



Geriatric Emergency Medical Services Use

PI: Manish N. Shah, MD, MPH

Purpose and Specific Aims:

This goal of this study is to describe the reasons why geriatric emergency department (ED) patients (age ≥ 60) use EMS for transport to the hospital, the acceptability of alternatives to EMS transport to an ED, and the reasons that some geriatric ED patients fail to use EMS for transport to the hospital. The study will also compare the responses to those of adult ED patients (age 19-59).

Specifically this study aims to:

1. Characterize the reasons that patients use EMS for care and transport to an ED.
Specific sub-aim 1a. Compare the reasons among geriatric patients (age ≥ 60) to adult patients (age 19-59).
2. Evaluate the acceptability of alternatives to EMS transport to an ED.
Specific sub-aim 2a. Compare the acceptability of these alternatives among geriatric patients (age ≥ 60) to adult patients (age 19-59).
3. Evaluate the acceptability of alternatives to an ED as the destination for medical care.
Specific sub-aim 3a. Compare the acceptability of these alternatives among geriatric patients (age ≥ 60) to adult patients (age 19-59).
4. Characterize the reasons that patients fail to use EMS for transport to the hospital for both adult patients (age 19-59) and geriatric patients (age ≥ 60).
Specific sub-aim 4a. Compare the reasons among geriatric patients (age ≥ 60) to patients (age 19-59).