**Caring for the elderly**

**Background :**

-The medical problems associated with old age are classified by **gerontologists** under **the four Is** (also known as "The giants of Geriatrics")

* Intellectual impairment/confusion
* Immobility
* Instability
* Incontinence

**-The Main areas of research :**

* Bedridden
* Neurodegenerative diseases
* Depression
* Sleep disorders
* Problems with eating
* Skin breakdown
* Physical and emotional abuse by relatives and care staff is also now receiving attention from health authorities the police in a number of countries.

**-Factors could lead to depression :**

* Loss of lifetime partner
* Sense of uselessness
* Social isolation