Advocacy Intern Focuses on Challenges of Aging Population

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PGY 2

Working as a doctor in New York City has given me a unique perspective on the human journey through illness, recovery, and end-of-life care. My role has allowed me to witness firsthand the various ways our healthcare system can support or fail patients, especially our elderly population.

One area of concern is the experience of older patients in healthcare. All too often, these patients are discharged to rehabilitation facilities, only to return to the hospital with infections or other complications that could have been prevented with better care coordination. This cycle can lead to prolonged suffering, not just physically, but also emotionally, as they face the uncertainty and distress of repeated hospital stays.

It’s troubling to see frail senior patients endure unnecessary hardships, and it raises questions about why these issues are not more widely discussed and addressed. As a healthcare provider, I am motivated to advocate for these vulnerable individuals and work towards solutions that can improve their quality of life and patient outcomes.

Through this advocacy internship, I hope to bring attention to the challenges faced by the aging population in our healthcare system. I aim to collaborate with experts who have a deep understanding of these issues and are committed to driving meaningful change. My goal is to contribute to a broader conversation about healthcare policy and to work towards creating a system that truly supports our seniors inside and outside the hospital.

Thank you for the opportunity to join this initiative. I look forward to learning from seasoned professionals and contributing my perspective as a frontline healthcare provider. Together, I believe we can develop strategies that lead to a more compassionate and effective healthcare system for all.