

GERIATRIC CLINIC - A BRIEF PREVIEW

Geriatric clinic was started in the year 2007 which was the third in Karnataka state then with the theme *Successful ageing*.

It is serving senior citizens of this part of Karnataka in holistic manner for last 13 years without a break at Shri B M Patil Medical College and Hospital. It functions in OPD Number 5, ground Floor every Wednesday between 09.00AM to 05.00PM. It caters to the health and social needs of older people. It has over one thousand registered patients so far. It is engaged in health, academic, awareness and prevention services for the overall benefit of senior citizens. It has all the specialists under one roof and one floor for the benefit of senior citizens.

It has 16 scientific research papers presented at International, National and State level Conferences of Geriatric Society of India, Association of Physicians of India and Indian Medical Association. It is part of regular training of newly recruited Government medical officers on geriatric medicine as part of National Program of Health Care Elderly (NPHCE) at District and National Level. It has also designed a questionnaire to detect elder abuse for clinicians which is awaiting validation.

It has 76 representations as resource person so far at various platforms including State, National and International conferences and has 75 publications in various Books, Journals and magazines and 5 Orations to its credit. Has contributed thirteen chapters in various books on geriatric medicine and gerontology. It has also published one book titled Current issues in geriatrics -4 in 2016 and co-edited book titled Management issues in Geriatrics in 2019. It has started **Dementia Clinic** in year 2014 in collaboration with Department of Psychiatry with assistance of Dr. Choukimath and **Immunization Clinic** in year 2019. So far three research papers have been presented at annual conferences of British Society of Gerontology in Scotland, Wales and in Sweden respectively. It provides health care and preventive services to a village called Arjunagi every month fourth Sunday through program *Reach the Unreached*.

It has hosted Two State Conferences exclusively of geriatric medicine and Gerontology, one CME and 3 workshops on Geriatric Medicine. On social front, it has organised 22 awareness talks and 25 health check- up camps in rural and slum areas for senior citizens

and has been observing all the international days of health importance like elder abuse awareness day, international day for older persons, Alzheimer's day and Immunization camps for senior citizens. It has also organised workshop on elder abuse for police personnel. It conducts "meet the care givers" program at regular intervals. It is one among three medical colleges in Karnataka which teaches geriatric medicine to MBBS students and only medical college which teaches geriatric medicine to the post graduate MD students (**Basic Learning Course**). It has library for senior citizens in the general ward. The clinic encourages and assists Body Donation and Eye Donation for senior citizen. The geriatric clinic represents as Advisory Member for various Senior Citizens Forums in Vijayapura District, has Health Helpline, Participate in All India Radio talks on health issues regularly and has been member of District forum for Maintenance of Senior citizen law 2007.

The research conducted by it has created huge impact on senior citizens at community level and has also led to formation of new measures of services for overall benefit of the senior citizens. Our research has been case and need based of the community, identifying the core issues and also has met the unmet needs of the older people through projects. Hence, we at Geriatric Clinic are part of solutions too! The research activities conducted by undergraduate students have been published in indexed journal while one has won award at national conference. The postgraduate students are encouraged to do research in geriatric medicine.

It has received 11 **Awards** so far and one is from the Government of Karnataka titled **STATE AWARD** in year 2016.