65plus at MGH represents an interdisciplinary approach to improving the care of our older adult patients. 65plus strives to cultivate a new way of thinking to ensure high quality, patient-centered care for all patients 65 years and older.

The goals of 65plus are to improve knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding the care of older adults; to enhance evidence-based practice that is age specific; to improve the healthcare experience for older adult patients and their families; and to support clinicians caring for older adult patients.

Quick facts

- 43% of MGH adult inpatients are age 65 or older
- Older adults are the core business of hospitals constituting the majority of patients
- 35 million Americans are over age 65 and by 2050, over 78 million Americans will be age 65 or older
- Studies have shown that 25-50% of community dwelling older adults have persistent pain
- Pain is strongly associated with depression, impaired ambulation and increased healthcare use and costs
- Older adults tend to minimize or not report their pain
- A significant barrier in treating pain in older adults is inadequate pain assessment
- Patients’ self report is the most reliable measure of pain intensity. Simply worded questions and tools are the most effective methods in “Best Practices in Pain Assessment for Older Adults”

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