

CONDITIONS THAT LAND SENIORS IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM



Strokes, heart attacks, falls are the most common conditions that usually land older adults in the ER, but seniors visit the ER for many other reasons that may be just as critical. Those conditions include:



Injuries, accidents and even exhaustion are the types of acute issues that often land seniors in the emergency room.



Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) covers a number of conditions including bronchitis, emphysema and chronic airway obstruction.



Chest pain can be caused by other problems such as heart attacks, injuries, blood clots, respiratory infections or even gastrointestinal illness.



Pneumonia is one of the most common upper respiratory infections to land seniors in the ER. Signs may be milder in older adults and can include shortness of breath, coughing and confusion or delirium.



Adverse drug reactions are a shockingly common cause of emergency room visits.



Urinary tract infection (UTI) are easy to cure. But if left untreated, the infection can spread and develop into far more serious conditions.



Digestive disease, food poisoning and infection can cause abdominal pain or nausea; so can kidney stones, which may result from malnutrition, dehydration or other medical conditions.



ACCORDING TO THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, NEARLY 24 PERCENT OF SENIORS AGED 65 AND OLDER MADE AT LEAST ONE VISIT TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM (ER) LAST YEAR.

For more information, visit nihseniorhealth.gov.

