



## Guidelines for Geriatric Injured Patient

### Definition:

Geriatric – injured patient who is 65 years and older with 2 or more comorbidities

The primary survey for elderly is the same as for any injured patient, but secondary survey should emphasize the medication that affect the initial evaluation:

- Coumadin
- P2Y12 inhibitors such as Clopidogrel, ticagrelor
- Other anticoagulants
- ASA
- Beta blockers
- ACE inhibitors

Common acute non-traumatic events that could complicate the patient's presentation including:

- Acute Coronary Syndrome
  - Hypovolemia/dehydration
  - Urinary tract infection
  - Pneumonia
  - Acute Renal failure
  - Cerebrovascular accident
  - Syncope
  - COPD exacerbation
1. Hypoperfusion is often underappreciated in the elderly. Assessed base deficit very expediently to identify those patient in occult shock who need resuscitation. Laboratory studies suggested for elderly patient with injury:
    - Lactic acid or blood gas
    - PT/PTT/INR
    - Renal function (BUN, Cr, estimated GFR)
    - Blood alcohol level
    - Urine toxicology screen
    - Serum Electrolytes
    - Glucose
  2. Geriatric injured patient admitted to the hospital with 2 or more comorbidity will require a geriatric consult. The geriatrician will be consulted for:
    - medication review & recommendations
    - Prevention, Identification and Management of Dementia, Depression, & Delirium

- Follow up care AS Needed
3. Pharmacist is involved during resuscitation to assure the patient will receive the appropriate medication and dosage are prescribed and administered.
  4. Physical therapist and/or occupational therapist are consulted if appropriate to assess and evaluate the patient's needs for rehabilitation; inpatient rehabilitation versus sub acute rehabilitation. Early mobility is provided as deemed appropriate to the patient's condition.
  5. Social worker/case manager will assess patient for post discharge care/needs.

Reference:

Geriatric Trauma Management; Best Practice Guidelines Nov. 2023