

# International Journal of Aging: Work Overview for 2023-2024

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During the period of 2023-2024, the *International Journal of Aging* released 2 issues containing 52 scholarly articles, contributed by authors hailing from diverse countries such as Cyprus, Australia, Austria, Vietnam, the United Kingdom, Azerbaijan, Turkey and Iran. The overall perspective in this journal reflects on advancements, challenges, and emerging trends in gerontology, geriatrics, and age-related research. We will address our annual perspective by conducting surveys to identify pressing issues faced by older adults and solicit feedback from readers and practitioners in the field. Furthermore, we will publish editorials that reflect on the implications of recent research findings and their relevance to policy and practice. In our journal, among the 81 articles submitted during 2023 and 2024, 52 were accepted for publication while 29 were declined. Notably, the acceptance rate for these submissions was approximately 64%. In this timeframe, we undertook a comprehensive review and assessment of our editorial endeavors from preceding years. This allowed us to successfully disseminate research across multiple disciplines, addressing a wide array of topics related to aging. Cross-sectional studies are often prominently featured in academic journals. We offer a range of formats to cater to the diverse interests of our readership. Nevertheless, our review included 23 cross-sectional studies, among which three originated from the HSA-T cohort study. These studies provided significant insights into topics “Factors Associated with Depression in Older Adults”, “of Emergency Medical Services Utilization by Older Adults” and “Obesity Prevalence Among Older People”.<sup>1-3</sup> Three additional cross-sectional analyses derived from the TOPS cohort study have yielded intriguing findings on two critical topics: Sleep Quality”, “hypertension” and “anxiety” in elderly.<sup>4-6</sup> Traffic collisions involving elderly individuals

## Author's Biosketch

Hassan Soleimanpour (Editor in Chief), Professor of Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Subspecialty in Intensive Care Medicine (ICM), Clinical Fellowship in EBM, Fellowship in Trauma Critical Care and CPR, Emergency and Trauma Care Research Center, Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences, Tabriz, Iran.



pose a considerable challenge, influenced by multiple factors highlighted in two cross-sectional studies we have reviewed.<sup>7,8</sup> Additionally, two further studies focusing on specific themes, labeled “Affecting Factors in Patient Workflow and Outcome of Patients with Stroke Diagnosis” and “Vertigo” appeared in the first volume.<sup>9,10</sup> In addition, a very insightful cross-sectional paper on “myocardial ischemia” was featured in our journal.<sup>11</sup> The pressing issue of quality-of-life gains prominence against the backdrop of increasing life expectancy and demographic aging. In connection with this, our journal featured a cross-sectional study addressing topic “Older Adults Quality of Life and Their Association with Loneliness and Activities of Daily Living”.<sup>12</sup> Suicidal ideation among the elderly is a significant public health concern. Understanding its causes, risk factors, and potential interventions is crucial for prevention and a study in this respect is published in our journal.<sup>13</sup> Also regarding to current affairs in Elderly community, in volume 2, we have published researches about “Air pollution”,<sup>14</sup> “relation between pre-hospital High Blood Pressure and Mortality Risk in Trauma Patients”,<sup>15</sup> “Satisfaction with Life”,<sup>16</sup> “depression and anxiety”, “stroke”,<sup>17</sup> “Gastrointestinal Bleeding in Elderly Patients”, “coronary artery disease” (“elder abuse” and



“Distribution of Infectious Diseases among the Older Adults”<sup>18-20</sup> in volume 2. Creating an age-friendly city is essential for promoting the well-being and quality of life of elderly residents. Considering this issue, we received an interesting article about “Age-Friendly City Indicators” which provides the reader with useful information in this area.<sup>21</sup> The elderly population remains one of the most affected groups during the COVID-19 pandemic, regarding this issue a retrospective cohort study on “The Predictive Role of Age and the Systemic Inflammation Indexes on ICU Admission and Mortality in Patients with COVID-19” was published in *IJAging*.<sup>22</sup> A case control study analyzing the “Anthropometrics and Mental Health Among People with and Without Type 2 Diabetes” was also published in our journal.<sup>23</sup> There were 16 published papers in 2023-2024 that fulfilled the criteria of a review. Among these, five were dedicated to molecular research, covering topics such as “Gut Microbiota in Aging-Associated Diseases”,<sup>24</sup> “Immunological and Neurological Changes of COVID-19 in the Elderly”,<sup>25</sup> “Tumor Microenvironment Management in cancer”,<sup>26</sup> “Anti-amyloid Monoclonal Antibodies in Alzheimer’s Disease”,<sup>27</sup> “Potential Roles of Exosomes in Aging and Age-Related Diseases”,<sup>28</sup> and the rest covered other topics including “stroke”,<sup>29,30</sup> “Mobile Health-Based Interventions in Self-care”,<sup>31</sup> “Artificial Intelligence in Dementia Diagnosis”.<sup>32</sup> Self-care in the elderly is essential for maintaining physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Our journal has published one cross sectional and a review in this important field in elderly (volume 1).<sup>31,33</sup> Well known fact that geriatric surgery is a specialized field that aims to improve the surgical outcomes and quality of life for elderly patients. A review article entitled “Enhanced Recovery After Surgery Protocols and Procedures in Geriatric Surgery” was published in this regard.<sup>34</sup> Rest of the review articles covered other topics including “Menopause and Sexual Life Amongst Older Men”,<sup>35</sup> “liver cancer epidemiology”,<sup>36</sup> “COVID-19 Scenario for Psychiatric Conditions in Older Adults”,<sup>37</sup> “obesity”<sup>38</sup> and “artificial intelligence in older adults”.<sup>39</sup> Four Systematic reviews were published in 2023 volume which surveyed the burden of “Low Back Pain”,<sup>40</sup> “Cancers and Their Attributable Risk Factors”,<sup>41</sup> “Ischemic Heart Disease Among Older adults in Iran, 1990-2019”,<sup>42</sup> and “Global Burden of Diseases and Injuries”.<sup>43</sup> Additionally, three systematic reviews appeared in the 2024 volume that examined the burden of “Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease”<sup>44</sup> and “Chronic Kidney Disease”<sup>45</sup> among the 70-year-old adults. Considering that the urinary incontinence is a common condition among the elderly, a systematic review under the title “Quality Evaluation of Included Randomized Controlled Trials in Cochrane’s Urinary Incontinence Systematic Reviews Group” was published in *IJAging*.<sup>46</sup> Furthermore, three qualitative studies were received by *IJAging* in volume 2. As is well known, financial abuse in the elderly is a serious form of exploitation where caregivers, family members,

or strangers illegally or improperly use an older adult’s funds and property. In this regard interesting qualitative research entitled “Analysis of Underlying Factors in Financial Neglect and Abuse in Older Adults” was published.<sup>47</sup> Also, two other qualitative studies referring to “Oral and Dental Health Services for the Iranian Older people”<sup>48</sup> and “Infrastructure Analysis of Long-term Care for Elderly Adults”<sup>49</sup> was issued. As well, we have published a quasi-experimental study in regard to “Participatory Intervention Plan for Aging Promotion” which can empowers elderly individuals to take part in enhancing their physical and mental well-being.<sup>50</sup> We are privileged to announce the publication of a review paper titled “Anti-amyloid Monoclonal Antibodies in Alzheimer’s Disease”, authored by members of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences. Additionally, this issue includes a significant international contribution with the original article “*Morus alba* L. Leaves-Based Silver Nanoparticles for Aging-Related Infectious Diseases”,<sup>51</sup> penned by our colleagues from Turkey. Additionally, a review article titled “Aging Population in Vietnam: Challenges, Implications, and Policy Recommendations” authored by peers at RMIT University, Vietnam, was released by us.<sup>52</sup> We are keenly interested in soliciting similar scholarly works from various international sources and will undoubtedly extend invitations to other specialists in this field.

#### Ethics statement

Not applicable.

#### Disclosure of funding source

Not applicable.

#### Conflict of interests declaration

The author declares that he has no competing interests.

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#### Data availability statement

All data generated or analyzed during this study are included in this published article.

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