

Addressing the diversifying health care needs of the ageing population

EDITORIAL

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Health care is an important issue for the rapidly ageing population, both to society and each individual. The rise in health care expenditure has always been blamed on the heavy utilisation of medical care and long-term care by older people. However, epidemiological data have shown that the incidence of many chronic diseases, like atherosclerotic disease, has decreased despite increases in the number of older people. Disability is also showing a trend toward reduction. The paper by Professor Raymond Tallis has described the future for health and health care in older people.¹ In this issue of the *Asian Journal of Gerontology and Geriatrics* we have a range of articles addressing the diversifying health care needs of the ageing population in the region. The scope extends from primary health care in Bangladesh² to post-hospital care,³ residential care,⁴ community care,⁵ and end-of-life care.⁶ *The Asian Journal of Gerontology and Geriatrics* aims to address the wider scope of Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine in the region and we hope that this publication can stimulate academic research in health care and community care for older people in the region and much-needed sharing amongst academics and practitioners working in aged care in Asia.

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