

# GERIATRICS

## Care and Education

Donna D. Ray, MD  
Clinical Assistant Professor of Geriatrics  
Director, Faculty Development OCPDSA





## **“Commonwealth Fund Scorecard on State Health System Performance, 2019”**

**South Carolina** **(overall ranking 41/51)**  
(HC Disparities rank 47/51)

Our Bottom Ranked Indicators:

- Adults who are obese
- **Elderly patients who received a high risk prescription drug\***
- Children who did not receive needed mental health care

\*On this indicator we were ranked 47<sup>th</sup> of all states



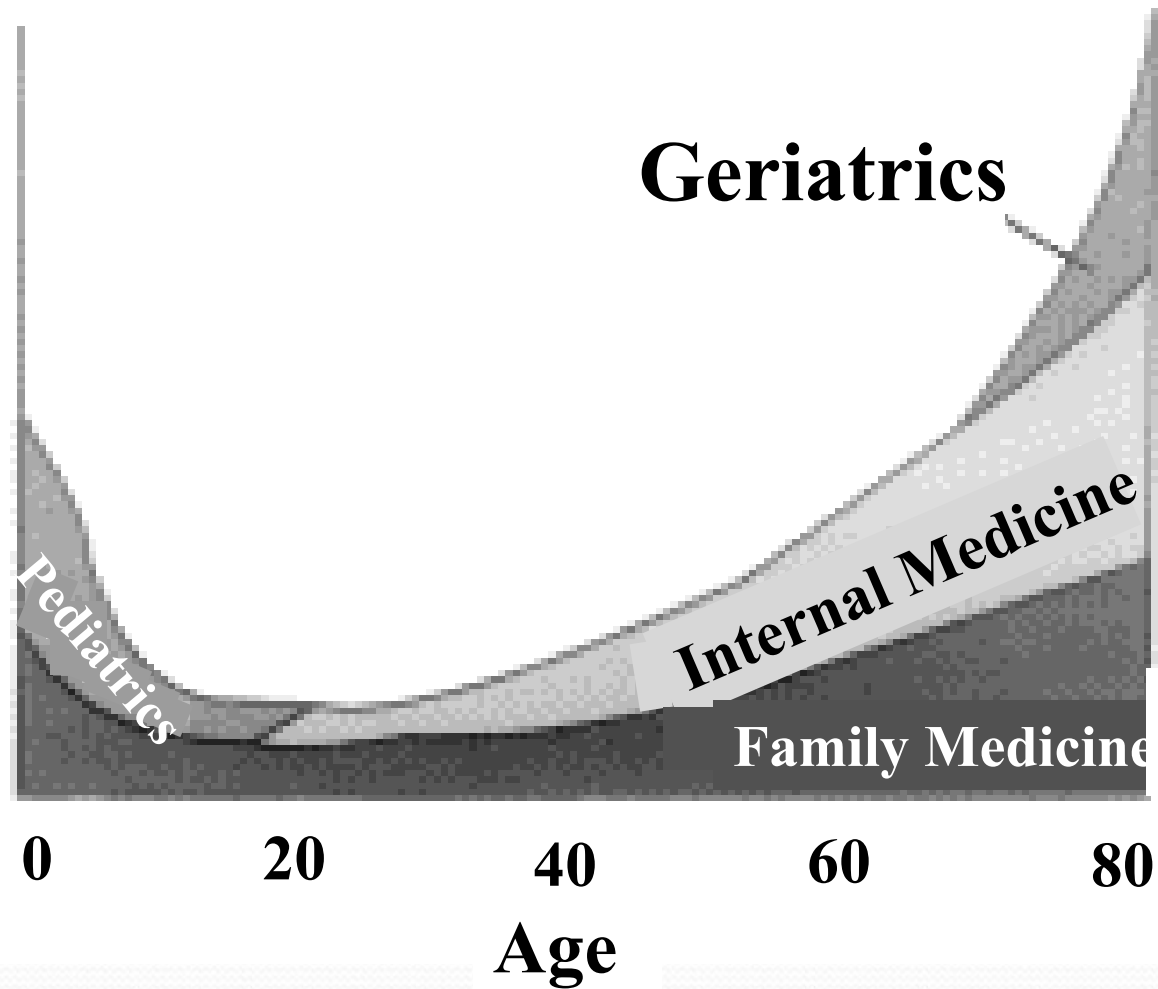
# The Opportunity

- Persons over 65 are 13% of the population & account for 40% of visits to internists
- Currently there are about 7,000 geriatricians, or one per 5000 persons age 65+ in America



# Who will care for the elderly?

**Primary  
Health  
Care**



*Hazzard et al., American Journal of Medicine. 110(6):507-513, April 15, 2001*

# Prevalence & Cost of Chronic Disease

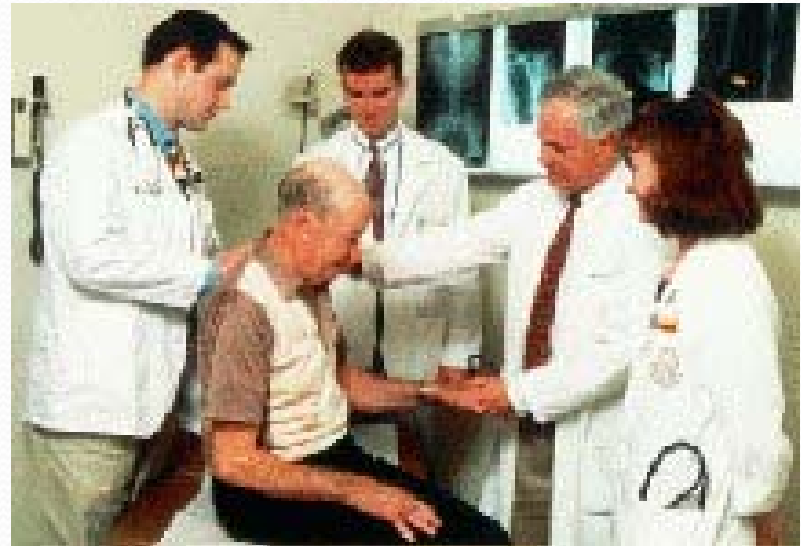
**Acute Illness:** Signs and symptoms are of short duration, usually severe, and impair the normal functioning of the patient

**Chronic Illness:** Persists, usually > 3 months, affects physical, emotional, intellectual or social functioning of patient

- Average person over 65 has 1.5 recognizable chronic diseases.
- Almost half of the U.S. population is affected.
- Persons with chronic illnesses account for 75% of the health care costs in the United States.

## So, we teach...

- Gerocentric care – recognizing that this population is unique
- Functional assessment – addressing the impacts of health issues
- Team-based & Interprofessional education and care – health professions at UofSC





# So, we teach... Gero-centric Care

## What:

- Geriatric Syndromes
  - Falls
  - 3 D's – Delirium, Depression, Dementia
  - Incontinence
- Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment
- Critical Conversations
- Basic Sciences - elders

## To whom:

- Medical students
  - Senior Mentor Program
  - Medication Review with Pharmacy Students
  - Vertical Curriculum
- PA Students
- Interprofessional Health Science Students
- Primary Care Residents

# We teach... Functional Assessment

Comprehensive  
Geriatric Assessment  
=  
History & Physical “+”

- + Cognitive screening
- + Depression/Anxiety
- + Medication Review
- + Mobility/Balance
- + Social Supports
- + Self-rating of Health

... the “so what” of medicine, the meaning for that person.



# We teach... Interprofessional Care

- Through PACER – Professionals Accelerating Clinical and Educational Redesign <https://pcpacer.org/>
- Elective in Geriatrics for Medical Students & Residents
  - PACE site – Palmetto Senior Care
  - Geriatric Practice – Senior Primary Care
  - HBPC – Home based primary care at the WJBD Dorn VAMC
- IHI Open School Chapter and UofSC (student – led)
- IPE – Interprofessional Education in the Health Sciences Committee and Courses
  - Includes HRSA – funded HIV-IPE elective 5x/year
  - Annually “Transforming Health” introductory course
  - Others

## We teach... Team-based Care

- Through PACER – Professionals Accelerating Clinical and Educational Redesign <https://pcpacer.org/>
- IHI Open School Chapter and UofSC (student – led)
- IPE – Interprofessional Education in the Health Sciences Committee and Courses
  - Includes HRSA – funded HIV-IPE elective 5x/year
  - Annually “Transforming Health” introductory course
  - Others



Jot down your questions...

