IMPACT OF AGE AND RURAL HOSPITAL SETTINGS ON CLINICAL OUTCOMES IN APPENDICITIS: A RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS OF GERIATRIC AND NON-GERIATRIC PATIENTS

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Introduction

- Appendicitis is a widely recognized surgical emergency impacting individuals across all age groups.
- Despite thorough research on its clinical manifestations and management strategies, questions persist regarding the influence of age and rural healthcare settings on patient outcomes.
- We **hypothesized** that older patients (55 years and above) diagnosed with appendicitis will demonstrate poorer clinical outcomes compared to their younger counterparts (below 55 years).
- **Focus Area**: Special attention is given to the outcomes within rural hospital environments.

Methods

Retrospective analysis of patient records: 2019 and 2020
Source: Nationwide Inpatient Sample, Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project.

→ Population Selection
Total Patients Analyzed: 51,081 diagnosed with appendicitis

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Group Division:
- Geriatric Cohort: Aged ≥55 years (15,080 patients; 29.5%)
- Non-Geriatric Cohort: Aged <55 years (36,001 patients; 70.5%)

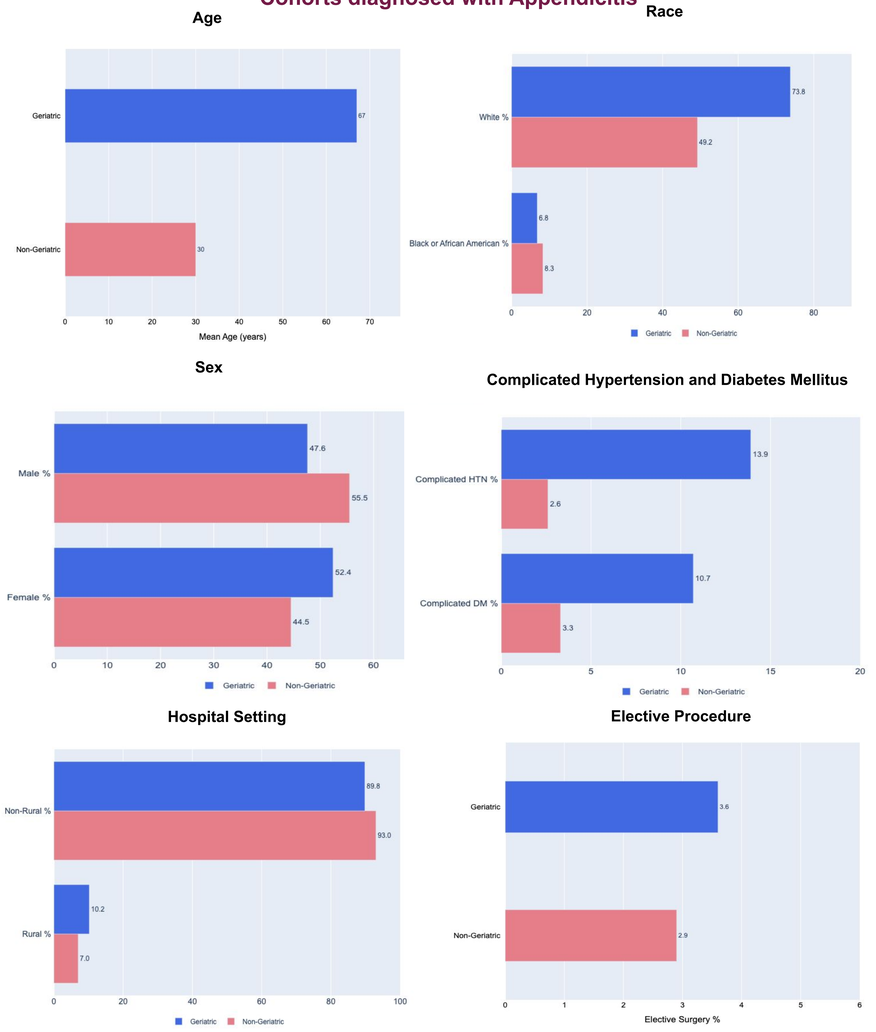
Clinical outcomes, hospital settings, comorbidities, and demographic information were all abstracted.

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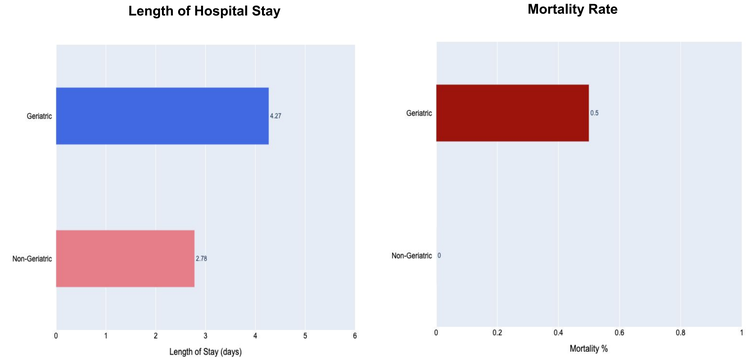
Statistical Analysis
- Logistic Regression: To assess mortality risk
- Chi-squared Tests: For demographic and clinical comparisons
- ANOVA: To compare means among different groups

Results

Comparison of Demographic Characteristics Between Geriatric and Non-Geriatric Cohorts diagnosed with Appendicitis



Outcomes



Conclusion

- Our study underscores the profound influence of age-related factors, notably the burden of comorbidities, on the clinical outcomes of patients with appendicitis.
- Notably, geriatric patients faced more adverse outcomes, a disparity that was especially pronounced in rural hospital environments.
- These findings illuminate the critical need for tailored care strategies and treatments for elderly individuals presenting with appendicitis.
- By focusing on the optimization of outcomes for this susceptible population, there is a pressing necessity to adapt and refine healthcare practices to meet their unique needs effectively.



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