

OLDER PATIENTS HAVE HIGH RATES OF COMORBIDITY

- In 1995, 79% of the 70+ age group had 1 or more of the following chronic disorders:
 - Arthritis
 - Hypertension
 - Heart disease
 - Diabetes mellitus
 - Respiratory disease
 - Cancer
 - Stroke

- Functional disability is highly associated with chronic disorders

Burton L, Kasper JD. Demography. In: Pompei P, Murphy JB, eds. *Geriatrics Review Syllabus: A Core Curriculum in Geriatric Medicine*, 6th ed. New York, NY: American Geriatrics Society; 2006:1-8."