Common Living Situations with Older Patients: Balancing Support with Independence

Kelly A. Rabah
Wright State University, kelly.rabah@wright.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/obgyn

Part of the Medical Education Commons

Repository Citation
https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/obgyn/9

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Obstetrics and Gynecology at CORE Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in Obstetrics and Gynecology Faculty Publications by an authorized administrator of CORE Scholar. For more information, please contact library-corescholar@wright.edu.
Common Living Situations with Older Patients...

Balancing Support with Independence
Kelly Rabah
MSW, BA
Objectives:

1. Understand and discuss common challenges with aging patients that impact safety, independence and quality of life.

2. Describe how to assess for safety in living environment as well as what resources are available to support patient/family.

3. Know how to identify caregiver challenges, stress, and risk.

4. Understand the importance of addressing and documenting concerns and challenges, while being supportive and offering resources to promote QOL and Independence.
Common Challenges...

- Cognitive Impairment
- Visual Impairment
- Hearing Impairment
- May have reduced or limited social / familial support
- Isolation
- Driving Challenges
- Reduced ADL Functioning
- Illness
- Advanced Care Planning
- Mood
How do You Assess and Manage these Challenges Outpatient?

- Screening tools available
- Family / Caregiver Interviews
- Quality of Family Relationships
- Quality of Life – Activities, connectedness, and engagement in meaningful tasks
Safety Assessment:

• Activities of Daily Living, (ADL), include bathing, dressing, nutrition, etc. and are related to things like physical environment including steps, uneven ground or flooring, other obstacles, bathroom hazards, risk for transfers.

• Instrumental Activities of Daily Living ,(IADL), support independent ADL and include driving, shopping, medication management, telephone use, food prep. and financial mgt.
Resources Include:

• Adaptive and modified equipment

• Accessible environment

• Mobility assists

• Community resources

• Environmental safe guards
Caregiver Assessment:

- Preparedness

- Identify characteristics for PCG associated with high risk for strain, depression, and poor health

- Explain screening process for elder abuse and neglect
Having Hard Conversations

• How do you support independence while addressing risk for injury and harm to self and others?
Case Study: