Cardiac drug therapy—considerations in the elderly

Elderly individuals constitute a majority of patients encountered in current cardiovascular clinical practice. Management of drug therapy in the elderly requires an understanding of the pharmacokinetics and drug interactions that affect drug therapy. Numerous factors affect these parameters, including age, disease state, and co-prescription of drugs. The influence of age on drug therapy is not uniform across all drugs or drug classes. Some drugs affect cardiovascular function adversely, whereas the age-related alterations in other drug classes have relatively little influence on drug therapy. Therefore, it is important for the clinician to have a working knowledge of potential alterations in drug disposition in the elderly and to consider drug therapy in the elderly when planning drug therapy.

Drug use is greatest among the frail older adult, hospitalized patients, and nursing home residents; a typical nursing home resident is prescribed 8 different drugs regularly. Providing safe, effective drug therapy for older adults is challenging for many reasons: addiction, polypharmacy, and adherence issues. These factors make the management of drug therapy in the elderly even more challenging. Thus, Drug Therapy for the Elderly is a timely reference for a wide array of physicians. It is important for the clinician to have a working knowledge of potential alterations in drug disposition in the elderly and to consider drug therapy in the elderly when planning drug therapy.

Drug Therapy in the Elderly

Individualized Therapy is Key. Those who responded to treatment had significant reductions in physical and verbal agitation. However, patients who did not respond to the trial had no change in agitation. In this study, both groups had a mean baseline score of four on the agitation assessment scale. This preliminary study supports the idea that the use of propranolol may be beneficial in the treatment of agitation in elderly patients. However, further research is needed to determine the efficacy of propranolol in this population. The study also highlights the importance of individualizing treatment plans for elderly patients, as each person may respond differently to the same medication.

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Unique features of illness in the elderly may interfere with effective drug therapy more than changed pharmacokinetics in the elderly. Disease is often difficult to recognize in elderly patients. When treating elderly patients, it is important to consider their unique needs and circumstances. Drug Therapy for the Elderly serves as a reference for a wide array of physicians. It provides information on drug therapy for the elderly, including the importance of individualized therapy and the need to consider the unique needs of elderly patients.

Drug and Alcohol Treatment Resources for the Elderly

Drug therapy for older patients presents special problems. Rather than provide a compendium of known adverse reactions, we discuss the underlying reasons for these reactions in elderly patients by reviewing the fundamentals of pharmacology and suggesting ways to help patients avoid adverse drug reactions. The selection of the drug was a result of multiple factors, including age, disease state, and co-prescription of drugs. Drug Therapy for the Elderly is a timely reference for a wide array of physicians. It is important for the clinician to have a working knowledge of potential alterations in drug disposition in the elderly and to consider drug therapy in the elderly when planning drug therapy.

Drug Therapy for the Elderly

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Drug Therapy in the Elderly

Overview of Drug Therapy in Older Adults - Geriatrics

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Principles of Drug Therapy for the Elderly Patient

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