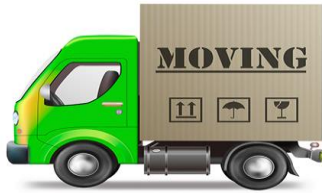


The GeriJournal



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GeriatRx on the Move

Under cover of darkness with snow wafting down from the skies, GeriatRx moved stealthily down the road to our new location, 31 Scarsdale Road, Unit 7. Our new home is very modern, larger than our charming original abode, and we couldn't be more excited! The move was the culmination of months of intensive planning and dedication by our staff. We were pleased and relieved that it went off without a hitch.

The new location will allow us to work even more efficiently and give us room to expand in the years ahead. If you're in the area, give us a shout and drop by for a visit. We'd be happy to show you around. Fabio may even serve up some of his gourmet delights if given sufficient notice.

Hip Check by HQO

Health Quality Ontario has updated its [standards](#) on the management of patients with hip fractures. The standards describe proper care of seniors through the surgery to the 3-month post-surgery period.

The first quality statement is critical. "People with suspected hip fracture are diagnosed within 1 hour of arriving at hospital. Preparation for surgery is initiated, and they are admitted and transferred to a bed in an inpatient ward within 8 hours of arriving at hospital." The next few statements refer to surgical time frame (within 48 hours), technique, and pain management.

Weight-bearing (within 24 hours, if tolerated) and mobilization are discussed next. Delirium screening and management are very important in our seniors and are discussed in Quality Statement 10. A separate embedded link to the [Delirium Standard](#) discusses delirium screening, intervention, and management.

The final statements inform care partners (family and facility) of care priorities and the rehabilitation process. Osteoporosis management and prevention of further fractures comes next, while follow-up care is covered in the final quality statement. This is a valuable, well-constructed document.

Statins Impress in LTC

An exclusive study involving LTC residents only. What a novel idea! The size of the study pool is even more exciting.... nearly 300,000 residents. The German data was published in *Neurology*.

Before we get too excited, it must be noted that this study was retrospective in nature. A prospective placebo-controlled study of that scale would not be possible.

What did the study show? Over the 4-year analysis period, statin use was associated with significantly fewer deaths. Residents taking statins for a minimum of six consecutive months were compared with a matching group of nearly 100,000 non-statin users. There were 54,269 deaths throughout the period. Statin use reduced all-cause mortality by 20% in those with dementia, and 27% in those without.

One would expect that atherosclerotic heart disease was more prevalent in the statin group, but the matching process eliminated that difference. Age, gender, and care level were also equalized. It may be difficult to draw definitive conclusions from this study, but the decision to deprescribe statins should not be taken lightly.

Viagra in LTC!

You may be doling out Viagra to your residents soon. Don't worry, the indication is not what you'd expect...it would be for Alzheimer's prevention! A study in the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease* suggested Viagra users were less likely to develop dementia (perhaps they were more active!). Stay tuned.

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