



QUALITY OF LIFE, QUALITY OF CARE, AND PATIENT SAFETY

THE IMPORTANCE OF GERIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

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The world's older population continues to grow at an unprecedented rate. Today, 8.5 percent of people worldwide (617 million) are aged 65 and over. According to the report, "An Aging World: 2015," this percentage is projected to jump to nearly 17 percent of the world's population by 2050 (1.6 billion). This trend is expected to continue well into the 21st century. Additionally, with the population of those age 80 and over also rapidly increasing, an increased emphasis on geriatric medicine is inevitable. By 2050, global life expectancy at birth is projected to increase by almost eight years, climbing from 68.6 years in 2015 to 76.2 years in 2050. The global population of the "oldest old" — people aged 80 and older — is expected to more than triple between 2015 and 2050, growing from 126.5 million to 446.6 million. The oldest old population in some Asian and Latin American countries is predicted to quadruple by 2050.

Geriatric dermatology is a specialty that will receive particular attention. Key world population demographic information will be covered in our abstract. We will also include ten tips to utilize in caring for geriatric patients. In addition, we will include new opportunities for those interested in geriatric dermatology to participate in Expert Resource Groups and educational programs to benefit our elderly patients.

