The proportion of the elderly in America is greater today than ever before and is growing even larger. What’s more, the elderly tend to be our sickest and most challenging patients. What signs and symptoms may indicate common disease processes, the normal signs of aging or special needs of the geriatric patient? How do you deal with the special needs of the geriatric patient?

A dedicated emergency responder and award-winning educator Rom Duckworth has more than twenty years of experience working in career and volunteer fire departments, public and private emergency services and hospital based healthcare systems. Rom is a frequent speaker at national conferences and a regular contributor to research programs, magazines, textbooks and new media on topics of field operations, leadership, education and career development in emergency services.

**Presentation Outline:**
- What is Geriatrics?
- Defining Characteristics of Geriatric Patients
- The Natural Process of Aging
- Assessment Tips
- Management of Geriatric Emergencies
- Management
- GEMS NOTES

**Objective 1:** -Why geriatric patients present common medical conditions in unusual ways.

**Objective 2:** -The impact of psychosocial issues on medical conditions.

**Objective 3:** -Differentiation between normal signs of aging and disease processes