The authors and reviewers have made every attempt to ensure the information in this Family Medicine Clinical Card is correct - it is possible that errors may exist. Accordingly, the source references or other authorities should be consulted to aid in determining the assessment and management plan of patients. The Card is not meant to replace customized patient assessment nor clinical judgment. The Card is meant to highlight key considerations in particular clinical scenarios, largely informed by relevant guidelines in effect at the time of publication. The authors cannot assume any liability for patient outcomes when this card is used.

Canadian Family Medicine Clinical Card

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Ram R Wright B Keegan DA

Senior Snapshot

Baseline Picture of Health (take hx from patient and caregivers)			
Domain	Assessment	Red Flags	
Cognition	- Years of education - MOCA* (or MMSE*), CAM*	- ?Dementia (if MOCA<26 or MMSE <24; ?delirium (if +ve CAM)	
Current Mood & Affect	 Hx (inc. recent loss/death) Consider using Geriatric Depression Scale; rule out organic causes 	- Inconsistent mood & affect - Depressed mood or anhedonia - Pessimism of one's own health	
Meds & Supple- ments	 - Hx, pharmacy/EMR records - BEERS list of possible harmful meds for seniors (americangeriatrics.org) - side effects/errors/↓ clearance 	 Benzodiazepines, narcotics anticholinergics (eg. Gravol) Daily use of ≥3 drugs; unfilled prescriptions/duplications 	
Abilities/ Activities of Daily Living/ Physical Status	- ADLs & IADLs, SAFEDRIVE - Continence (screen with DIAPERS*) - Gait & balance: calf size; timed get up & go, WHO Fracture Risk (FRAX) - Vision: prescription lenses; CN exam (II, III, IV, VI) - Hearing: whispering test	- Incontinence OR any ADL prob Falls (≥1 per month); Abn Gait/balance test - Calf circ. (<31 cm), wt Loss, - Signs of neglect/abuse - Inability to hear whispering	
Current Supports & Environ ment	 Dietary/calorie intake Financial stability & drug coverage Transportation assistance Caregiver sustainability 	- Neglect or abuse - Failure to thrive - Caregiver burden/burnout	

*MMSE (Mini-Mental State Examination), MOCA (The Montreal Cognitive Assessment; instructions at mocattest.org), CAM (Confusion Assessment Method), ADLs (personal hygiene/grooming, dressing/undressing, self feeding, functional transfers, bowet/bladder management, ambulation), DIAPERS [drugs, infection, atrophic vaginitis, psychological (depression, delirium, dementia), endocrine (hyperglycemia, hypercalcemia), restricted mobility, and stool impaction)

2. Modifiable Risk Factors of Future Health Impairments			
Risk	Action	Rationale	
Depressed/Pess imistic Mood	Lifestyle changes (balanced diet, exercise); medical, counseling and/or psychiatry referral	↑ Risk of mortality & impairs other domains	
Polypharmacy	Med reduction/reconciliation; home care referral for med eval; consultation with pharmacist	1 in 25 seniors are at risk for major drug-drug interaction	
Impaired Abilities/ ADLs Abnormal Gait/Balance	Home care, OT, PT; participation in community programs; dietician; diapers, meds, pelvic floor training/ urology, frequent / scheduled toileting; opto/audiologist yearly assessment, aids & advice from specific foundations Mobility counseling; exercise	↓ Vision = twice the difficulty with ADLs ↓ Hearing = ↓ Communication skills, cognitive decline & social isolation ↓ Mobility = ♠ boolity solated costs.	
	(resistance & wt bearing) ≥ 2 hours total/wk; home safety assessment	↑ health related costs & ↑ hospitalizations & ↑ ADLs performance	
Low Support/ Resources	OT/specialized assessment; social worker consult; psychologist consult	↓ Barriers = ↓ vulnerability & social deficits	

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