

geriatric physicians



Geriatrics is the branch of medicine that focuses on health promotion and the prevention and treatment of disease and disability in later life. A geriatrician is a medical doctor who is specially trained to prevent and manage the unique and multiple health concerns of older adults. The information and physicians below can help.

What is Geriatrics?

America is growing older at an unprecedented rate. The number of people 65 and older is larger than ever before, and those 85 and older constitute the fastest growing segment of the population. When the baby boom generation enters its senior years, between 2010 and 2030, it is projected that one in five Americans will be over 65. With this “graying of America” comes not only the demand for physicians and other health care professionals with expertise in geriatrics, but also a huge growth in the number of caregivers: family and friends who can help older loved ones live longer and healthier lives. But what is geriatrics? And what can caregivers do to help?

Geriatrics and the Role of the Geriatrician

Geriatrics is the branch of medicine that focuses on health promotion and the prevention and treatment of disease and disability in later life.

A geriatrician is a medical doctor who is specially trained to prevent and manage the unique and, oftentimes, multiple health concerns of older adults. Older persons may react to illness and disease differently than younger adults. Geriatricians are able to treat older patients, manage multiple disease symptoms, and develop care plans that address the special health care needs of older adults.

Generally, geriatricians are primary care physicians who are board-certified in either Family Practice or Internal Medicine and have also acquired the additional training necessary to obtain the Certificate of Added Qualifications in Geriatric Medicine. There are approximately 9,000 geriatricians in the U.S. In addition, there are several hundred osteopathic physicians (DO) certified in geriatrics, as well as some 2,400 board-certified geropsychiatrists (a psychiatrist trained to deal with the mental health needs and specific syndromes faced by older adults). Other health care professionals who work on a geriatrics team, such as nurses, pharmacists and physical therapists, may have advanced training and hold special certifications in geriatrics.

Geriatrics: The Team Approach

There are other trained health professionals who specialize in caring for older adults. In some situations, a team of health care professionals will work together in the medical evaluation of an older patient. The geriatrics team may include, in addition to the geriatrician, any or all of the following professionals:

- Geriatrician
- Nurse
- Social worker
- Nutritionist
- Physical therapist
- Occupational therapist
- Consultant pharmacist
- Geropsychiatrist

These specialists look at the person holistically. The team considers the person’s medical history and present health condition. The team also looks for the effects of past illnesses, as well as “geriatric syndromes” - common health concerns found in the frail elderly such as incontinence, frequent falls, memory problems, and the side effects caused by multiple medications.

Members of the geriatrics team look at many aspects of the patient’s life. They evaluate the social support available to a patient, usually a spouse, children or friends, and his or her living and community conditions. The team also considers the patient’s ability to perform activities of daily living (ADLs), such as bathing, dressing and eating. While the geriatrician often serves as the “point person,” each member of the geriatrics team is a skilled health professional. All play an important role in the proper assessment and care of an older patient.

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Who Needs to See a Geriatrician?

People over the age of sixty-five have different degrees of disability and illness. Some have no problems at all, while others have many serious health concerns.

While primary care physicians - general internists and family physicians - care for most older persons, geriatricians are often sought to provide consultations for the frailest of older persons because of their unique qualifications and training. Geriatricians frequently provide the primary care for older adults who have complicated medical and social problems.

Regardless of an older person's age, a geriatrician should be consulted when:

- An older person's condition causes considerable impairment and frailty. These patients tend to be over the age of 75 and coping with a number of diseases and disabilities, including cognitive (mental) problems; or
- Family members and friends are feeling considerable stress and strain as caregivers.

Reprinted from *The AGS Foundation for Health in Aging*



Missouri Listings

Joseph H. Flaherty, M.D.

Phone: 314-977-6055

Fax: 314-977-5177

3660 Vista Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110

Email: flaherty@slu.edu

Hospital Affiliations: Saint Louis University Hospital, Des Peres Hospital

Specialty: Dementia, Palliative Care, Home Care

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

Other Accreditations: Member of the American Geriatric Society (AGS); Certificate of Added Qualifications in Geriatric Medicine.

Julie K. Gammack, M.D.

Phone: 314-977-6055

Fax: 314-977-5177

3660 Vista Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110

Hospital Affiliations: Saint Louis University Hospital, Des Peres Hospital

Specialty: Geriatric Assessment, Sleep Disorders

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

Other Accreditations: Member of the American Geriatric Society (AGS); Certificate of Added Qualifications in Geriatric Medicine.

Rafi Kevorkian, M.D.

Phone: 636-634-5865 **Fax:** 314-849-5716

3760 S. Lindbergh Blvd., Suite 101, St. Louis, MO 63127

Email: kevorkrt@hotmail.com

Counties Served: St. Louis MO, St. Louis City MO

Hospital Affiliations: Missouri Baptist, St. Lukes Hospital, Barnes Hospital

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

John E. Morley, M.D.

Phone: 314-977-6055 **Fax:** 314-977-5177

3660 Vista Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110

Email: morley@slu.edu

Hospital Affiliations: Saint Louis University Hospital, Des Peres Hospital

Specialty: Geriatric Endocrinology

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

Other Accreditations: Member of the American Geriatric Society (AGS); Certificate of Added Qualifications in Geriatric Medicine.

Miguel A. Paniagua, M.D.

Phone: 314-977-6055 **Fax:** 314-977-5177

3660 Vista Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110

Email: mpaniag1@slu.edu

Hospital Affiliations: Saint Louis University Hospital, Des Peres Hospital

Specialty: Internal Medicine / Geriatrics

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

GERIATRIC PHYSICIANS - Missouri

Srinivasan Raghavan, M.D.

Phone: 314-268-4669 **Fax:** 314-543-5947

12700 Southfork Road, Suite 220, St. Louis, MO 63128

Email: jennifer.benz@samcstl.org

Website: www.stanthonysmedcenter.com

Counties Served: Franklin MO, Jefferson MO, St. Louis MO, St. Louis City MO, Clinton IL, Madison IL, Monroe IL, St. Clair IL

Description: Open Monday-Friday, 9 am - 5 pm. Accepting new patients. Dr. Raghavan completed his fellowship in geriatric medicine at St. Louis University School of Medicine.

Hospital Affiliations: St. Anthony's Medical Center

Specialty: Internal Medicine/Geriatrics

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

Miriam B. Rodin, M.D., Ph.D.

Phone: 314-977-6055 **Fax:** 314-977-5177

3660 Vista Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110

Email: mrodin@slu.edu

Hospital Affiliations: Saint Louis University Hospital, Des Peres Hospital

Specialty: Internal Medicine / Geriatrics

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

Beth Sjoblom, M.D.

Phone: 314-525-4678

12700 Southfork Road, Suite 270, St. Louis, MO 63128

Email: jennifer.benz@samcstl.org

Website: www.stanthonysmedcenter.com

Description: A seasoned internal medicine physician with a fellowship in geriatrics, Dr. Sjoblom has a special interest in treating older adults.

Hospital Affiliations: St. Anthony's Medical Center

Specialty: Geriatrics/Internal Medicine

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

Other Accreditations: Certified Medical Director, Assistant Professor, University of Missouri

David R. Thomas, M.D.

Phone: 314-966-9313 **Fax:** 314-984-2741

2345 Dougherty Ferry Road, Suite 420,

St. Louis, MO 63122

Email: thomasdr@slu.edu

Hospital Affiliations: Saint Louis University Hospital, Des Peres Hospital

Specialty: Wound Care

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

Other Accreditations: Fellow of AGS; Certificate of Added Qualifications in Geriatric Medicine.

Chantri Trinh, M.D.

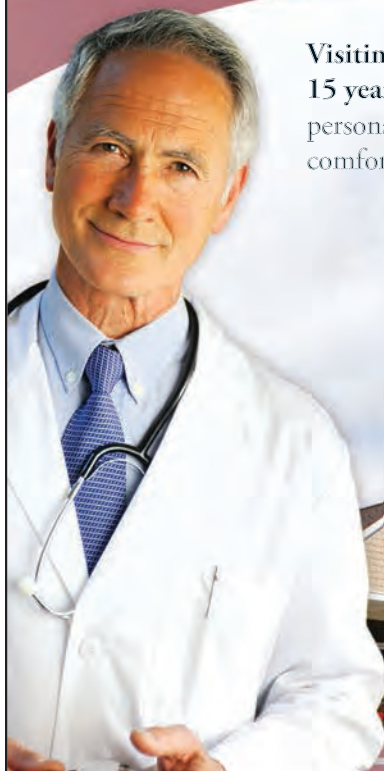
Phone: 314-966-9313 **Fax:** 314-984-2741

2345 Dougherty Ferry Road, Suite 420,

St. Louis, MO 63122

Hospital Affiliations: Saint Louis University Hospital,

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GERIATRIC PHYSICIANS - Missouri & Illinois

Des Peres Hospital

Specialty: Internal Medicine

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

Other Accreditations: Fellow of AGS. Certificate of Added Qualifications in Geriatric Medicine.

Visiting Physicians Association

Phone: 314-961-3570 **Fax:** 314-961-6450

8710 Manchester Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63144

Email: rharl@visitingphysicians.com

Website: www.visitingphysicians.com

Counties Served: Franklin MO, Jefferson MO, St. Charles MO, St. Louis MO, St. Louis City MO, Bond IL, Clinton IL, Madison IL, Monroe IL, Randolph IL, St. Clair IL, Washington IL

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Specialty: Geriatrics; Family Practice; Internal Medicine

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes



Illinois Listings

Oscar Florendo, M.D.

Phone: 618-651-8333 **Fax:** 618-651-8444

Osbec Medical of Southern Illinois, 180 Woodcrest Drive, Highland, IL 62249

Email: nancy@osbecmedical.com

Counties Served: St. Clair IL

Hospital Affiliations: St. Joseph's Hospital

Specialty: Geriatrics

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

Other Accreditations: Certificate of Added Qualifications in Geriatric Medicine, completed fellowship program in geriatrics at St. Louis University.

Charles Lagoski, D.O.

Phone: 618-526-7271 **Fax:** 618-526-7313

St. Joseph's Hospital Physician Office Suite 113, 9401 Holy Cross Lane, Breese, IL 62230

Website: www.stjoebreese.com

Counties Served: Clinton IL, Madison IL

Description: *Dr. Lagoski received his medical degree in 1979 and completed an internship at the Chicago Osteopathic School of Medicine (now Midwestern University) in Downers Grove, IL.*

Hospital Affiliations: St. Joseph's Hospital, Breese

Specialty: Geriatrics, Hospice Care and Palliative Care

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

Other Accreditations: Board Certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Family Practice with added qualifications in Geriatrics, Hospice Care and Palliative Care

ElderMed Services -

David Pfohl, M.D., FACP, CAQ, MBA

Phone: 618-624-1860 **Fax:** 618-624-1863

1512 N. Green Mount Road, Suite #200, O'Fallon, IL 62269

Email: dpfohl@mindspring.com

Counties Served: St. Clair IL

Description: *Services include comprehensive physical examinations, preventative medicine, memory evaluations, medication review and assessment for drug interactions and side effects along with a fall risk reduction program.*

Hospital Affiliations: St. Elizabeth's Belleville, IL

Specialty: Geriatric Medicine

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

Other Accreditations: Fellowship trained in Geriatric Medicine

Michael Temporal, M.D.

Phone: 618-233-5480 **Fax:** 618-222-4790

Family Health Center, 180 S. Third St., #300, Belleville, IL 62220

Email: temporal@slu.edu

Counties Served: St. Clair IL

Hospital Affiliations: St. Elizabeth's Hospital

Specialty: Geriatrics

Member of AGS? Yes

Certificate in Geriatrics? Yes

Other Accreditations: Trained at UCLA

"Depression doesn't have to keep us down.

The healing is in me, and the healing
can be extended to others."

- Thabiti Boone

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