



Geriatric Medicine at a Glance

Edited by
Adrian Blundell
Adam Gordon



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Contents



List of Contributors vi
Preface vii
Acknowledgements viii
How to use your revision guide ix

Part 1

Core Concepts 1

1. Why is geriatric medicine different? 2
2. Population ageing 4
3. Theories of ageing 6
4. Physiology of ageing 8
5. Frailty 10
6. Comprehensive geriatric assessment 12
7. The international classification of functioning, disability and health 14
8. Physiotherapy 16
9. Occupational therapy 18
10. Assessment scales – physical function 20
11. Assessment scales – mental health 22
12. Ethical issues 24

Part 2

Common problems in older adults 26

13. Polypharmacy 28
14. Osteoporosis 30
15. Falls 32
16. Gait 34
17. Dizziness 36
18. Syncope 38
19. Urinary incontinence 40
20. Constipation 42
21. Delirium 44
22. Dementia 1: causes and classification 46
23. Dementia 2: assessment and management 48
24. Stroke 50
25. Parkinsonism 52
26. Nutrition 54
27. Pressure ulcers 56

Part 3

CGA in practice 58

28. Elder abuse 60
29. Surgical care 62
30. Geriatrics at the interface 64
31. Care homes 66
32. End-of-life care 68

MCQ questions 70
MCQ answers 78
References 80
Index 81



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Preface



Globally, the population is ageing. The majority of people living into later life are healthier for longer. This is a success story and should be celebrated. A consequence of population ageing, however, is that a greater proportion of patients presenting to doctors are experiencing multimorbidity, polypharmacy and cognitive decline, with increasing health and social care needs. These complexities require a different approach to the traditional 'single organ'-oriented medical school teaching model, where students are taught about patients as a sum of the function of multiple body systems, with less emphasis on how these systems interact to produce a clinical phenotype. Regardless of specialty chosen (with the exception of paediatrics), all future doctors will require the necessary skills to manage older adults with frailty. It is essential, therefore, that the core information is available in

a concise textbook. Although aimed at undergraduate medical students, this book will be relevant for the whole multidisciplinary team caring for older patients and as a focused reference text for more senior doctors. The authors have led on the development of the British Geriatrics Society National Undergraduate Curriculum and the learning outcomes addressed through this book are based upon this. Geriatric Medicine is fascinating and we have found it a rewarding and interesting career choice – one where a sense of mission is matched by continuous intellectual challenge and the opportunity to build emotionally rewarding relationships with patients. We hope you enjoy the subject as much as we do.

Adrian Blundell
Adam Gordon



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