

Comment from William Toon

Posted by the **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration** on Apr 1, 2024

An increase emphasis on geriatric education for EMS providers. The U.S. population age 65 and over grew nearly five time faster that the total population over the 100 years from 1920 to 2020, according the 2020 Census. The older population reached 55.8 million or 16.8% of the population of the U.S. in 2020. The age group 85 and older is now the fastest growing segment of the U.S. population. While the total number of children in the U.S. has grown slightly since 2000, the share of the population that is under age 18 decreased from 25.7% in 2000 to 22.3% in 2029, according to the Census Bureau. Please make sure the EMS Education Agenda for 2050, not only address the needs of the pediatric population, let's assure that the geriatric population receives the same level of needs. This level of geriatric care will require and interdisciplinary approach to provide comprehensive education and care plans for vulnerable older adults at risk of morbidity, ED revisits, and potentially avoidable hospital admission.

Thank you for considering my point of view.