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PROBLEMS WITH ELDERLY HEALTH CARE

Nowadays the problems of the elderly are of great importance, because the number of old people increases annually by 2 percent, significantly outstripping the population growth. According to scientists, the number of elderly people will increase in the next 25 years. Worldwide, there are 600 million people aged 80 or over, but within the next five years, the number of adults aged 65 will outnumber children under the age of 5. It is forecasted that by 2050, the number of people aged 60 and over will increase to 39%.

As a number of health problems become more prevalent as people get older, the elderly require more health care services. Increasing demands generate a need for orientation of modern health care systems for the elderly from in-patient to out-of-hospital care. Thus, the relationship between doctors of outpatients departments, general or family practices and employees of social service centers can raise the level of health care for old and disabled people.

The increasing number of the elderly in our society generates a need to develop and improve the geriatric direction of medical and social services. Older people are vulnerable, that's why they require more attention from the government than others.

Foreign research shows that professional preventive health care for people aged 65 and over reduces their mortality by 17% and increases their desire to live in society by 23%. The lack of systematic primary health care for the elderly increases their need for hospitalization.

We have come to the conclusion that the number of old people is increasing all the time, that's why the need for economic, psychological, medical and social services increases too. Modern health care system and social services for the elderly

are not perfect and require further research and development of new strategies and forms of these services.