

FROM THE EDITOR IN CHIEF

The global demographic shift toward an aging population has profound implications for healthcare systems, public policy, and societal well-being. In this context, the importance of rigorous, multidisciplinary research in geriatrics and clinical gerontology cannot be overstated.

These fields are essential for developing effective strategies to address the complex and interrelated health, functional, and psychosocial needs of older adults.

Geriatrics provides the clinical framework for managing multimorbidity, polypharmacy, frailty, cognitive decline, and functional impairment—conditions that disproportionately affect the aging population.

Clinical gerontology, on the other hand, encompasses broader aspects of aging, including biological, psychological, and social dimensions, offering insights into preventive care and health promotion across the lifespan.

Despite the growing urgency, geriatrics and gerontology remain underrepresented in national and international research agendas. This gap limits the development of innovative, evidence-based interventions that could improve quality of life, reduce healthcare costs, and promote independence among older individuals. Moreover, addressing the heterogeneity of the older population requires personalized approaches informed by solid scientific data.

Investment in these fields will not only enhance clinical practice and care delivery but also inform ethical and policy frameworks for long-term care, caregiver support, and aging in place.

As longevity increases, the societal demand for well-coordinated, compassionate, and effective care for older adults will continue to grow.

Research in geriatrics and clinical gerontology is therefore not a luxury—it is a necessity for ensuring the health and dignity of aging populations.

Yeşim GÖKÇE KUTSAL