

Neurosurgery for geriatric population

In Japan, the geriatric population is rapidly growing and the trend is fastest among the world nations. Disease prevention and neurosurgical management need to cover this growing elderly population. However, little is known about specific outcomes, prognosis and risk-benefit of the neurosurgical procedures in this group. This symposium features problems and issue of frailty in the field of neurosurgery, especially focusing on sophisticated perioperative neurosurgical care, current management of benign brain tumors and unruptured cerebral aneurysms.

A trend towards minimally invasive neurosurgical procedures carries the great potential to improve the risk-benefit profile of interventions and it creates the chance for us to intervene older patients even with greater co-morbidity, as long as improved prognosis is evident. Rather than chronological age, assessment of frailty is crucial to determine the surgical risks, indications and obtain satisfactory outcome, breakthrough concepts and, preferably, management guidelines concerning frailty for the neurosurgical care are needed.