This volume is proof of the success of long-lasting and major efforts to foster cross-
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Prof. Alan Walker and his team at the University of Sheffield, UK. The main fea-
tures of the FLARE programme are to promote both geographical and disciplinary
mobility. Consequently, the contributions in this unique volume on health and
cognition in old age are themselves the result of successful cross-national and cross-
disciplinary collaboration and come from an international set of authors working at
research institutions in Europe, Israel, and the USA at the postdoctoral level and
above. This volume summarises the findings of their research programmes in various
fields of ageing research, all relating to health, cognition, and well-being in old age,
from various disciplines including biomedicine, general medicine, gerontology,
geriatriecs, immunology, psychology, epidemiology, public health, social policy,
sociology, education, medical ethics, philosophy, and humanities. The volume com-
prises four parts: biomedical factors in ageing (Part I), life course factors constitut-
ing later-life health and cognition (Part II), care and interventions to maintain and
improve impaired health, cognition, and well-being in old age (Part III), and policy
and practice approaches for healthy and active ageing (Part IV). Taken together, the
contributions provide a comprehensive overview of current developments in
research on health and cognition in old age. Editing this volume on research findings
originated under the FLARE scheme has been an amazing interdisciplinary journey
for us and made us even more respectful of the multiplicity of perspectives in
research on health and cognition in old age.

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