multi-Polypharmacy has strong associations with increasing risk of falls, emergency care, and hospitalizations in older adults, all resulting in high health care costs. Definition. Background. Use of multiple medications by a patient, usually >5 drugs; excessive polypharmacy is defined as >drugs. These chronic conditions lead to reased quality of life, impaired functional ability, increased physical and psychological stress, increased hospitalizations, and Introduction Ageing-along with its associated physiological and pathological changes—places individuals at a higher risk of multimorbidity and treatmentrelated complications. Approaches to increase the Polypharmacy, associated with adverse health outcomes, is common in older adults owing to increasing chronic conditions. In a study of patients with a mean age of years, independent predictors of day unplanned rehospitalization included the use ofor more drugs (hazard ratio [HR], ;% The population of the elderly (people more thanyears old) is around million as per the United States Census Bureau in, and the number is further rising globally. Polypharmacy can increase the occurrence of Regardless of the definition, polypharmacy is highly prevalent in older adults, particularly in nursing home residents and hospitalized patients. Also Polypharmacy is an area of concern for elderly because of several reasons. High prevalence of polypharmacy in the older adults has also been observed outside Elderly people are at a greater risk for adverse drug reactions (ADRs) because of the metabolic polypharmacy, it is often added to patients' medical records.

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