MAGYAR GERONTOLÓGIA

15. ÉVFOLYAM KONFERENCIA KÜLÖNSZÁM

2023. 15. évf. Konferencia Különszám

On-line verzió: ISSN 2062-3690

www.https://ojs.lib.unideb.hu/gerontologia

Ageism as social pathology in geriatric medicine

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Keywords: ageism, age discrimination, geriatric status

The main trend of modern geriatrics is to maintain a high functional ability, which consists of intrinsic capacity and environment. It is important to attach importance to the impact of the environment, including of its social component, when can promote the development of social pathology, for example loneliness or the consequences of ageism which can significantly reduce

the quality of life.

Aim

The aim of the study was to identify the clinical consequences of ageism as one of the social

pathology.

Material and methods

56 patients aged 78.4±2.5 years who had a high degree of age discrimination according to the

Palmore scale were examined. The indicators of inflammation, the results of a comprehensive

geriatric assessment and quality of life were studied in comparison with a group of 45 patients

aged 79.1+3.1 years without the effects of ageism.

31

Results

In the presence of age discrimination, there was a significantly higher level of inflammation, a more unfavorable geriatric status due to anxiety and depression, lower values of cognitive status and movement disorders, which in general led to the decreasement in the quality of life, p<0.05.

Conclusion

Ageism and age discrimination were associated with the deterioration of geriatric status. It allows to regard ageism as a social pathology requiring a comprehensive approach, including early recognition, treatment and rehabilitation.