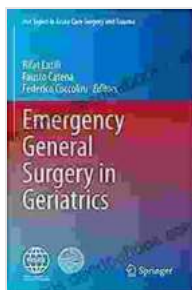


Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics: Hot Topics in Acute Care Surgery and Beyond

Emergency general surgery (EGS) is a demanding field that requires a high level of expertise and a broad understanding of surgical principles. The geriatric population presents unique challenges to the EGS surgeon due to their increased comorbidities, frailty, and complex medical needs. In this article, we will discuss some of the hot topics in EGS in geriatrics, including the management of common surgical emergencies, the role of frailty assessment, and the importance of patient-centered decision-making.



Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics (Hot Topics in Acute Care Surgery and Trauma) by Paul D. Sponseller

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Management of Common Surgical Emergencies in Geriatrics

The most common surgical emergencies in geriatrics include gastrointestinal emergencies, abdominal emergencies, and genitourinary emergencies. The management of these emergencies requires a tailored approach that takes into account the patient's age, comorbidities, and overall health status.

- **Gastrointestinal emergencies:** These include acute cholecystitis, pancreatitis, and bowel obstruction. The management of these conditions may involve laparoscopic surgery, open surgery, or a combination of both.
- **Abdominal emergencies:** These include appendicitis, diverticulitis, and perforated peptic ulcer. The management of these conditions may involve laparoscopic surgery, open surgery, or a combination of both.
- **Genitourinary emergencies:** These include urinary tract infections, kidney stones, and prostate problems. The management of these conditions may involve antibiotics, stents, or surgery.

It is important to note that the management of surgical emergencies in geriatrics may differ from the management of these emergencies in younger patients. For example, older patients may be more likely to have comorbidities that need to be taken into account when planning surgery. They may also be more likely to have frailty, which can increase the risk of complications.

Role of Frailty Assessment in EGS

Frailty is a common condition in older adults that is characterized by a decline in physical and cognitive function. Frail patients are at increased risk of complications after surgery, including death. Therefore, it is important to assess frailty in older patients who are undergoing EGS.

There are a number of different frailty assessment tools that can be used in the preoperative setting. These tools typically assess physical function, cognitive function, and social support. The results of the frailty assessment

can be used to guide decision-making about surgery and to develop a plan for postoperative care.

Importance of Patient-Centered Decision-Making in EGS

Patient-centered decision-making is an essential aspect of geriatric EGS. This approach involves working with the patient and their family to make decisions about surgery that are based on the patient's goals, values, and preferences.

Patient-centered decision-making can be challenging in the setting of EGS, as decisions often need to be made quickly in order to save the patient's life. However, it is important to take the time to involve the patient and their family in the decision-making process, as this can help to ensure that the patient's wishes are respected.

EGS in geriatrics is a challenging but rewarding field. The geriatric population presents unique challenges to the EGS surgeon, but with a tailored approach that takes into account the patient's age, comorbidities, and overall health status, it is possible to achieve good outcomes.

Frailty assessment and patient-centered decision-making are essential components of geriatric EGS. By assessing frailty and involving the patient in the decision-making process, it is possible to optimize outcomes and improve the quality of life for older patients.

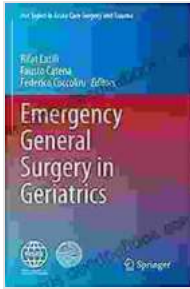
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