

GENDER AND AGEING MEDICAL AND SOCIAL ASPECTS

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Life expectancy is higher in women than men. Moreover, in population over 65 years old, the span of active life, in according with the total residual life, is longer for men(1-2-3-4-5).

The incidence of sarcopenia and osteoporosis is prevalent in women and is responsible for more disability and bone fractures, especially femur (6-7-8-9).

The departments of orthopedics are very important (10).

Loneliness is one of the most important risk factors for women. In Italy (2007) 3.826.586 widows and 697.226 widowers (11).

The more important hormones in ageing are the estrogens (12).

Prevention is necessary to reduce the medical and social expenses.

KEY WORDS: expectation of life, active life, solitude of women, ormonal factors, sarcopenia, medical and social expenses.