

Special Issue

Geriatric Nursing: Addressing the Needs of Older Adults

Message from the Guest Editor

The growing population of older adults from diverse ethnic backgrounds presents increasingly complex healthcare needs. While the nursing literature has highlighted the importance of addressing health disparities through cultural competence and person-centered care, notable gaps remain in both knowledge and practice, particularly for ethnic minority older adults. A holistic and comprehensive assessment is essential, extending beyond physical and cognitive health to include life course perspectives shaped by historical events, social perceptions of aging, and ethnocultural, gendered experiences. These factors can significantly influence older adults' decision making and health outcomes. Culturally responsive nursing interventions should reflect not only traditional beliefs and practices but also the broader social and historical contexts that shape them. Understanding how culture intersects with life experiences facilitates more effective and respectful care. Nurses are well positioned to lead efforts that advance equitable care for minority older adults and address the needs of an increasingly diverse aging population.

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