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DENTAL MEDICINE ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GERIATRIC DENTISTRY FROM PREVENTION TO TREATMENT

What is Geriatric Dentistry?

It is an area of dentistry oriented to the prevention and treatment of oral diseases in the elderly (population aged 65 years and over).

How important is oral health in the elderly?

It is an age group where some physical, motor, psychic, emotional and cognitive alterations begin to appear. These alterations are closely associated with a decrease in manual dexterity to maintain effective oral hygiene, which strongly predisposes to the occurrence of multiple oral pathologies.

What are the main oral changes in the elderly

A total or partial loss of teeth often results from factors like thin mucous membranes, xerostomia (decreased amount of saliva), root caries, decreased taste perception, and poor gum health.

What is the role of the Dentist in promoting the oral health of the elderly?

The Dentist has a preponderant role in promoting oral health in the elderly, acting in the follow-up, prevention and treatment of pathologies of greater vulnerability at these ages, which allow to significantly improve the quality of life and self-esteem of the elderly.