

# Management of Comorbidities in Older Adults with HIV Infection

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IAS-USA

## Learning Objectives

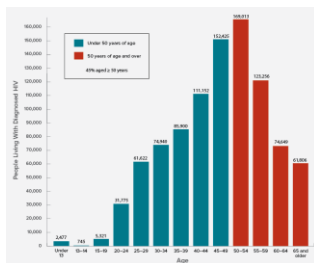
After attending this presentation, learners will be able to:

- Describe the current epidemiology of aging among adults with HIV, in the US and abroad
- Recognize high-priority issues among aging adults with HIV
- Discuss new approaches to the care of older adults with HIV

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## People Aged 50 or Older Living with HIV are Nearing a Majority

- Those infected with HIV at a younger age are successfully growing older
- Thousands of older people become infected with HIV every year
- $\geq 45\%$  of people with HIV in the US are aged 50 or older
- Proportion of people living with HIV  $\geq 50$  years of age is estimated to reach  $\sim 75\%$  by 2030

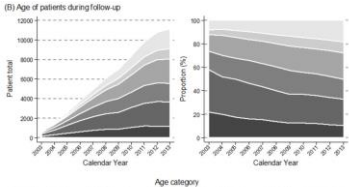


cdc.gov; Smith M, et al. Lancet Infect Dis. 2015;15:810-818

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## HIV & Aging In Resource-Limited Settings

- Proportion of those 50 years or older with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa has been slower to increase
  - Represents ~ 17% of the population but numerically is a great number than those in the US
  - Estimated tripling by 2040
- Similar trends in Asia



(B) Age of patients during follow-up

Legend: Age category: <30, 30-35, 35-39, 40-45, 45-49, ≥50

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Ngien J and Cummings RS. Bulletin of the WHO 88: 2010: 847-853; De La Maza NL, et al. AIDS Care 2017; 29: 1243-54.

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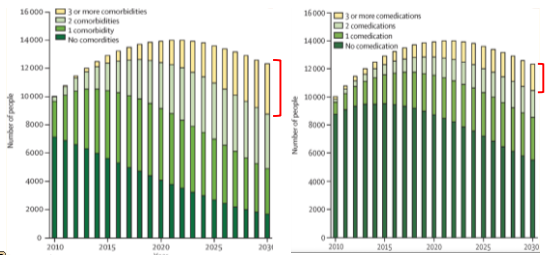
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## Increasing Burden of Comorbidities & Medications



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Smit ME, et al. Lancet Infect Dis 2015; 15: 810-818

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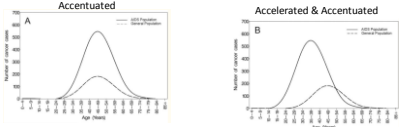
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## Accelerated or Accentuated Aging?

- Accentuated:** condition occurs more frequently because of increased risks or exposure (ex smoking)
- Accelerated:** age-associated condition occurs *earlier* than controls (ex CVD)



- Influence screening & management

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Pathai S et al. J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci 2014; Guaraldi G et al. Clin Infect Dis 2015

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- 61 y/o male seen in consultation with a geriatrician in the HIV clinic.
- HIV, diabetes, hypothyroidism, history of esophageal cancer. Since his prior visit 3 months ago, he had experienced a fall, his HbA1C increased 12.2, his TSH to 67, and his HIV-1 RNA from <20 to 7,820 copies/mL.
- Having difficulty swallowing some of his pills that are too big.
- Has some worsening vision & has chronic hearing loss.
- No family or social support nearby.
- Not showering as he hasn't been able to hang up shower curtain at a new apartment. Sleeping on floor (mattress had bed bugs).

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- Current medications: etravirine, darunavir, ritonavir (liquid), dolutegravir, aspirin, atorvastatin, vitamin D, glipizide, levothyroxine, lisinopril, loratadine, omega-3 fatty acids; additional vitamins that he is unsure of
- Exam: Blood pressure 165/72. Thin, frail man, appearing older than stated age. Very hard of hearing (forgot cochlear implants).
- Unable to rise from chair without using arms. Slightly unsteady on his feet when standing.
- Unable to assess mental status due to hearing difficulties.

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### ARS Question #1: What do you address at his clinic visit *today*?

1. Discuss risk/benefit for prostate and lung cancer screening, refer for colonoscopy, obtain a rectal pap smear
2. Focus on his diabetes management: add additional medication; refer for eye exam; check foot exam, A1c, microalbumin; increase statin dose
3. Focus on his HIV: send genotype, consider change in ART, assess absorption of medications, adherence, safe sex behaviors
4. Focus on his fall: Ask about circumstances around falls, review medications, test balance, and referral to physical therapy
5. Refer to social work
6. All of the above

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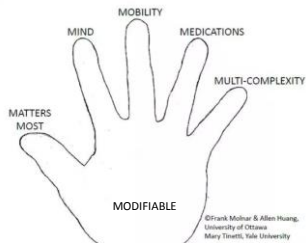
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## A Team Approach to Care: “The Geriatrics 5M’s”



©Frank Molnar & Allen Huang,  
University of Ottawa  
Mary Tinetti, Yale University

Tinetti M et al. *J Am Geriatr Soc* 2017; [healthinaging.org](http://healthinaging.org); Erlandson KM & Karris MF, under review

[illegible]

MODIFIABLE

- Not in the original “5 M’s” but particularly important in our “younger” older adults
- Prioritize *modifiable* and *preventable* risk factors to minimize development of comorbidities and maximize health span:
  - Immunizations
  - Smoking/substance abuse
  - Obesity & nutrition
  - Physical activity
  - Social support, meaningful engagement

Erlandson KM & Karris MY, under review 2019; Lake et al CD 2018; Abrass CX et al. HIV-age.org; Montoya et al. AIDS 2019

[illegible]

## MATTERS MOST

- Work with patients to align treatment decisions based on what is most important
- Assess current treatment burden and acceptability
  - What is burdensome?
  - What is helpful?
- Case managers or other staff can review & complete with patient

Matters most (Values)

**SMART Health Outcome Goals**

- 1.
- 2.

**Helpful care:** The medications, self-management tasks, clinical visits, tests, or procedures, that I think are helping me most with my health goals and I can do them without too much difficulty

- 1.
- 2.

**Difficult or bothersome care:** The medications, self management tasks, clinical visits, tests, or procedures that don't think are helping my goals and are bothersome or too difficult for me. I would like to talk with my doctor about whether these are helping my goals. If not, can I stop them or cut back? If they are helping, is there a way to make them less bothersome or less difficult?

**Specific ask (One Thing):** The one thing about my healthcare I most want to focus on is (fill in a health problem that you think is keeping you from achieving your health outcome goal OR the healthcare task that is most bothersome or difficult) so that I can do (desired activity) more often or more easily.

Priorities Facilitator: \_\_\_\_\_

© Mary Tinetti, 2017

Phone/Fax:

© Muzo Tazaki 2017

[illegible]

## MIND: Cognition & Mood

- 1) *Assess Cognition*
  - Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA)
  - Is there more impairment than expected?
- 2) *Assess Mood*
  - Depression may occur in up to 60% of PWH; may be greater risk in older adults and may contribute to cognitive impairments
  - PHQ-2 or 9; Geriatric Depression Scale (less somatic, more loneliness/isolation)
- 3) *Contributing factors:*
  - Medication side effects, hormone/vitamin deficiencies
  - Hearing & vision impairment
    - Greater high-frequency and low-frequency hearing loss in HIV

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Milstein B & Vokonas V. Curr HIV/AIDS Rep 2017; Sangaralingham A and Applebaum JS. Shellen J, Weisberg JA, Clinical Gerontol 1986; Navreddine et al. JAGS 2005; Sangaralingham A and Applebaum JS. HIV Age.org, HIV-Associated Neurocognitive Disorders Case Study; Bhutta MS, Munjal S. J Clin Diagn Res 2014; Stone, et al. JAMA Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg 2013; Luczak, et al. Ear Hear 2014

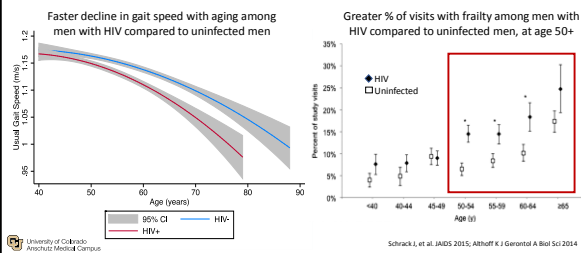
## MIND: Management

- Encourage physical activity *throughout lifespan*
- Continue ART: no recommendations to switch to a regimen with greater CNS penetration (CPE score), though likely avoid efavirenz and consider whether worsened on dolutegravir
- Address loneliness: strengthen social supports, health buddy
- Assess impact on independent activities of daily living (meals, driving, finances, medication management)
  - Social work assistance in referrals to home health, PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly), Adult Day Health programs; pharmacist assistance with medication management

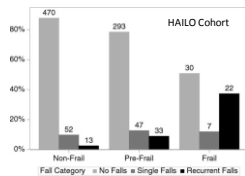
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Sangaralingham A and Applebaum JS. HIV Age.org, HIV-Associated Neurocognitive Disorders Case Study; Bhutta MS, Munjal S. J Clin Diagn Res 2014

## MOBILITY: Gait, Balance, Falls



## MOBILITY: Falls are Common & Associated with Frailty or other Functional Impairments



- Slower time to rise from chair
- Impaired balance

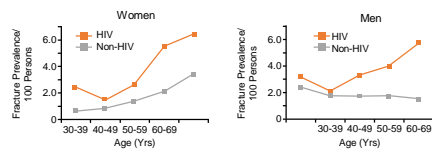
Cohort	Any Fall	Recurrent Falls
HAILO	18%	7%
Colorado	30%	18%
MACS/WIHS	24%	13%
MACS-BOSS	41%	20%
WIHS	41%	25%
San Francisco	26%	—
ARCH 4F	34%	12% with 5+



Tassiopoulos K, et al. AIDS 2017; Erlandson, et al. HIV Med 2016; Erlandson, et al. AIDS 2012; Sharma A, et al. Antivir Ther 2019; Sharma A, et al. Antivir Ther 2018; Kim S, et al. abstract accepted for HIV Aging CFAR Conference 2019; Greene, M. AIDS 2015.

## MOBILITY: Falls Lead to Fractures

- People living with HIV have a nearly 4-fold increased risk of osteoporosis
- 5% of falls in MACS and 13% of falls in ARCH 4F were associated with fracture



- 8525 PWH vs 2,208,792 uninfected pts in Partners HealthCare System, 1996-2008



Brown TT, et al. J Infect Dis. 2015;212:1241-1249. Erlandson RM et al. under review; Tsiantis K, et al. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2008;93:3499-3504; Kim S, et al. accepted as oral abstract at HIV Aging CFAR 2019.

Slide credit: [clinicaltrials.gov](http://clinicaltrials.gov)

## MOBILITY: Gait, Balance, Falls

- Early identification & intervention
- Evaluate mobility/balance through tests as simple as a "6<sup>th</sup> vital sign" at check-in
  - Ask about falls or fear of falling
  - Observe the patient walk to the room
  - Assess time to rise from a chair; balance (heel-to-toe or one leg), gait speed (4-m)
- Interventions:
  - Evaluate & consider treatment for low bone density
  - STEADI ([www.cdc.gov/steadi/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/steadi/index.html))
  - Physical therapy for balance training
  - Physical activity
    - [www.cdc.gov/diabetes/prevention/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/prevention/index.html)
    - [www.arthritis.org/living-with-arthritis/tools-resources/walk-with-ease/](http://www.arthritis.org/living-with-arthritis/tools-resources/walk-with-ease/)
    - [www.silversneakers.com](http://www.silversneakers.com)
    - <http://go4life.nia.nih.gov>
    - [www.va.gov/geriatrics/gerofit/gerofit\\_home.asp](http://www.va.gov/geriatrics/gerofit/gerofit_home.asp)
  - Refer to pharmacy



## MEDICATIONS

- Polypharmacy = 5 or more medications
  - Many of our patients are considered high-risk for drug-drug interactions or adverse effects due to polypharmacy
- This is a major problem in HIV!
  - 248 adults with HIV (aged ≥50) underwent a medication review with a pharmacist
  - Average # of medications = 14 (11.6 non-HIV medications)
  - 35% taking ≥ 16 medications; 63% had at least one inappropriate prescription
- Are additional medications really adding benefit?
  - Decreased adherence, increased risk of side effects or drug-drug interactions
  - More medications were associated with greater mortality in Veterans with HIV

## Management of Polypharmacy: Engage your Pharmacist!

- Evaluate for

- Drug-drug interactions
- Complexities of dosing
- Effectiveness
- Duplication

	On-Net Commissioner	Capital Markets	Potential Weak Interaction	No Interaction Expected	No Clear Data
On-Net Commissioner					
Potential Weak Interaction					
Potential Weak Interaction					
No Interaction Expected					
No Interaction Expected					
No Clear Data					

InvestorGains/TCF/GAF

	InvestorGains/TCF/GAF
Ambudgine	
Luxemburg	
Netherlands	
Mexico	
Singapore	
Switzerland	
Taiwan	
Thailand	
Vietnam	

([www.hiv-druginteractions.org](http://www.hiv-druginteractions.org))

- Avoid boosting agents (beware when stopping OR adding)
- Empower your patients to be their own advocate (beware of the consultant!)
- Consider the time-to-benefit of various treatments
  - Explain shifts in prevention with aging (i.e., is aspirin still beneficial?)

## Management of Polypharmacy

- Canadian Deprescribing Network
- Deprescribing.org
  - Patient pamphlets on harms of some medications
  - Help patients identify harm & lack of efficacy
  - Algorithms for providers
  - Tips for tapering

# Polypharmacy

## Network

### ms of some medications

## You May Be at Risk

You are taking one of the following sedative-hypnotic medications:

- 1. Zolpidem (Ambien)
- 2. Zolpidem CR (Ambien CR)
- 3. Zolpidem ER (Ambien ER)
- 4. Zolpidem ER (Ambien ER)
- 5. Zolpidem ER (Ambien ER)
- 6. Zolpidem ER (Ambien ER)
- 7. Zolpidem ER (Ambien ER)
- 8. Zolpidem ER (Ambien ER)
- 9. Zolpidem ER (Ambien ER)
- 10. Zolpidem ER (Ambien ER)

### Deprescribing.org



## MULTICOMPLEXITY/MULTIMORBIDITY

- Guidelines focus on disease-specific recommendations
  - Interventions to improve one condition may worsen another
- Consider treatment complexity and feasibility
  - Treatment may fall below "guidelines" but patient may adhere
- Prioritize the *beneficial and essential* interventions to minimize treatment burden
  - Supportive resources, physical rehabilitation, HIV treatment

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## ARS Question #2: At what age should you stop colon cancer screening in this 61 year old patient?

- Age 65
- Age 75
- Age 85
- Depends on family history and other risk factors
- Consider no further screening now

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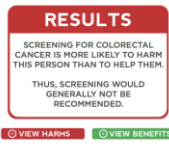
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## When should you stop screening for colon cancer?

- US Preventive Services Task Force:
  - Colon cancer screening until age 75
  - No screening in adults 76-85 years

When considering his comorbidity burden, functional capacity, impairments in daily activities...




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## Cancer Screening & Comorbidity Management

- Increased rates of cancers reflect longer life expectancy with HIV
  - Some cancers may occur at a greater frequency, but not *earlier*: Hodgkin's, skin, HPV-associated (anal, cervical, head/neck), multiple myeloma, lung
  - Some cancers are associated with higher morbidity/mortality in HIV (e.g., breast), perhaps less likely to be screened or treated?
  - First, do no harm! Consider life expectancy & functional status (rather than age) and when to *stop*
- Management of many comorbidities in older adults should be individualized based on life expectancy
  - Diabetes management in older adults with multi-morbidity and 2+ IADL impairments: A1c goal <8% and SBP 140-150

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## Back to the Case:

- Medication review with ID pharmacist
  - Etravirine & glipizide too big; not able to draw out enough ritonavir with syringe
  - Interventions: Order larger syringes & mark so clear on dosing, change to smaller glipizide dose and take 2, consider a change of etravirine to doravirine, stop omega fatty acids and vitamins; provide pill box
  - No change in other meds pending better adherence
- Refer to community program for balance training
- Bring hearing aids to all appointments
- Consult to home health for med assistance and help with shower curtain and obtaining mattress
- Meet with social worker between physician visits to address health priorities & advanced care planning

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## Summary

- The majority of people with HIV are now or soon will be age 50 and older, and are facing an increasing burden of comorbidities and medications.
- Some health issues with aging occur at an accentuated rate, and others may occur at an accelerated rate (earlier than expected).
- Adhering to current recommendations for screening/treatment may be beneficial in well-functioning patients aging with HIV, while others may need a unique approach.
- Using the 5 (or 6) M's approach can prioritize the issues of greatest relevance to a complex, aging population.
- Engage the entire team of resources! Social work, pharmacy, PT, nursing, medical assistants, community resources for HIV and aging

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## Resources & Acknowledgements

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Drs. Skotti Church, Chelsea Springer, and Maile Karris for their input on the presentation.

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## Question-and-Answer

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